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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2020

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Canadian Publications Agreement No. 0662445 Vol.17 No. 6

**INSIDE KILLER SENTENCED**



**Charles Casmeay learns his fate in 2018 killing /3**

**PINHOLE LEAKS**



**Chemical to remove lead causing pipe issues /2**

**STATUESQUE**



**Our movie columnist handicaps the Oscars /14**

# Dancing docs

Thunder Bay Regional physicians two-stepping out of their comfort zone /13



**MOVES LIKE JAGGER:** Dancer Maeghan Tofinetti (left) and physician Mario Nucci test out their moves in preparation for Dancing with the Docs.

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LOCAL NEWS

# City halts use of water chemical

**THUNDER BAY**  
By Gary Rinne – TB Source

City officials were caught off guard when reports of pinhole leaks in household water pipes started to come in a few months ago.

It took them awhile to conclude the leaks might be connected to the use of sodium hydroxide in the water distribution system.

Last Friday, the city announced it is suspending the practice and evaluating other ways to reduce lead levels in the water systems of thousands of homes.

The chemical was introduced in 2018 to control corrosion and reduce lead levels in older homes which have lead service pipes or internal lead plumbing.

High lead levels can pose significant health risks, especially for children.

Provincial legislation requires municipalities to implement plans to lower lead levels to safe amounts.

A pilot study initiated by the city in

2016 with the approval of the province showed that sodium hydroxide was effective in reducing levels at the tap.

Until recently “We’ve never had reports of pinhole leaks coming to our department at the water authority,” says Environment Division director Michelle Warywoda.

In an interview Monday, Warywoda said she didn’t have immediate access to the exact number of complaints the city has received.

It’s not only private homes that have been affected. One of the leaks occurred at the Canada Games Complex.

“When we started getting these, we said ‘OK, this is different.’ We took notice, and so right now we are making the change to go back to the way the drinking water was a couple of years ago prior to the addition of the sodium hydroxide,” she said.

There have been no signs to date of

any damage to pipes within the city-owned portion of the water distribution system.

Warywoda said homeowners who experience leaks should first contact a licensed plumber for repairs.

Asked if the city will cover the cost, she said “there’s no outright payment for this,” but noted the city has an established process for handling various kinds of damage claims.

Thunder Bay is the first Ontario municipality to report to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks that sodium hydroxide may be responsible for this kind of problem.

“This is kind of new for us in Canada,” Warywoda said, but she added that she now understands pinhole leaks have occurred in some cities in the United States which use sodium hydroxide.

While the city considers an alternate

treatment plan, owners of the nearly 9,000 homes in Thunder Bay with lead service pipes will be provided with water pitchers equipped with filters to remove lead.

City officials have decided that it’s not practical to provide filters to attach to all the different kinds of taps that are in use in homes across the city.

Affected homeowners will receive a letter in the mail in the next week or so with more information.

It’s not clear yet whether or how the city’s water rates might be impacted by any revised treatment plan.

“We will look to see what other type of corrosion control methods are available. We’re reviewing our plan, and then we’ll present those to city council,” Warywoda said.

Some municipalities use orthophosphates, which form a protective coating inside water pipes to reduce corrosion and the leaching that can result in lead being transferred into the water supply.

**“We will look to see what other type of corrosion control methods are available.”**  
**MICHELLE WARYWODA**



**CAUSING LEAKS?:** The city will stop using sodium hydroxide in its water supply.



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*If you want to extend your battery life, lower the brightness of your screen. Bright backlight uses more power and will drain your phone faster. If you're not using an app, make sure to close it. Open apps will run in the background, killing your battery. Video game apps – especially free ones with ads – are battery drainers and should be used with caution.*

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*Nic Cupello*


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## LOCAL NEWS

# Casmey gets 12.5 years for killing Joseph Pruys

## COURT

By Doug Dlaczuk – TB Source

A family member of Joseph Harry Pruys Sr. who was stabbed to death inside his home in 2018 told the court he wanted to see Charles Casmey, the man responsible, serve a just amount of time behind bars.

“Why is Joe gone? I keep thinking about this over and over and over,” the family member told the court. “Our family will get through this. Our hope going forward is that Casmey serves a lengthy sentence for this crime.”

Casmey was sentenced to 12.5 years in a Thunder Bay courtroom last Friday.

With pre-sentence custody of 14 months, enhanced to 21 months, Casmey will serve an additional 10 years and eight months in custody.

Initially charged with second-degree murder, Casmey pleaded guilty to the lesser-included charge of manslaughter last Friday. He also entered a guilty plea for one count of assault causing bodily harm and one count of breach of recognizance.



**FINALLY CAUGHT:** Charles Casmey was arrested on March 1, 2018 after a standoff.

## Death is final

Justice Bonnie Warkentin, who presided over several months of pre-trial hearings with counsel, said during her ruling that there is nothing the court can do to bring Pruys back and it can only acknowledge that his death never should have happened.

“The nature of the offence is being one of extraordinary violence that resulted in the death of Mr. Pruys,” she said. “He was the innocent victim of a very violent crime and did not deserve to die the way he did.”

Police were called to a McLaughlin Street residence in the early morning hours of Feb. 26, 2018 where the body of Pruys was found. A 25-year-old woman was also found injured inside the home.

According to the agreed statement of facts, Casmey was residing with his mother as part of a bail condition at the McLaughlin Street home. Also residing there was Pruys and the 25-year-old woman.

In the early morning hours of Feb. 26, 2018, Casmey and the woman were consuming alcohol

and doing cocaine while renovating the basement. The two got into an argument.

After regaining consciousness, the woman ran upstairs and called to Pruys for help and to call 911. Casmey entered Pruys bedroom with a knife and stabbed him 14 times.

Pruys suffered stab wounds to his chest, back, throat, and neck. A post-mortem examination determined he would have died within five to 10 minutes after the attack due to a transection of the right carotid artery, as well as stab wounds to the lungs, heart, and trachea.

The woman locked herself in another room and called 911 several times pleading for police to come, saying a murder had been committed and Casmey was going to kill her.

Casmey fled the residence before police arrived shortly before 6 a.m. A Canada-wide warrant was issued and Casmey was arrested on March 1, 2018 following a brief standoff outside a McTavish Street residence.

Defense counsel and the Crown recommended a range of between

12 and 14 years in custody.

Nicole Rozier, who is representing Casmey, asked for a sentence of 12 years. She told the court that she did not want to downplay in any way the tragedy of what happened that morning.

“It’s very serious,” she said. “There is nothing I will say that should be taken to minimize the seriousness of what occurred.”

## Less heartache for family

But Rozier said Casmey’s plea of guilt saved the court and the family a six to eight week trial.

Warkentin said there were several aggravating and mitigating factors taken into consideration when determining the sentence.

Aggravating factors included the violent nature of the attack, that Pruys was attacked in his own home, that Casmey fled the scene, and that drugs and alcohol were involved.

Warkentin did acknowledge Casmey’s plea of guilt, saving the family and the court a potentially lengthy trial.

“Notwithstanding that I am of the view that the sentence of 14 years is too high, I am of the view that a sentence of 12 years is too low,” Warkentin said. “I will be imposing a sentence of 12.5 years.”

# Weather Forecast

## THURSDAY



A mix of sun and clouds

Probability of Precipitation: 30%  
HIGH-6 LOW-15

## FRIDAY



Mainly sunny

Probability of Precipitation: 30%  
HIGH-13 LOW-18

## SATURDAY



A few flurries

Probability of Precipitation: 40%  
HIGH-6 LOW-11

## SUNDAY



Mainly sunny

Probability of Precipitation: 20%  
HIGH-5 LOW-11

## MONDAY



Mainly sunny

Probability of Precipitation: 20%  
HIGH-5 LOW-8

## TUESDAY



Scattered flurries

Probability of Precipitation: 60%  
HIGH-6 LOW-13

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Special Olympics Canada Winter Games  
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# ATHLETE PROFILE

**BRIAN SHEA**  
 TEAM NEWFOUNDLAND



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Brian loves the activities and sports that Special Olympics provides to him. He enjoys meeting new people and seeing his friends. He is very social and loves the parties and dances!

Brian enjoys competing and staying in the Athlete's Village with everyone together.

Brian is no stranger to competition, having attended two National Games previously. Brian's goals for the 2020 Special Olympics Canada Winter Games in Thunder Bay is to perform his best in bowling and to have lots of fun!

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## LOCAL NEWS



**HOLDING OUT HOPE:** Ian MacRae says strikes by teachers and education workers do have an impact.

# Board prepping for more strikes

Director of education hopeful contract impasse over soon

### EDUCATION

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Strike action by elementary and secondary school teachers and education workers hasn't had a major impact on the day-to-day operations at Lakehead Public Schools.

However, if the unions and provinces don't come to an agreement soon, the board's director of education worries that could change.

Lakehead Public Schools is bracing for three days of strikes this week, which will close its elementary schools on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation's rotating strikes will close local public high schools on Tuesday, with a trickle-down effect on the board's elementary schools. The Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario's rotating strikes arrive in Thunder Bay on Wednesday, with a province-wide walk-out scheduled for Wednesday.

Ian MacRae said it's unfortunate and frustrating for administrators at the regularity of the strike action, which is ramping up with the two sides at an impasse. ETFO leadership met with the province for three days last week before talks broke off on Friday.

"I think it's becoming frustrating for both parents and students and certainly at our end, at the management level, it's become a bit challenging, given that the different unions represent employee groups that belong to and

work with the different elementary and secondary schools, so it results in closures when I think a lot of parents would think there wouldn't be closures," MacRae said on Monday.

A typical school year, according to Ontario legislation, is 194 days of classes.

A year ago, students at Hammarskjold High School were out 12 days because of a series of ongoing threats and board officials were working on contingency plans, including extending the school year into July.

MacRae said they're not at that point, yet.

"That's not a real concern at this stage. It's just the day-to-day frustration. And we believe that every day a student is out of class is significant and there is no replacing that. So we're anxious that this comes to an end and we're hopeful that end comes sooner, rather than later," MacRae said.

He's also crossing his fingers that the job action doesn't escalate to include extra-curricular activities. At the moment, the unions have said they are trying to have as little an impact on the student experience as possible, but that could change at a moment's notice.

"We're always in the back of our minds thinking worst-case scenario and for us, any impact on co-curricular activities is extremely significant to all of the partners in the system and we'll be watching it very closely," MacRae said.

"I hope we don't get to that point because in the past when that has been the case it's been very uncomfortable for everyone."

**"It's just the day-to-day frustration."**  
**IAN MACRAE**

LEITH DUNICK

LOCAL NEWS

# Malware incident hits college

**EDUCATION**  
By Doug Dlaczuk – TB Source

The cause of a malware incident that took Confederation College offline on the weekend is under investigation as technicians continue to work at restoring services.

The malware incident was noticed by information technology team members with the College early Saturday morning and a cyber security expert has been enlisted to assist with securing the College's systems and minimizing further compromise.

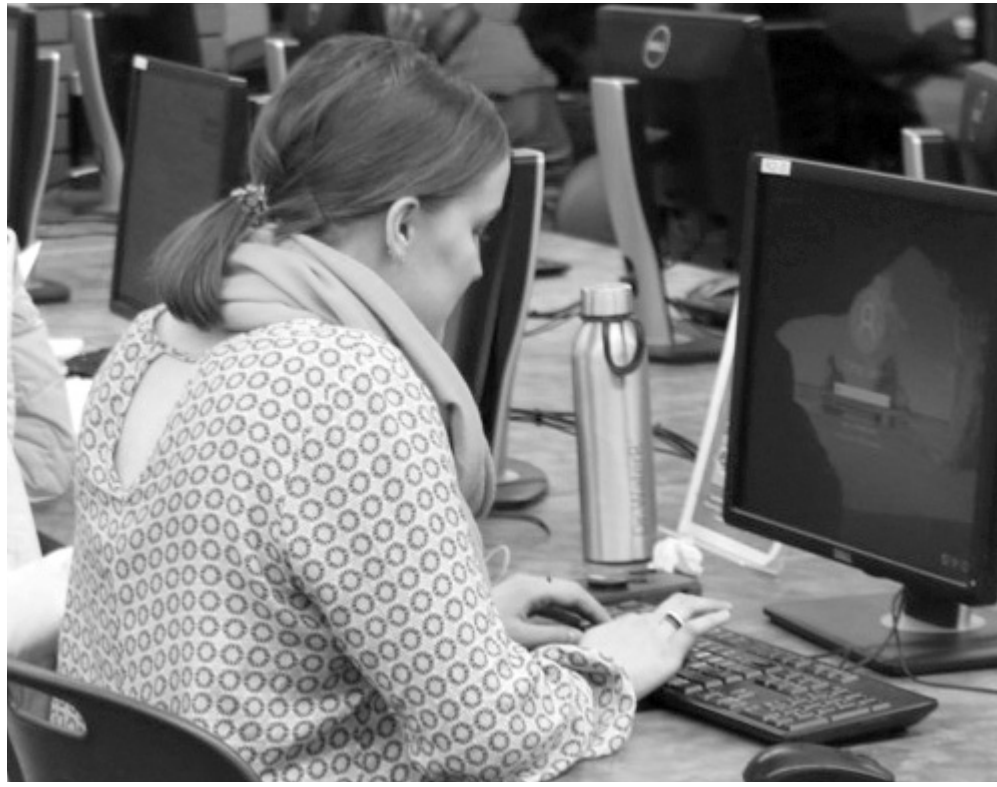
"Services are not fully restored," said Rob Zuback, director of advancement, communications, and external relations with Confederation College.

"Most of our core IT services have been restored as of today. Our IT team has worked really diligently with our cyber security expert to get that done in an amazing amount of time. We are still undergoing some challenges, we have email that is out, so we are asking the community and the College community to be patient with us as we continue to restore our email."

Internet was restored Monday morning, as well as Blackboard, shared storage, Banner, the Internal MyCampus Portal, and the external website. Zuback said they are hoping to have email restored in the coming days.

"Our College faculty and staff have been amazing at helping students with deadlines and remedies to offset that," he said.

It has not yet been determined how this incident happened but Zuback said Thunder Bay Police were notified. Additional protective software is also being installed to detect any further suspicious activity.



**WORKING ON IT:** Confederation College's email system may be down for several days after a malware incident.

"We will be conducting a forensic investigation with our cyber security expert," Zuback said. "That will take several weeks, but no doubt it will identify the root cause of why this occurred."

At this time, Zuback said it does not appear that any personal information of students or faculty has been compromised, but it will be part of the investigation.

"We are not aware of any of that occurring," he said. "We will through our forensic investigation be determining that. If there's been any compromise to any individual's information, the College will be reaching out to those individuals immediately to make them aware of that."

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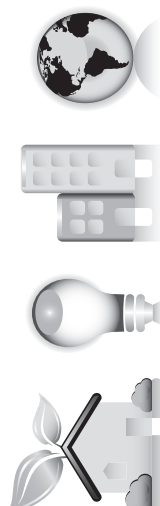




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**THINK RECYCLE**



# Editorial

## EDITORIAL

### City must stop spending spree

Coun. Mark Bentz makes a good point. The city's reliance on the taxpayer to continue funding significant spending increases year after year is not sustainable. Something has to give.

The problem is, anytime anyone makes a suggestion, a special-interest group pops up shouting to the heavens why council can't chop their pet project from the books.

For now, we'll give the city the benefit of the doubt. After all, they are looking into the municipality's overall operation with a core service review.

The question is, will they act on it when all is said is done.

Past experience says it's doubtful.

The city's debt is \$212 million and continues to climb, thanks in part to Tbaytel investments.

Over the next four years the average annual municipal tax levy increase is projected at about 3.75 per cent. Essentially it means by 2024 the city plans to spend about 15 per cent more than it currently does.

With Bombardier in transition and a provincial government in place determined to cut government spending, not to mention a public all-too-willing to forgo supporting local businesses to save a few dollars with Amazon or stores south of the border, things are going to get really ugly, soon.

It's time for city council to take this seriously and find real ways to cut spending before the taxpayer well runs dry.

For many people, the breaking point is just over the horizon.

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### Libraries worth expense

To the editor:

As a resident of Thunder Bay, I am putting forward my concern and discord with city council's motion to cut upwards of \$300,000 destined to Thunder Bay's Libraries.

Ultimately, the job of council is to represent its citizens' wants and to better foster its community. It is my right to have my and others voices heard.

Coun. Mark Bentz presented that "we tend to have more libraries than most cities," which is quite a vague statement.

What are the actual numbers on that, and was the geographic size of the cities taken into consideration with that statistic. Thunder Bay has a large span, which caters to many patrons.

As an educator and a mother, I can see, as Coun. Albert Aiello, states, that there are benefits to technology, but am also certain that Mr. Aiello, is aware of the irrefutable benefits of not only the books in the library, but the immeasurable contributions the libraries give back to the community; a community that is struggling with opioid addiction and statistically higher than the rest of the province in terms of mental health and addiction rates.

The library offers free educational resources for those that cannot afford to buy them or access them using technology or other means.

I am referring to refugees, new to the city and country, to low-income families, to youth that do not have full time jobs, to those that desire higher education, in a country where post secondary education is only becoming more and more expensive and to those simply who do not have access to the internet at their homes.

Taking books home answers all of those issues. Not only does it offer the resources, it also provides a safe haven for these at risk communities.

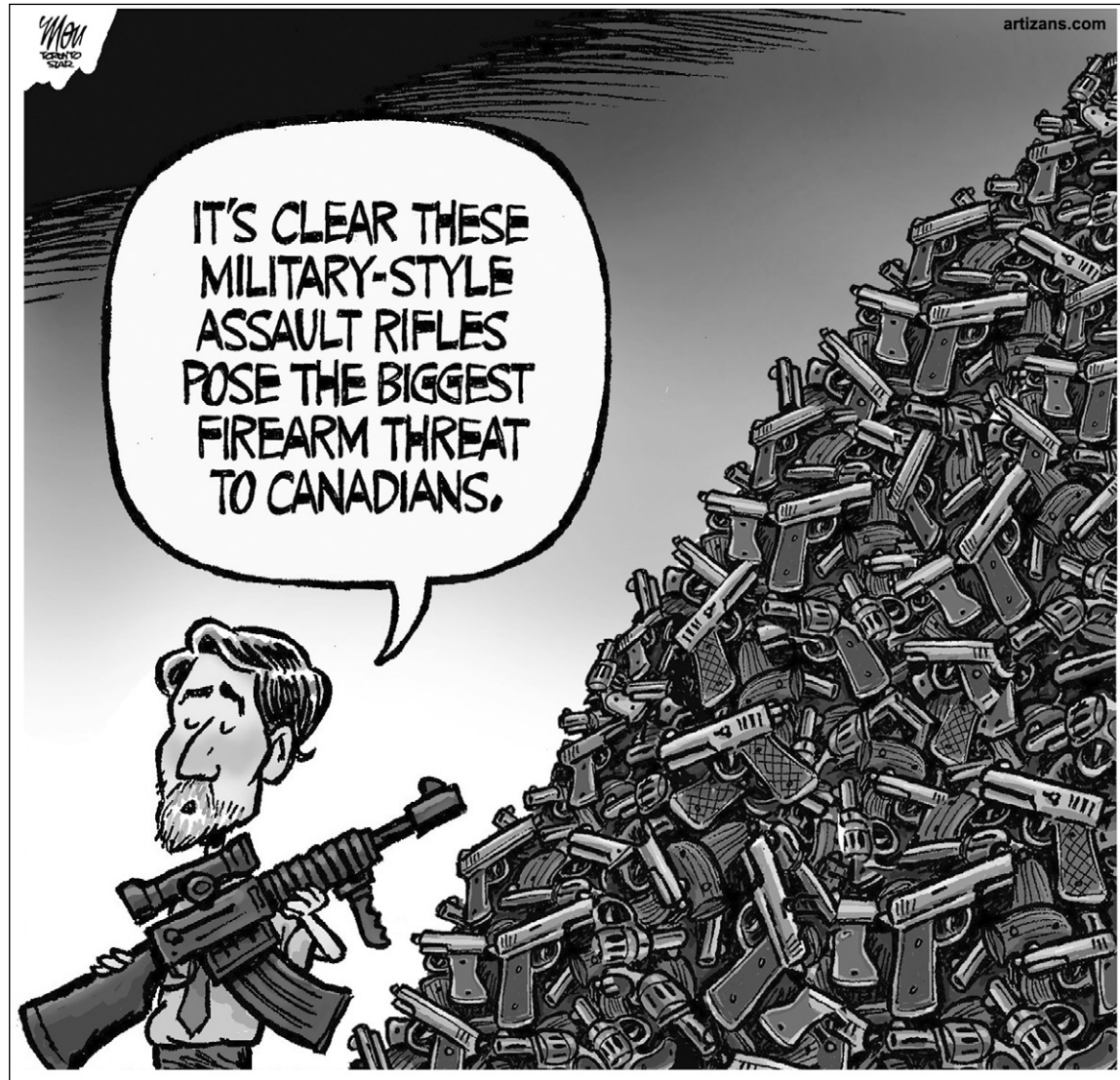
The library also aids in sustainability.

Why do we need to purchase books, when we can take them out instead from the library? As a city that has recently declared a climate emergency, should we not be promoting sustainability?

Statistics have noted that, "in our province of Ontario, 42 per cent of adults do not have the literacy skills they need for home, work and life. In 2011, 22.4 per cent of Canadians between the ages of 25 and 64 did not have a high school diploma," so it is my belief, that this environment, that is not a school system, should be praised and promoted in order to combat this number.

In line with the prior point, as a mother I am a witness and attendee with my children, to many of the programs that the local library runs

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



in order to promote and foster the love of reading in children.

In fostering this love, we as a city will be able to contest the stats previously listed. This greater literacy rate will only aid our city in creating more individuals that can go into our workforce and thus economically strengthen our city.

Finally, in a society that seems to need more than ever to come together, public libraries also offer a community centre for diverse populations to come together.

Where else do we see this in our society, other than in publicly funded education, where everyone is put on equal grounds?

I would like to thank those who have taken the time to read this. I am sure that I am not stating any facts that our councillors are not aware of, but I wanted to emphasize that I am using my right as a voter and member of Thunder Bay, to respectfully rebut the councillor's proposal of funding cuts to the local libraries.

Hannah Persichino,  
Thunder Bay

### Rethink spring bear hunt

To the editor:

Ontario is one of the few places in the world that allows hunting while wild animals are reproducing. This inhumane spring hunt was brought back five years ago by the then Minister of Natural Resources, Bill Mauro (now Mayor of Thunder Bay).

The purpose of the hunt is mostly to attract American tourists since traditionally Canadians have not hunted bears. Natural Resources and Forestry Minister John Yakabuski now plans to make the hunt permanent. It is part of their great economic development plan for the north.

Bear tourism and the killing of animals by baiting isn't hunting. It requires few hunting skills and little effort. A garbage can is put in the bush with various concoctions to attract bears close to where the tourist sits in a stand and can hopefully distinguish a sow from a boar. Some Americans hunt with dogs.

The object is to get a big boar whose size is posted to the Boone and Crocket website. Sows before coming

into feed usually hide their cubs which are orphaned when the sow is killed. Note, the government has made it illegal to kill sows but only with cubs. Neither the government nor the operators assume responsibility for orphaned cubs.

Further, the placing of bait in the bush conditions bears to human garbage and scent thereby reducing their natural fear of humans. The widespread spring bear-baiting throughout Northern Ontario is the ideal boot camp for training nuisance bears. The selective killing of larger boars (trophy animals) results in a behavioural change of junior boars who now have greater access to females.

Normally, the boars would fight off or kill junior males attempting to mate. Sort of like having a teenage house party with the parents away, leaving the booze and waiting to see what happens nine months later.

The Ministry does allow comments if you go to the Environmental Registry of Ontario.

Paul Filteau,  
Thunder Bay

# Perspective

# Coronavirus panic

## China is reacting quickly to the latest deadly disease

### OPINION

By J.R. Shermack  
Special to TB Source

I remember waiting to board my flight at Pearson Airport during the height of the SARS outbreak in 2003.

Worldwide panic spread faster than the disease itself and although I wasn't alarmed, I did notice many of my fellow travellers wearing surgical masks.

I felt relatively safe being in Canada during that public health emergency, but I secretly wondered how many viruses would accompany me to Thunder Bay.

Fortunately, I was not one of the 8,000 cases in 29 countries resulting in 774 SARS related deaths.

But even among those infected, most patients recovered fully and the disease was eventually contained with no further cases reported since 2004.

Nevertheless, public health officials around the world were alerted by the epidemic as they nervously anticipated the next outbreak.

The medical and scientific communities used SARS as a valuable learning experience which is a good thing since as you know, here we go again.

A new coronavirus appeared in China in December and health officials are concerned about its rapid spread worldwide, including a few

cases in Canada.

Coronaviruses are very common among animals and they occasionally evolve into forms that can infect humans and then spread from person to person.

It has happened twice so far since the start of this century, first with SARS in 2003 and then the MERS outbreak in 2012.

Researchers consider it most likely that this family of viruses originates in small mammals, likely bats, before it mutates and infects humans.

Corona is a large family of viruses that cause respiratory illness such as the common cold – most cases are not serious and the symptoms are mild to moderate.

Some of those infected with the new coronavirus (officially, 2019-nCoV) show no symptoms at all but can still easily transmit the infection to other people.

This makes it extremely difficult to contain although scientists are confident that their past experiences will be very useful and mistakes will not be repeated.

Still, in spite of an informed global response the numbers are growing daily and public health officials are concerned about this mobilized viral foe.

Some 50 million Chinese people find themselves inside a quarantine zone in Hubei province where the

virus originated.

Part of China's rapid response was the opening of a new 1,000-bed hospital to deal with infected patients through diagnosis, infection control and intensive care.

The facility was constructed in just 10 days with a round-the-clock crew of 7,000 workers – a second dedicated hospital with 1,300 additional beds will be ready within a week.

Several countries including Canada are making plans to safely evacuate their citizens with strict protocols in place to prevent the virus from spreading further.

Health Minister Patty Hajdu finds herself on the world stage as our country decides how to deal with the corona virus and protect the health of all Canadians.

Part of Canada's response is the evacuation of hundreds of Canadian citizens who want to return home from the epicentre of the outbreak.

Anyone who displays symptoms of viral infection will not be allowed on the plane and those who return will be quarantined for 14 days.

As for the rest of us, Ms. Hajdu says there is no need to panic and Canadian public health officials can be trusted to safeguard our families.

In the meantime, the best thing you can do to protect yourself from corona (or any other virus) is to wash your hands frequently with soap and water.

That's what Mom used to tell me when I was a kid and now, many years later, Mother still knows best.

Take care and stay healthy.

**"...I secretly wondered how many viruses would accompany me to Thunder Bay."**

### MOVING UP



**NEW ROLE:** Kelly Gallagher, who served as campaign co-chair of the United Way's 2017 campaign, has been named president of the organization's board of directors.

LEITH DUNICK

## A look back in history:

### Kefer Home

Francis H. Kefer offered up his beautiful home on Algoma Street at Cameron (now Camelot St.) as a recovery home for soldiers injured in the First World War. In 1917, 20 soldiers called the Kefer Home their residence. Despite active support from Port Arthur residents, the Kefer home closed in 1919.



### HOW TO WRITE 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.

Address them to:  
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87 North Hill Street,  
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Email: [ldunick@dougallmedia.com](mailto:ldunick@dougallmedia.com)  
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**TOTAL VOTES: 760**

YES 37.63%  NO 58.42%  DON'T KNOW 3.95%

LOCAL NEWS

# Councillors found not in conflict

Hamilton, McKinnon and Aiello exonerated despite complaints

**CITY HALL**  
By Leith Dunick -TB Source

Thunder Bay's integrity commissioner says none of the three city councillors accused of wrongdoing did anything wrong.

Brian Tarrio, who sought out the legal opinion of a municipal law expert, came to the determination in a report released on Monday.

McKellar Coun. Brian Hamilton was not in violation of Ontario's Conflict of Interest Act when he took part in a vote over the controversial designated truck route.

A complaint, filed by at-large Coun. Trevor Giertuga, suggested that Hamilton had violated the act by voting

because the truck route would impact his downtown restaurant. It was determined that while Hamilton does have monetary interest in the truck route, he would be affected no greater or less than any other downtown business owner.

He will be permitted to take part in any future votes on the matter.

McIntyre Coun. Albert Aiello was also ruled not to be in conflict of interest, but has been advised not to take part in any future votes involving a proposed Indigenous transitional housing complex, slated for property next to the Thunder Bay Boy's and Girl's Club, which he runs.

Red River Coun. Brian McKinnon, who with Aiello spoke out against the project at a public meeting in June, was also exonerated.

Both councillors were accused of undermining council's earlier 2018 decision to donate the land to the developer, before the current council was elected into office.



**BUSINESS PLAN:** Coun. Brian Hamilton was briefly in hot water after voting on the controversial designated truck route.

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## Hope Classic a \$3.3M hit

**THUNDER BAY**  
By Leith Dunlick - TB Source

What happens at the Bearskin Airlines Hope Classic stays at the Bearskin Airlines Hope Classic.

And, what happens with the money raised stays in Thunder Bay.

To date, over the past 23 years, they've collected more than \$3.3 million, a total they'll add to by at least \$20,000 next weekend when 200 women hit the ice at Fort William Curling Club for the annual fundraiser in support of the Linda Buchan Centre for Breast Screening and Assessment.

Sue Childs, who was friends with Buchan before she died in 2002 at the age of 47, has been involved with the Classic since it began.

"Linda Buchan had a vision and a dream. We built this bonspiel. It is probably one of the best community events that I've ever been involved with because it is a community event. The women work so hard to get their pledges and our sponsors are phenomenal and keep coming back year after year."

It's become a family, Childs said at last Wednesday's kick-off luncheon at the curling club, and it's all for a great cause that impacts thousands of women throughout the region.

"All the money raised stays right here in Northwestern Ontario for the Linda Buchan Centre," she said. "It's fun ... It's 200 women dancing, laughing, eating. It's like a trip out of town."

Glenn Craig, who heads the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Foundation, says it's a truly remarkable event that just keeps giving to help with cancer treatment and



READY TO ROLL: Cancer survivor Glenice Quesnelle and Hope Classic co-founder Sue Childs.

research.

It's been invaluable, he said.

"The fact of the matter is this disease affects too many people," he said. "I think that's why so many people support this event. We want to put an end to this disease."

That would suit Glenice Quesnelle just fine.

The 81-year-old spoke at Wednesday's luncheon, remarking that she's been a cancer survivor for 32 years.

"I'm here to represent hope," she said.

"You have to persevere and you've got to be strong. And you have to have good friends and good family - and a very good cancer clinic. I've never had any trouble."

Last year's event raised \$123,000.

This year's event takes place from Feb. 7 to Feb. 9.

Tickets for the 50/50 draw, with a first-place prize of \$15,000, are on sale now and available at Fort William Curling Club and the Linda Buchan Centre.

## Snow sculptures bring crowds to Marina

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

With temperatures near zero, conditions weren't quite ideal for snow sculpting - but that didn't bother the dozens of children huddled around snow blocks at Marina Park Sunday afternoon. The chance to try out the art form was the latest activity in the city's free Winter FunDays series.

Willow Springs Creative Centre led families through the sculpting. Though it's a less familiar art form for many, centre coordinator Judy Vinni says it's for everyone.

"You all have made a snowman, so you've been snow sculpting," she says. "People talk about how they aren't artists, they can't draw anything. But as soon as they start to work, everyone's creative - you just have to find your medium. Snow is forgiving, you can do anything with it."



CARVED OUT: Judy Vinni (right) leads snow sculpting activities at Marina Park Sunday afternoon.

From large blocks, participants sculpted animal figures playing various sports, in tribute to Special Olympics Canada Winter Games, which take place in Thunder Bay at the end of February. The centrepiece was a

large "I heart Tbay" sculpture.

Paige Johnson and her two children were hard at work on a snowflake sculpture. She said the activity was a great way to engage the whole family.

"It's fun to do something that you've never done before," she explains, "because you're learning with the kids."

Vinni also coordinated a beginners class for adults on Saturday. The activities come in advance of the city's snow sculpture competition later this month. The event draws local artist teams, including Willow Springs, and some from outside the city.

Residents are invited to view those sculptures at Thunder Bay's "SnowDay on the Waterfront" on Family Day, Feb. 17. The event includes a number of other activities, including ice slides, ice fishing, a skating party, snowshoeing, musical performances, food, and much more.

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# Snow doesn't slide off our solar panels



**FRED JONES**

**RURAL ROOTS**

We have solar panels on the roof of our barn. Years ago, a company was flogging this energy alternative among rural rooters. I was told that there would be almost no maintenance. Hah! There were two salesmen who showed up. They gave us their pitch saying that we would earn piles of money – eventually. “Your barn roof is ideal for solar panels,” Salesperson No. 1 enthused, “you buy the panels and the equipment that plugs into the system. The electricity generated pays for the loan you take out. Once it is paid off, the income

is all yours!”

I was sceptical. I'm always sceptical. “How much maintenance will these panels require?” I asked sceptically. “None,” Salesperson No. 2 answered. “What about snow?” I queried, “We get snow, sometimes lots. How will the snow get cleared from the panels so that they can continue to generate electricity?” Answer: “The snow will just slide off.”

I skeptically murmured “OK.”

My wife, Laura, who is far less sceptical and more of a visionary than me, thought the idea great. Sure, we'd be in debt for a number of years but then we'd be making money without lifting a finger. Or so she thought. Anyway, we signed on the dotted line and soon a crew of panel installers and electricians showed up. It took a couple of days to complete the job but when I looked at the finished work, I was appalled.

There are 54 panels on our barn roof but the engineer, a young guy with I don't know how much experience, had the panels going all the way across the roof right up to where the roof of the hay storage/indoor riding arena meets it. Where that roof meets the roof of the barn is where a ton of snow slides off of the arena roof onto the barn roof at that corner.

I strode over to the barn and hollered my doubts about installing the panels right up against the arena roof. The young engineer told me that the panels had to be installed that way. “But the snow and ice will crush the panels that are up against the arena roof,” I complained. At that point a guy who identified himself as the foreman, said “No problem, I'll purchase a ridge of metal that will deflect the snow to the other side of the barn roof. The snow will slide down the other side,” he stated

confidently. Again, I muttered “OK” skeptically. I argued some more with the young engineer and eventually got him to agree to install the panels in a different layout that permitted the snow sliding off the arena roof free passage without hitting any panels.

But the piece of metal that was supposed to divert the arena roof snow had already been installed.

Well, the upshot is that the first serious snow that we received did not get deflected. Instead, it tore the piece of deflecting metal out of its purchase on the arena roof leaving several holes that allowed light and eventually rain to come through. We had to engage someone to repair same.

And does the snow simply slide off the panels? Nope. Oh, if the day is very warm then the snow slowly slips its moorings to fall against the barn wall. Otherwise, someone has to put a ladder

against the barn roof and scrape the snow off of the panels. I have tried but my shoulders will not let me. It is my darling wife who climbs the ladder and extends the scraper and slowly hauls the accumulated snow off of the panels.

Saturday, she decided to do the deed. A lot of snow had heaped high against the barn wall. “Could you shovel a pathway and move the ladder for me?” she asked. I did, creating two deep tunnels running either side of the entrance the length of the barn. And unusually, with the warm temperatures, Laura was able to easily pull the snow off of the panels without duress.

Still, those salespersons misled us. The panels do require maintenance.

No sooner had Laura scraped off the snow then Sunday it snowed. We got one day of clear panels producing electricity. By the way, that company no longer exists. Gee, I wonder why not?



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**Agnew H. Johnston | 9:15 & 11:15 AM**  
**Hammarskjold HS | 9:30 & 11:30 AM**  
**Superior CVI | 9:45 & 11:45 AM**

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COLIN PENDZIMOL

**WINTER CYCLING FUN:** The columnist and his fat-biking friends on a recent ride at Thunder Bay's Kinsmen Park.

# Sport of fat biking a lot more popular

Local trails becoming busier and busier as the pastime grows

The sport of fat biking exploded in North America a few years ago and now we have a large number of adventure-seekers that ride these bikes all year, regardless of how much snow falls on the trails. The experience of riding one is unique and difficult to describe. The bikes themselves are still new enough to draw prolonged stares and warrant all sorts of questions. Here is a compilation of the most frequent questions I am asked about fat bikes:

**Q.** Can I just put bigger tires on my mountain bike?

**A.** No. Fat bikes are specifically designed with wide frames, forks and bottom brackets to accommodate tires that are typically four or five inches wide. A normal mountain bike will hold tires just over two inches wide.

**Q.** Where did these bikes come from?

**A.** The original fat bike, the Surly Pugsley debuted in 2005 and is produced nearby in Minnesota. Newer models are lighter and faster now that they are made of carbon fiber and feature tubeless tires.

**Q.** Are fat bikes only for winter use?

**A.** The big tires, typically mounted on 80mm-wide rims make them both fun and practical to ride all year. They excel in sand and mud, but they are especially awesome to ride in snow.

**Q.** Do you need studded tires for traction?

**A.** For traction in snow, we typically run lower tire pressure (5-10psi) to gain traction and float. Studded tires

have become popular now that we are dealing with climate change and mid-winter melts or rain showers each year.

**Q.** Can I ride on top of snow, or are there limitations?

**A.** Once there is more than a few inches of snow, fat bikes only work on packed or groomed trails. The tires do provide some measure of float in snow with a crust on top, and they can easily ride through several inches of light powder as long as there is a solid base below for the tires to get traction on. However, the rolling resistance on a fat bike is far more noticeable than your regular mountain bike, even in the best snow conditions.

**Q.** Where do people go to fat bike?

**A.** The most popular trails are the ones the Black Sheep are grooming from Kinsmen Park to Shuniah Mines. Sleeping Giant Park also allows fat biking on their ski trails, and for the price of a parking pass, it's a great destination ride. Finally, the Thunder Bay Cycling Club has organized a series of races at places like Loch Lomond and Mt. Baldy. The local race season kicks off this Sunday morning at Trowbridge Falls, and there is no cost to race for those who are registered with either of our local cycling clubs.

Fat bikes are available at all three local bike shops, and they also offer rental bikes for you to try before you buy. If you are looking for even more ways to enjoy our winters, try fat biking. But consider yourself warned – it can be addictive.



**KEITH AILEY**

**THE GOOD LIFE**

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# DFC math students get \$10K grant

**EDUCATION**  
By Doug Dlaczuk - TB Source

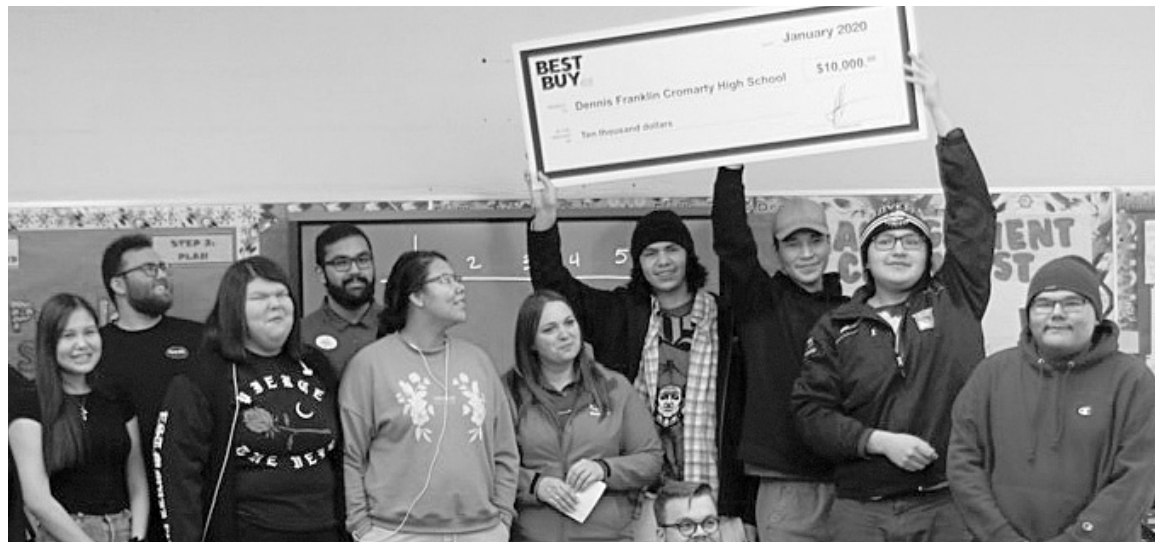
Students at a local high school will be getting a helping hand thanks to a large donation to purchase some much needed technology.

Dennis Franklin Cromarty High School received \$10,000 through the Best Buy Tech Grant to put toward the purchase of iPads for math students.

"Our students don't have the ability to get the devices themselves," said DFC math teacher, Alyssa Saj. "So having them available here at the school is just fantastic. We are able to do more hands on work where they can actually understand what we are covering instead of just doing it with paper and pencils."

The Tech Grant is a national program that awards several schools funding to purchase technology for the classroom.

"This time there were over 265 applicants," said Shanna Morson, store leader at Best Buy in Thunder Bay.



**TABLET TIME:** The Best Buy Tech Grant will help students at Dennis Franklin Cromarty High School purchase iPads for use in class.

"Out of those applicants 15 were chosen and this school was one of them."

This is the second school in Thunder Bay to receive the grant, with St. Ann School being awarded the money

several years ago to purchase computers and tablets.

"It's important that students have

access to technology," Morson said. "Obviously the way the world is going, technology is the answer, the be all end all. We want them to have that at the tip of their fingers so they have access to everything."

Saj said the students are really excited to have access to the iPads and not only will it help students with their learning, it will also benefit teachers.

"It can help with teachers gathering quick data on how our students are doing, it can help make things a little bit more fun and exciting for the students to learn, and just give them a clear understanding of the concepts," she said.

"The more we have available the better. Right now we only have 25 iPads available for 100 students. That means classes are sharing them, you only have limited time with them and you just can't use them as much as you'd like to. So the more you have the better."

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# IN THE bay

arts | entertainment | culture

## Docs dance for PET scanner

**THUNDER BAY**  
By Leith Dunick – TB Source

**D**octors at Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre are about to get their dance on.

Eight physicians have teamed with local dancers to prepare for Dancing with the Docs, a May 2 fundraiser at the Valhalla Inn designed to raise money to buy a positron emission tomography scanner, a device used to help plan treatment of a growing number of cancer cases.

The hospital has a PET scanner, but it's starting to show its age.

Patricia Del Paggio, with her brother Joseph, an oncologist at the Regional, helped create the event in honour of their mother Nikki Del Paggio, who succumbed to cancer last July at the age of 58.

Based on the popular Dancing with the Stars program, each team of dancers will choreograph a routine with local expert Carla Crupi and, with the music of a live band led by Danny Johnson, will perform for the audience the night of the event.

Judges and those in attendance will choose the winning team.

"We lost our mother last summer to lymphoma, so we wanted to honour her life and her legacy, and we thought what better way than my brother and I putting our two passions together. I'm the drama teacher, he's the doctor and we put it together and we got Dancing with the Docs," Del Paggio said on Friday,

helping launch the event in a hospital foyer.

**"She is our inspiration. She is the driving force behind everything we do."**

**PATRICIA DEL PAGGIO, SPEAKING OF HER MOTHER, NIKKI**

"She is our inspiration. She is the driving force behind everything that we do."

The doctors were all too willing participants, said palliative care physician Kathy Simpson, who works alongside Joseph Del Paggio in the

hospital's oncology department.

She also treated Nikki Del Paggio during her brief bout with cancer.

"She was an inspiring woman who obviously inspired her children and her family, and they've created this wonderful way of honouring her and this is a legacy to her, probably the most important reason to be here," Simpson said.

Despite her eagerness, it's still pretty nerve-racking trying to learn dance



**SOLD OUT FAST: The 400 tickets for Dancing with the Docs sold out in less than 24 hours.**

### DANCING WITH THE DOCS PARTICIPANTS

- Dr. Alyson Dykstra with Daniel Stilla
- Dr. Bradley Jacobsen with Marnie Merchant
- Dr. Olga Kisselgoff with Karim Coluccio
- Dr. Mario Nucci with Meaghan Tofinetti
- Dr. Chris Francis with Harmony Appell
- Dr. Stewart Kennedy with Dr. Alea Crupi
- Dr. Gabriel Mapeso with Jacqueline Marsh
- Dr. Kathy Simpson with Jacob Gazzola

moves.

Simpson joked she quickly came to realize physicians are very heavy-footed.

"But those dancers can just pick us up and just move us along. Honestly, we just shuffle our feet a little and that's all we

do. They seem to make us look pretty good," Simpson said. "it's very nerve-racking. None of us are at all skilled – well, except one – at dancing. It's another level of humiliation for us."

Physician Alysson Dykstra is the doctor with a dance background.

"It's not cheating, everyone," she joked at Friday's launch.

"I was really excited, but mainly because I do take care of cancer patients down on the oncology unit. So I wanted to do this for them and also in memory and in honour of Nikki Del Paggio."

The 400 tickets for Dancing with the Docs sold out in less than 24 hours, but members of the public can donate to their favourite pair of dancers online at [www.healthsciencesfoundation.ca/dwtd](http://www.healthsciencesfoundation.ca/dwtd).

Celebrity judges and other surprises will be revealed as the event nears. The team that raises the most money will be awarded a points bonus in the competition for the Mirror Ball trophy.

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GOING FOR GOLD: The Academy Awards almost always comes with surprises, and special moments each year.

# Handicapping Oscar

A look at who should win, and who was overlooked

Hollywood's big night will soon be upon us next Thursday, giving rise to the obligatory speculation of whom will win Oscar, with the attendant sentiments of should win vs will win. Here's a capsule look at some of the major categories, noting some omissions.

**Best actor:** For *Joker*, Joaquin Phoenix has already captured the Golden Globe and Screen Actors Guild awards. He's probably a lock. Adam Driver's heart-broken husband in *Marriage Story* would be an equitable win. Leonardo DiCaprio is excellent as a fading star in *Once Upon a Time in Hollywood*. Antonio Banderas (*Pain and Glory*) and Jonathan Pryce (*Two Popes*) give wonderful portrayals in less showy films. **Outside looking in:** Adam Sandler (*Uncut Gems*), Eddie Murphy (*Dolemite is My Name*), Willem Dafoe, Robert Pattinson, (*The Lighthouse*), Robert DeNiro, (*The Irishman*) – DeNiro's supporting co-stars get the nod, but not him?

**Best actress:** Renee Zellweger (*Judy*) has won both the Golden Globe and SAG awards for nailing the essence of Judy Garland, enhanced by collective sentiment towards Garland herself. Scarlett Johansson's torn spouse in *Marriage Story* is a very worthy alternative. Saoirse Ronan positively glows in *Little Women*. Charlize Theron gives a weighty performance in the otherwise choppy *Bombshell*. Cynthia Erivo's impassioned portrayal in *Harriet* shines in a flawed bio-pic. Will there be a repeat of last year's shock where Olivia Colman usurped the heavily favoured Glenn Close? Surprises are always fun. **Omission:** Lupita Nyong'o (*Us*).

**Best supporting actor:** Golden Globe and SAG wins sets up Brad Pitt as a likely Oscar winner for *Once upon*

*a Time in Hollywood*. The rest of the pack cannot quite match Pitt's cool, self-possessed stuntman portrayal: Anthony Hopkins (*Two Popes*), Al Pacino and Joe Pesci (*The Irishman*). Tom Hanks (*A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood*) captures the essence of the beloved Fred Rogers in a film that greatly falsifies the story on which it is based.

**Best supporting actress:** Further on the award winning trend (ie Golden Globe, SAG), Laura Dern is the likely win thanks to her tough, audacious lawyer in *Marriage Story*, overshadowing Florence Pugh (*Little Women*), Kathy Bates (*Richard Jewell*), Scarlett Johansson (*Jojo Rabbit*) and Margot Robbie (*Bombshell*).

**Best director:** Neck-and-neck battle between Bong Joon Ho (*Parasite*) and Sam Mendes (*1917*). Both won Golden Globes, *Parasite* for Best Foreign Language and

*1917* for Best Picture. Is a similar Oscar trade-off likely? Also nominated: Quentin Tarantino (*Once Upon a Time in Hollywood*), Todd Phillips (*Joker*), Martin Scorsese (*The Irishman*). **Glaring omission:** Greta Gerwig, (*Little Women*), especially since her movie is up for best picture. **Other female directors also absent.** The 10-nominee slotting for best pic doesn't jibe with the five-slot best director category.

**Best picture:** *1917* is likely to take it for its technical brilliance, but *Parasite* is a critical darling. Upset? Can *Once upon a Time in Hollywood* sneak in? Other nominees: *Ford V Ferrari*, *The Irishman*, *Jojo Rabbit*, *Joker*, *Little Women*, *Marriage Story*. Why only nine? What about the spooky *Us* or *Atlantics*?

Look out for a Canadian, Sami Khan, co-director, best documentary short, *St. Louis Superman*. Enjoy!

MARTY  
MASCARINI

MOVIE TALK

IN THE bay

# The Birds and the Bees a delight

## REVIEW

By Linda Maehans - TB Source

**O**K. Let's put some of the tried-and-true clichés about men and women on the table right now. How 'bout "once bitten, twice shy"; or "what's good for the goose is good for the gander". Or even "the best laid plans of mice and men often go awry". Or, dang it all, how sweet they really are: those birds and them bees!

Magnus' first production of 2020, *The Birds and The Bees*, is one smooth flowin' honey of a show. Playwright Mark Crawford has captured, then finely nuanced the age-old mating dance of males and females. Into that he's built a honeycomb of relationship complications: those inevitable snags between mothers and daughters; with parents and their hopes for their children. The whole gamut of people's lives. Oh, and while he's at it, Crawford has penned some quietly wise musings about the environ-



**SMOOTH FLOWING:** Kristian Truelsen (left) as Earl and Catherine Bruce as Gail.

ment too. Very satisfying.

But the most delightful part of his heart-strings story, set in some pretty fertile fields I might add, is the, ahem, well, you know. It's that 3-letter word; rhymes with hex, as in what witches do.

Or as in those delicious spicy-hot dishes we love to eat. Tex-mex. No, nothing for the faint of appetite here; just pure tang-enjoy.

Our cast of four, plus thousands of turkeys and millions of bees we don't

actually get to meet, are hard to consider separately because they play so well together. Their on-stage chemistry is one of the best I've seen. Catherine Bruce, as Gail, is queen of her hive. Strong and determined, yet vulnerable. It doesn't take but a wing-beat to see it. This woman is the real deal.

Jessica Greenberg, as Sarah, is just as strong; just now a bit more vulnerable. What's that expression? The apple doesn't fall far from the tree. Self-confidence that's been shaken, but not to anywhere near the core: nicely portrayed.

Now, as for the men. Ahem. Here they are, stingers and all.

Welcome Kristian Truelsen to a Magnus stage; this rooster named Earl has some great way of lookin' after his hens, and I'm not talking about painting toe-nails. This guy? He's got it. In spades. Maybe the ones he uses to mend those fences, I don't know.

The young scientist? I think his name

is Ben. Rides a bike everywhere; believes in a cleansing diet of juices. Actor Michael Man has been here before (*Jungle Book*, 2016) but Magnus' audiences were not quite prepared for him this time. He nearly steals the show. I say 'nearly' in deference to what happens within the biology of beehives. Man shows us a wonderful possibility: young innocence, and new science.

A word about the set and lighting; I'd think important for bees, maybe even turkeys. Nicholas Palinka's set gives us all the room we need; Rebecca Miller's lighting signals night vs day in a way some folks gaze out a window at sunset or just at that first break of day.

Stage manager Gillian Jones gives director Thom Currie all his best cues: for one honey of a show buzzin' until February 15.

Ahem. That's just one day before, on a calendar, well, you know as well as does St. Valentine.



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# Getting ghosted by a TV favourite

Just found out I've been ghosted. By a TV character.

Justin Chambers is leaving – correction, has left – *Grey's Anatomy* after 16 years on the series. He was one of less than a handful of actors still remaining from the first episode. And now he – and alter ego, Alex Karev – are gone without even a “goodbye.”

Fans were shocked when Chambers announced in January that his last episode had already aired weeks prior in November. No notice. No fanfare.

Thus far in the new winter season, the character is still around but not on-camera. He's visiting his mom out of town. He's working at the other hospital. He's just not here.

Now, I know actors can't be expected to play the same role infinitum. They're creative folk who need to try different things. I also



know people come and go in the real world without warning. It's just art imitating life.

But that's why I watch TV. Because when I turn it on, I know they'll be there. Reliably. If I wanted the real world, I'd hang out at the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre, not Seattle's Grey-Sloan.

It's not like Grey's hasn't had years to perfect their sign-offs. They've



LEFT THE SHOW: Justin Chambers is gone, after 16 seasons on *Grey's Anatomy*.

used a bomb, a bus, gunfire, regular fire, cancer, a plane crash, and even an 18-wheeler to end a character.

Sure, some have moved away or gotten new jobs. But viewers were always given some kind of closure.

It's just good manners.

CW's *Supernatural* is ending after 15 seasons and every one of the 20 episodes is a nod to something that has gone before. They've resurrected (literally) characters and storylines. Some satisfying. Some not so much. But they've been recognized for their part in the Winchester's "road so far."

And one episode even played around with the simplicity and ease of the TV world. The brothers' "luck" was removed and suddenly, they had to deal with "real world" problems like paying credit card bills, getting parking tickets, having their car break down, experiencing lactose intolerance first-hand, and discovering that picking a lock isn't as easy as it looks.

*Arrow*, too, has now ended with the death of its hero. The first episode of its final season was promoted as "a love letter to the fans." That theme continued as it tied up storylines and included a much-lauded cross-over with *The Flash* and *Supergirl*. But the series finale brought all the characters back in person or in flashback to say goodbye one last time.

NBC's *The Good Place* also recently aired its final episode. In the super-sized finale, each character was given his or her own personal (and satisfying) send-off.

That's how you say goodbye, Justin. You don't just disappear.

We had a relationship. You gave us a good story and we kept you employed. We have limited free time and we gave it to you. Every week. So we deserve a proper goodbye from Alex.

It's just good manners.

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

- ACROSS**
- Textile fiber
  - Zoroastrian
  - Joint part
  - Last of the Mohicans
  - Log
  - Lozenge
  - Fetter
  - Zone
  - Public vehicle
  - Spread (out)
  - Dagger
  - General (abbr.)
  - Restive
  - Host
  - Malt liquor
  - Talk
  - Reel
  - Connubial
  - Male noble
  - Jester
  - Sluggish's stat
  - Ohio college town
  - Silent
  - Earth personified
  - Knight
  - Tilt hammer
  - Bellini opera
  - Mallet
  - Servant of Prospero
  - Noble (Ger.)
- DOWN**
- Aide
  - After awhile
  - Polish general
  - Slow: music
  - Thick soup
  - Wild ox
  - Receipt (abbr.)
  - Tableware
  - Ait
  - Sun hat
  - Moroccan Berber
  - Adept
  - King (Sp.)
  - Market
  - Asian desert
  - Prison: Brit.

### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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

- Rodent
- Yellow pigment
- Cauterize
- Fan shaped algae
- Rhetor
- Arabic letter
- Roam
- Grandfather of Saul
- Ananias
- Of a wall
- Gr. township
- Provide
- Three (pref.)
- Male person

## WORD SEARCH

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

- |         |          |              |           |
|---------|----------|--------------|-----------|
| Abusers | Engulf   | Nozzles      | Shaky     |
| Adrift  | Escapism | Numeral      | Shark     |
| Agendas | Forgot   | Option       | Spike     |
| Anchor  | Frieze   | Party        | Squint    |
| Arcane  | Furry    | Preface      | Suitors   |
| Arrived | Girdles  | Reassurances | Tailors   |
| Butler  | Hones    | Refine       | Transform |
| Cereal  | Inward   | Roster       | Upside    |
| Chars   | Lesser   | Router       | Wisely    |
| Clause  | Migrate  | Secure       | Yellowed  |

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 GAEG GAVZ WVVS NPFV IUEJZ BVTBNV  
 GT KYSQ BVTBNV."  
 — WGVBAVM AECFPM D

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

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# Sports

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## Reid guides Chiefs to win

### OPINION

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Sunday night, I was happy for Andy Reid.

Personally, I thought he had a hall-of-fame resume before the Chiefs improbable come-from-behind Super Bowl win over the San Francisco 49ers.

But it was missing one thing – a championship.

Not anymore.

Reid, who led the Eagles to the Super Bowl in 2004, only to lose to the New England Patriots, has 207 coaching wins, seventh-most all-time. He's won 10 division crowns in 21 seasons with the Eagles and Chiefs, and taken seven teams to the conference championship game.

He's gone to the post-season 15 times and won at least one round in 10 of those seasons.

That's all-time great.

Was nice to see Patrick Mahomes get his Super Bowl so early in his career, too. However, I'd have given the Super Bowl MVP to Damien Williams. He scored twice and Mahomes had two interceptions on his stat line.

And, from a Canadian perspective, it was great that offensive lineman Laurent Duvernay-Tardif, a McGill medical school graduate, earned his ring.

As for the Shakira/J-Lo debate, put me on Team Prince.



Congrats to Krista McCarville, Jen Gates, Ashley Sippala and Kendra Lilly, who are headed back to the Scott Tournament of Hearts.

For McCarville, it's her eighth appearance.

The team has added incentive to win, knowing next year's Scotties will be held in Thunder Bay. The winner of this year's event, scheduled to begin next week in Moose Jaw, Sask., gets an automatic spot in the 2021 Scotties as Team Canada.

McCarville and company made relatively easy work of the competition at the Northern Ontario Scotties in New Liskeard, running the table with a perfect 7-0 record.

But watch out for Sudbury's Krysta Burns.

She gave the Thunder Bay rink its money's worth in Sunday's final, coming up a rock short of forcing an extra end in what proved to be a 6-5 loss.

The former Laurentian skip won a USports national championship in 2017, beating Lakehead 7-4 in the final, and will only get better as her team gains experience at higher levels of play.

# T-Wolves on cusp of playoffs

## UNIVERSITY HOCKEY

By Leith Dunick –TB Source

The next point for the Lakehead Thunderwolves is the most important one of the season.

It's the one that will sew up the final playoff spot in the OUA West.

But they're only in that position because of the heroics of rookie forward Geoff Dempster, who crashed the net to grab a rebound late in the third period last Saturday night to give the Wolves their first lead of the weekend.

Add in a hat trick by veteran forward Josh Laframboise en route to a 5-3 win over the visiting Brock Badgers, and the Thunderwolves managed to buy themselves a little breathing room with just two games left on the regular season schedule.

It was a wild and crazy finish for Lakehead, who scored three times in the final 7:06 to clinch the win and gave the eighth-place squad a four-point cushion over ninth-place Waterloo – who also happens to be this weekend's opponent.

"Once the second half of the game started I thought we started dialing in more. We were just kind of connecting more," said Dempster, whose goal was just his third in 26 appearances.

Dempster said he was just hanging out at the Brock blue-line looking for



**TIGHT GAME:** Lakehead's Geoff Dempster (left) and Brock's Ryan Burton battle it out.

an opportunity. When defenceman Callum Fryer made a beeline for the net, Dempster saw his chance, and zoomed in on Badgers goaltender Mario Cavaliere.

As Fryer sailed through the air toward the end boards, Dempster pounced on the rebound and buried it, helping erase the memories of an early 2-0, first-period deficit.

"There was a nice rebound sitting there for me and luckily I got the

rebound," Dempster said. "I was in the right place at the right time."

It was a huge win, said Laframboise, who upped his goal total to 15 on the season, tops on the Thunderwolves.

"Obviously it's a character win, coming back like that in the dying minutes there. Definitely we can use the momentum next weekend. It's the best thing in hockey. You win and you're in, you lose and you go home," said Laframboise.

He channelled his inner Derek Jeter on the equalizer, taking a home-run cut at a flying puck and finding a hole up the middle that found the mesh.

"I got lucky and it just happened to find the back of the net," Laframboise said.

It was a start to forget for the 1,684 in attendance at the Gardens.

Jared Marino got Brock on the board 1:40 in, beating Lakehead starter Brock Aiken – subbing for an injured Nic Renyard – with the Badgers down a man.

Frank Pucci doubled the lead six minutes later with a two-step deke.

Lakehead's Tomas Soustal got one back at the 11:23 mark of the first, but Brock restored its two-goal lead 32 seconds later, Christian Girhiny netting his sixth of the campaign.

Laframboise responded with 4.4 seconds to go and the teams hit the second with Brock in front 3-2.

It stayed that way until the third.

"Obviously the start wasn't ideal, wasn't pretty. Definitely some challenging times in a huge game," said LU coach Andrew Wilkins.

"We talked about desperation and we actually took that into the room and I thought we did a good job, especially toward the end of the second and into the third."

The Wolves improved to 12-12-2, while Brock slipped to 13-12-2.



# THUNDERWOLVES



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## ATHLETE PROFILE

**KATIE XU**  
 TEAM ONTARIO



Being a Special Olympics athlete has been Katie's passion since she started at the age of eight. From figure skating in the winter to swimming in the summer, along with team sports such as soccer and basketball, she has enjoyed dedicating her time to training and competing in order to do the best that she can. In the past few years, Katie has taken part in many Special Olympics games. She always relishes the opportunity to meet new friends from all over the world with a huge smile.

Katie represented Canada at the 2017 Special Olympics World Winter Games and had the time of her life, having the chance to visit Austria while also capturing two gold and one silver medal. Katie also competed at

the Special Olympics Canada 2018 Summer Games in Nova Scotia, where she swam in 5 events and brought home one silver and two bronze medals.

In 2018, Katie was so honored and proud to learn that the Goulbourn skating arena (where she practices weekly) was to be named the "Katie Xu and Jack Fan Rink." Most recently, Katie was asked to perform a pairs dance with Jack Fan at the Rock the Rink show featuring Tessa Virtue and Scott Moir.

Outside of sports, Katie loves to dance (ask her about Just Dance games!), play video games and listen to the hottest new songs on the radio. She volunteers at the local Ottawa public library and also helps out at a local kids clothing store.

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**sports NEWS****SPORTS IN BRIEF**

**SOLID NIGHT:** Lakehead's Megan Looney heads to the free-throw line on Saturday in Toronto.

# Wolves on a roll

## Women's basketball sweeps Toronto Varsity Blues

**T**he Lakehead Thunderwolves are on a roll at exactly the right time.

Jon Kreiner's squad held the Toronto Varsity Blues off the score sheet for the first six minutes of Saturday's rematch and went on to defeat the host team 62-49, their fourth straight OUA triumph.

Sofia Lluch and Megan Looney contributed 15 points apiece and Nikki Ylagan added 10 to lead the Wolves to a win, giving them a four-point cushion over the Algoma Thunderbirds in the race for the 12th and final playoff spot.

Nada Radonjic led the Varsity Blues (3-15) with a dozen points.

Lakehead (7-11) still has a shot at 11th place, sitting four points behind Laurier with a game in hand.

Lakehead plays Western and Windsor on the road this weekend and finishes up the regular season at home next weekend against Ontario Tech and Queen's.

## Msambya powers LU

**W**ith five minutes to go on Saturday night, the Lakehead Thunderwolves were down six on the road to an upset-minded Toronto Varsity Blues squad.

Then Laoui Msambya took over.

The rookie guard buried a three-pointer to close the gap to three, followed with a lay-up to leave the Wolves down 74-73 and completed the three-point play with a free throw to even the contest 74-74.

For added measure he hit the go-ahead shot and free throw to give the visiting No. 5 Thunderwolves a three-point lead.

Later in the period he proved clutch again.

Down a point, he made both of his free throws to push the Wolves in front 79-78 and keep them in the hunt.

The Varsity Blues retook the lead late on

a Somachi Agbapu lay-up, but Isaiah Traylor tied things up at the free-throw line and Msambya won with a lay-up, collecting the rebound off a Lock Lam block.

Msambya finished with 20 points, one short of Traylor's 21. Lam had a double-double for the Wolves, collecting 13 points and 10 rebounds.

Evan Shadkami had 19 to lead Toronto, who trailed 39-38 at the half but took a four-point lead into the fourth.

Lakehead (15-3) heads to Windsor and Western this weekend, when they can clinch the OUA Central with a pair of wins.

Toronto (4-14) heads to Algoma and Guelph, trying to keep their slim playoff hopes alive.

## Stars swept on road

**T**he Thunder Bay North Stars better learn to win on the road.

With just three home dates of 15 games left on their schedule before the playoffs roll around, and just two points separating them from the second-place Red Lake Miners, the North Stars are in trouble if they can't find a way to put points on the board away from the friendly confines of Fort William Gardens.

If this weekend was any indication, they could be in trouble.

The Thief River Falls Norskies knocked them off for a second straight night, scoring three times in the second period to erase a 2-1 Thunder Bay lead, and went on to down the visiting Stars 5-3.

Cody Bruchkowski scored twice for Thunder Bay, giving him 41 goals in 37 games, but it wasn't enough.

Zach Ross evened things up 4:28 into the second and Joe Collins netted the go-ahead goal 56 seconds later.

TORONTO VARSITY BLUES PHOTO





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