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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2020

**YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER**


Canadian Publications Agreement No. 0662445 Vol.17 No. 7

**INSIDE DOGS RESCUED**




Forty-seven animals removed from home / 3

**GANG GROWTH**



Out of town criminals filling up District Jail / 5


**KINGFISHER AT 50**



Outdoor classroom celebrates half a century / 10

# Playoff ready

Thunderwolves return as underdogs to the OUA men's hockey post-season after missing out last season / 16



**MADE IT IN:** Lakehead's Geoff Dempster (right) dangles the puck in an attempt to get by Waterloo's Michael Siddall (21) and David Radke last Saturday night at the Gardens.

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LOCAL NEWS

# Weird fiction is wonderfully fun to peruse



**JOHN PATEMAN**

BOOK BANTER



I made an exciting new discovery in Indigo – the weird world of weird fiction. This genre is hard to define as it dances around the edges of horror, ghost stories, the supernatural, fantasy and science fiction.

The only way you can tell if you are reading weird fiction is to actually read it because it does give you a weird and unsettling feeling.

Like you are being watched. Like you have a view into another universe. And the inhabitants of that universe are looking right back at you.

Many point to H.P. Lovecraft as the inventor of weird fiction.

Frequently imitated and widely influential, Lovecraft reinvented the horror genre in the twentieth century, discarding ghosts and witches and envisioning instead mankind as a tiny outpost of dwindling sanity in a chaotic and malevolent universe.

*The Call of Cthulhu and Other Weird Stories* reveals the development of Lovecraft's mesmerizing narrative style and establishes him as a canonical – and visionary – imaginary writer.

Actor, journalist, devotee of Celtic Christianity and the Holy Grail legend, Welshman Arthur Machen is another seminal writer of weird fiction, a master of the strange and macabre that puts him right up there beside Lovecraft and Poe.

*The White People and Other Weird Stories* offers the perfect introduction to his vision and style.

*The White People* is an exercise in the bizarre that leaves the reader

disorientated virtually from the first page.

Machen turns even fundamental truths upside down with his mystic tales of the weird and the occult that explore ancient evils lying below the surface of everyday life: tales of strange drugs, ritual murder and a young girl initiated into the old ways of pagan magic.

*The Tales of Mystery and Imagination* by Edgar Allan Poe is a collection of timeless classics.

Among the best are those stories that formed the basis for Roger Corman's hammy horror adaptations starring the sublime Vincent Price.

Madness stalks the halls of the crumbling mansion on the marsh in *The Fall of the House of Usher*.

Death dances behind a mask while plague ravishes the countryside in *The Masque of the Red Death*.

No one expects the Spanish Inquisition until it reveals the true depths of its horrors in *The Pit and*

*the Pendulum*.

And everyone's nightmare of being buried alive is explored in all its devilish detail in *The Premature Burial*.

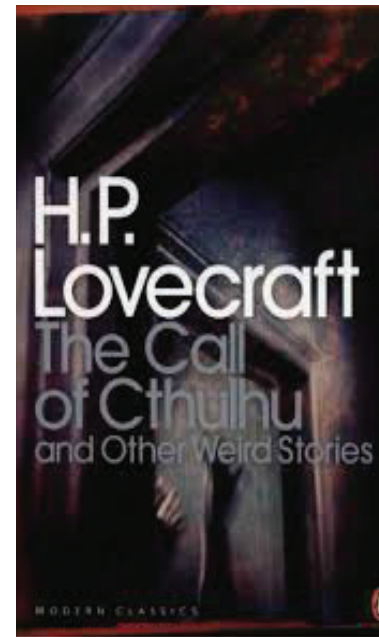
Quoth The Raven: 'Nevermore!' For a more contemporary voice we can turn to Thomas Ligotti.

His debut collection, *Songs of a Dead Dreamer*, and his second, *Grimscribe*, permanently inscribed a new name in the pantheon of weird fiction.

Influenced by the brutal absurdity of Kafka, Ligotti crafted his own brand of existential horror, which shocks at the deepest levels.

In decaying cities and lurid dreamscapes tormented by the lunatic pageantry of masks, puppets, and obscure ritual, Ligotti's works lay bare the sickening madness of the human condition.

He creates nightmares that splinter the schemes validating our existence. Do not read alone.



REINVENTED HORROR: Author H.P. Lovecraft was widely influential.



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If you want to maintain your smartphone, here's what you should know:

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2. Be sure to place your phone in a safe space where it won't fall as expensive items and serious falls don't go hand in hand. Also choose a spot that is not prone to extreme temperatures.
3. In terms of the washroom, steam from the shower can seep into your phone over time and damage the internal electronics!

Taking a few moments to store your smartphone in an ideal spot, where it can wait for you safe and sound, is a sure way to prolong its life. If you have any questions about ways to protect your smartphone, our team at Marnics Mobile is happy to help!

*Marcus Cupello*

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LOCAL NEWS

# Dozens of dogs taken from a city residence

Forty-seven malnourished animals were in rough condition

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

Animal rescue organizations in Thunder Bay have retrieved 47 malnourished dogs in rough condition from a city residence.

The small dogs, including Shih-tzus and Pekingese breeds, were picked up last Friday by the Northern Reach Rescue Network after being contacted by the family of the person who had the animals. The individual recently passed away.

Sixteen dogs with the most severe health issues were sent to the Toronto Humane Society where they were immediately placed on fluids and antibiotics.

Two of these had to have paws amputated, while some may lose their sight because of eye infections.

Robin Ratz, who works with Northern Reach and Paws for Love Dog Rescue, says the situation the dogs were found in was a clear case of hoarding.

"The house was in shambles. The urine smell was so strong that, even with masks, it penetrated our nostrils," Ratz said in an interview Monday.

She described the conditions as the worst she has ever seen.

"They were left in very small, confined areas, maybe two by two. Every one of them was matted, saturated in their own feces and urine. It was the saddest thing I've seen," Ratz said.

One of the rescued animals was so matted that, after he was groomed, his weight fell from 6.9 pounds to 5.9 pounds.

Despite their poor condition, Ratz believes that once the dogs are treated and fully recovered, there should be little difficulty finding good homes for them.

"Every one of these dogs is sweet. They don't growl at all. Part of it is probably their little spirits have been broken," Ratz said. "We're hoping to mend that."

Adoptions will happen, however, only after the animals are properly rehabilitated.

"They need to decompress. They need to get used to living in better conditions. They need to get food in their bellies that is very easy to digest," Ratz said.

She said she's always amazed by the fact that dogs who have been mistreated the most are often the ones



SAVED: This Shih-tzu was rescued last Friday.

with the best personalities.

Ratz is currently fostering two of the dogs for the Adopt A Mutt dog rescue organization.

Adopt A Mutt founder Sam Kannegiesser observed that all the animals seem to be very resilient.

"We see nothing but love coming out of them. They're starting to wag their tails. I've seen videos of some of the ones sent to southern Ontario, and they're already playing with toys. It's like their lights have been turned on," Kannegiesser said.

In addition to the pair with Adopt A Mutt, six dogs are currently in the care of Paws For Love in Thunder Bay.

The remaining 39 are being nursed back to health at three agencies in southern Ontario.

**"The urine smell was so strong that, even with masks, it penetrated our nostrils."**  
ROBIN RATZ

# French teachers join picket lines

**LABOUR**  
By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Added French-language students to the growing list of youngsters who will miss class time because of a teachers' strike.

Last Friday, the leadership of the Association des enseignantes et des enseignants franco-ontariens (AEFO) announced its teachers on Feb. 13 will begin weekly walk-outs province-wide as it launches Phase 3 of its job action against the provincial government.

It's the last of the four teachers' unions in Ontario who have staged walkouts.

A pair of Thunder Bay schools will be affected, along

with eight others throughout Northwestern Ontario.

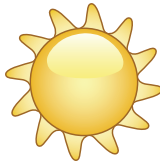





Locally teachers at Ecole Catholique Franco-Superieur and Ecole Secondaire Catholique de La Verendrye will walk off the job.

Earlier this year unionized teachers, who in December voted 97 per cent in favour of strike action, began work-to-rule measures at Conseil scolaire de district catholique des Aurores boreales schools.

About 82 AEFO members work for the French language board.

Members of the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario walked off the job Ontario-wide on Tuesday and locally, as part of a series of rotating strikes, on Feb. 13.

# Weather Forecast

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <b>Sunny</b> Probability of Precipitation: 10% HIGH -18 LOW -27	 <b>Mainly sunny</b> Probability of Precipitation: 30% HIGH -11 LOW -11	 <b>Scattered flurries</b> Probability of Precipitation: 40% HIGH -2 LOW -14
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
 <b>Mainly sunny</b> Probability of Precipitation: 20% HIGH -9 LOW -13	 <b>Snow</b> Probability of Precipitation: 70% HIGH -6 LOW -10	 <b>A mix of sun and clouds</b> Probability of Precipitation: 30% HIGH -6 LOW -13



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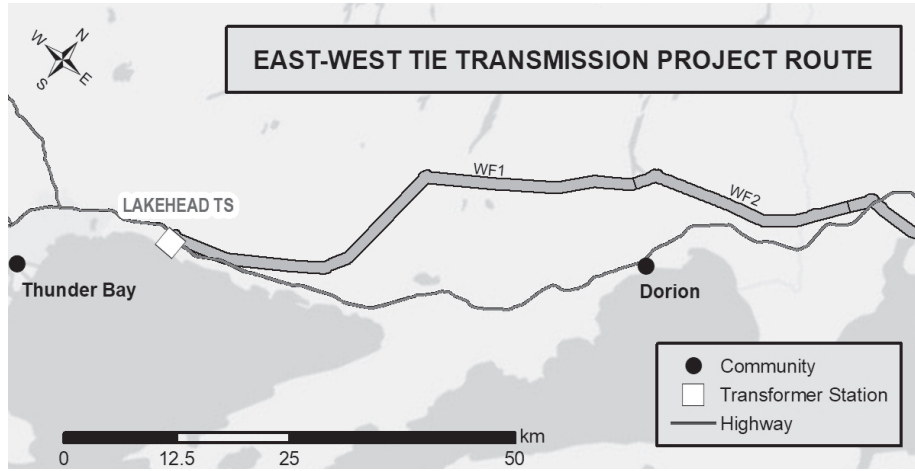
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As a means of ensuring that all interested communities are kept informed, Valard Construction will be conducting controlled slash pile burning during the period of **February 17, 2020 to March 31, 2020** for the clearing of the East-West Tie (EWT) Transmission Project.



The areas where the burning activity will occur, are east of Thunder Bay and north of Dorion within the approved right-of-way of the EWT Transmission project.

For information regarding this project please visit [www.NextBridge.ca](http://www.NextBridge.ca)

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## LOCAL NEWS



**CONCERNED:** Laurie Raslack says she's seen a drastic drop in care levels at long-term care homes.

# PSW shortage a crisis situation

Ontario Health Coalition, Unifor urge province to act

### THUNDER BAY

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

**T**he situation in local long-term care facilities is dire, says a report produced in part by the Ontario Health Coalition.

The document says residents at Thunder Bay's homes for the aged, 70 per cent of which are owned by for-profit corporations, are being shortchanged because of a lack of personal support workers and the refusal to date of the province to create legislation calling for at least four hours of care per resident per day.

It's driving PSWs from the workforce, and despite a program locally offering to cover tuition costs to get the education needed to enter the field, it's tough to find enough people interested in taking the plunge and forging a new career path.

Laurie Raslack says her mother entered a long-term care facility seven years ago and said she's noticed a dramatic drop in care in that time frame.

"My mother had an open wound down to the bone and her bandages weren't being changed," Raslack said on Monday, after the OHC released the 32-page *Caring in Crisis: Ontario's Long-Term Care PSW Shortage* report.

"She had three showers in a one-month period."

When her mother, who has since died, entered the facility, the PSWs would spend extra time with residents, especially those who had no family.

"Six years later, there is no talking. It's like a factory. It is a crisis."

Andy Savelle, Unifor's director of health

care, said they've criss-crossed the province seeking input and it's virtually the same in every community – there just aren't enough personal support workers available.

"The word's out," he said, "It's not only about compensation ... It's more related to the demands being placed on PSWs."

He added it's time the province got serious about staff-to-patient ratios, which get worse when a PSW calls in sick.

It's not sustainable, Savelle said. "They leave work feeling disheartened at the end of the day, knowing if they had time they could do so much more. We're not using the word crisis here lightly."

Staff shortages have become routine, which has led to some long-term care beds being left unused because there aren't enough qualified workers to look after additional people, many with chronic care needs and unable to do much for themselves.

Often residents are left in bed all day, when staffing shortfalls leave a single PSW to handle the workload of two.

"It really is atrocious," said Kari Jefford, president of Unifor Local 229.

"Folks aren't even coming into the workplace."

It's up to the province to fund the sector appropriately, she added, noting it's not right to favour stockholders over care. If not, it's only going to get worse.

"The wages aren't competitive," Jefford said. "We've had PSWs bid into house-keeping because the wages are comparable. There's going to be a mass exodus. We need help, and we need it now."

**"My mother had an open wound down to the bone and her bandages weren't being changed."**  
**LAURIE RASLACK**

## Marcus Powlowski, MP

Thunder Bay–Rainy River

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## LOCAL NEWS

# Out-of-town gangs overflowing city jail

## THUNDER BAY

By Gary Rinne – TB Source

Guards at the Thunder Bay District Jail hope a visit next week by Ontario's deputy solicitor-general will draw attention to the community's growing problem with southern Ontario gangs.

Data supplied by Thunder Bay Police shows they arrested or identified 93 confirmed or suspected gang members and gang associates from the Toronto and Ottawa areas in the first 10 months of 2019 alone.

The Ontario Public Service Employees Union says the District Jail has recently housed up to 60 gang members at one time.

Last Wednesday, Bill Hayes, acting president of OPSEU Local 737, estimated there were 40 to 50 of these inmates in custody at the jail.

Describing it as a "dangerous demographic," Hayes said the situation has worsened over the last couple of years.

"It's an increasing number of people that we're just not used to. We used to be able to rotate offenders through units, but a lot of these guys are encroaching on the drug trade up here, so they don't get along with the locals and have to be housed separately," Hayes told [tbnewswatch.com](http://tbnewswatch.com).

He explained that the jail is divided into a variety of units, some designated for the general population and some for protective custody.



**OVERFILLED:** The Thunder Bay Jail is rarely at or under its 147-inmate capacity.

"In the general population, we have a unit of seven cells and two units of nine cells, and they're about triple-bunked, for an average of about 20 people per unit...When we mix these populations together there's a lot more violence."

Hayes calculated that there have been upwards of 100 violent incidents in the jail over the past year, twice the rate of

the previous year.

Gangs, he said, "are calling the shots on the streets. The people they're dealing with on the streets come into the jail, and there's hits put out on other offenders that owe money or are selling drugs in the wrong territory."

Hayes said finding cells to keep these individuals apart from each other is

difficult.

"We have different factions of Toronto gangs coming up here, who are trying to encroach on each other's territory, and when they are brought to jail we can't put them together with the other Toronto people, so they have to go to a different part of the jail or go to segregation."

OPSEU believes repeated remands for inmates is exacerbating the problem.

Hayes said "It used to be that four or five would be arrested, we'd have them and then they'd get out, but now they've taken over a whole block of our institution, and others in protective custody. And we have guys that hide out in segregation for their safety."

Efforts are being made within the corrections and justice systems, he said, to transfer inmates with longer remand dates to other Ontario institutions

"We're constantly working together to try to move bodies out of here to create space. A lot of time, their court cases will go on for a year or two

years. What we're running into is the courts keep remanding them every couple of weeks, so we can't get them out of Thunder Bay," Hayes said.

He said if inmates are going to be in custody for six months, longer remands can facilitate their transfer to a place such as the Central North Correctional Centre in Penitanguishene, which has

more size and space.

The Thunder Bay District Jail is designed to accommodate 147 inmates.

Last Wednesday it held 170, and Hayes expected 20 more would be added on the upcoming weekend.

"It never gets to normal here," he said.

Correctional officers want to discuss the overcrowding and gangs issues with senior bureaucrats who are expected to tour the jail next week.

Hayes said he hopes the bureaucrats get a good understanding of the conditions that jail staff and inmates are struggling with, and that this leads to "tools to help us."

In April 2019, the province reaffirmed a previous government commitment to build a new correctional facility combining the district jail and the Thunder Bay Correctional Centre.

The opposition NDP last week criticized the government for delaying the project beyond the original timeline.

The ministry of the solicitor general replied that large infrastructure projects such as jails "are not built overnight."

It said the government is in the final stages of approving a short list of qualified proponents, who will then be provided with a request for proposals.

No construction date has as yet been established.

**"We're constantly working together to try to move bodies out of here to create space."**

**BILL HAYES**

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# Editorial

## EDITORIAL

# McCarville shines on

Another year, another Scotties Tournament of Hearts for Krista McCarville.

It's amazing, if you think about it.

McCarville will make her eighth appearance at the Scotties when the national women's curling championship kicks off this week in Moose Jaw, Sask.

She first landed at the Scotties in 2006, winning the first of four Ontario provincial playdowns.

That year her team included Tara George, Tiffany Stubbins and Lorraine Lang.

Kari MacLean replaced Stubbins in 2008.

A year later Ashley Sippala joined and George took a year off. Then in 2010 Lang retired.

Kari Lavoie and Sarah Potts became members of the team in 2011, and in 2015-16, Sudbury's Kendra Lilly was named the team's third.

Jen Gates subbed for Sippala last season, and is filling in for Potts, who is expecting twins, this season.

The team captured Northern Ontario titles in 2016, 2017, 2019 and 2020.

Most teams couldn't survive that kind of change.

McCarville hasn't let it bother her in the least. She's remained the steady hand at the wheel. And with the Scotties coming to Thunder Bay next year, she's got even more incentive to win this year, to guarantee her team a spot at the 2021 event. Good luck in Moose Jaw!

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## Social assistance woes

To the editor:

The government of Ontario should empathize more with recipients of Ontario Disability Support Program and Ontario Works.

Ontario Disability Support Program gives a couple no more than \$785 and for a single person \$500.

Come on now, a two-bedroom in Thunder Bay is about \$1,037 a month and about \$830 a month for a one-bedroom.

How do you think we can live like this?

This is ridiculous.

Doug Ford, please, don't make more homeless than there already is.

Our rent increased since our building got sold.

We have a good landlord who is doing renovations (at last) and he needed to increase our rent in order to continue.

We (and the other three tenants) need to be warm during winter and have decent apartments.

We don't deserve this.

Be a human being.

Diane Armstrong,  
Thunder Bay

## I support teachers

To the editor:

I can't believe this circus that Ford and Lecce have going on. They are cutting funds for beneficial services like education so that they can balance the budget.

It seems that balancing the budget means lining their own pockets by taking public money (also known as taxes) that should be going to benefit the communities they come from. True leaders make personal sacrifices for the benefit of their followers, it's quite obvious that neither of them are leaders.

They are snakes trying to benefit themselves and their friends.

Our children deserve much better. In my opinion our educators and support staff don't get paid enough for what they do every day. The stuff they have to put up with (helicopter parents, the effects of absent parents on the children, etc).

I say that but that isn't even what they're fighting for.

They spend more time with the kids than their parents do for most of the year.

I trust them better to know what students need and what they themselves require to do their job effectively.

Steve Anselmo,  
Thunder Bay

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



# Council approves budget

## CITY HALL

By Ian Kaufman - TB Source

City council passed a largely status quo municipal budget for 2020 Monday night, after weeks of deliberation. The approved budget will see city spending increase by around \$5.3 million from 2019, with the city's tax levy going up by 2.73 per cent.

A \$1.9 million boost to police funding was the biggest driver of increased spending. Other major contributors were a 27 per cent jump in the city's insurance premiums, adding around \$500,000, and provincial funding cuts.

The city found savings in reductions to the District Social Services Administration Board levy and the city transit budget (reflecting lower-than-budgeted actual spending in recent years, the city says). It's also raising additional revenue through increased user fees and changes to the Tbaytel dividend policy.

Over a series of budget meetings in January and February, council also made smaller tweaks that, combined, trimmed several hundred thousand dollars. That includes bringing more legal work in-house, eliminating a management position through attrition, and instituting a partial hiring freeze on vacant city positions (excluding many essential services). Other reductions came through simply reducing tradi-



**PLEASED:** Mayor Bill Mauro says council and administration did good budget work.

tionally under-spent budget lines to reflect actuals.

All in all, that led to a budget that will keep tax increases for the average homeowner around the rate of inflation, without making major cuts to city services.

For mayor Bill Mauro, that struck an appropriate balance. He says the two budgets the current council has approved since taking office show an

emphasis on fiscal restraint.

"I hope the community has realized through two budgets in 14 months with a lot of new councillors, we are very serious about trying to be responsible to the taxpayers," he says. "I think through the two budget sessions we've now expressed that."

The approved budget cut spending slightly from the draft version put forward by city administration in early January. That document would have seen an increase of just over \$6 million to spending, with an increase in the tax levy of 2.32 per cent after growth. Council lowered that by over \$800,000 to reach a 1.89 per cent after-growth levy increase.

Mauro says city administration's blueprint did much of the heavy lifting, with council making only small changes. He says that's a sign administration is on board with council's focus on reining in spending.

"It shows we've conveyed a message," he says. "Administration is doing their work up front, because they realize we're very serious about this."

Residents will see more significant increases to water and sewer rates, at four per cent each. The city has estimated that will leave the average Thunder Bay household paying \$1,235 in total for the two services in 2020.

The city's budget summary says those rates "remain affordable."

# Perspective

# OK Boomer not OK

## Youth of every generation have targeted their elders

### OPINION

By J.R. Shermack  
Special to TB Source

Decades ago when baby boomers used their numbers and collective voice to advance positive social change, “stereotype” was a bad word.

It affected the ability of energized, post-war activists to assert their individuality and unique personalities in pursuit of peace, love and happiness.

Young protestors were stereotyped as long-haired, weirdo, hippie scum and multi-national corporations were branded as selfish, greedy and destructive.

Stereotypes reinforce the idea that everyone within a particular group shares the same characteristics and should be judged accordingly.

It is the misguided notion that some perceived traits (often negative) are common among certain families, genders, classes, nations, races or even species and not others.

Assuming that people are lazy or criminal or untrustworthy because of age, race, social status or background reinforces a dysfunctional class system.

Stereotypes fuel racism and bigotry and are used by governments to justify cruel, destructive policies toward immigrants and the disadvantaged.

Negative stereotypes are used to justify the denial of education, employment, housing and social justice.

And now in the 2020’s we are embracing a new, modernized stereo-

typing based on the year you were born.

Depending on your date of birth you are stereotyped as a baby boomer (1946-1964), Gen X (1965-1980), Millennial (1981-1996) or Gen Z (1997-2012).

This need to categorize people creates a barrier to critical thinking and understanding and fuels intolerance between generations.

In a recent magazine article I encountered the phrase, “OK, Boomer” – a targeted insult aimed at previous generations.

Apparently there is intergenerational warfare brewing and although I was never drafted, I inadvertently find myself on the front line.

I am joined in conflict by fellow stereotypical boomers who bear the brunt of a mean-spirited, generational onslaught.

“OK Boomer” is a sarcastic response used to dismiss, mock and trivialize the beliefs, attitudes and judgements of older people, particularly baby boomers.

It is said to reflect the anxieties of young people who feel like victims left behind to fight for any economic crumbs remaining after the boomers mortgaged their future.

A persistent social media campaign is widely attributed to millennials and is harshing the buzz of the entire boomer generation.

It goes something like this – OK boomers, thanks for taking all the good jobs, making the big bucks, not retiring soon enough, gaining political power and especially, living so

long.

For example, Margaret Atwood (80 years old) won the Booker prize in 2019 and Margaret Trudeau (71) got rave reviews for her one woman comedy show.

But their success has been weaponized and used as evidence that older generations continue to get all the breaks.

Some boomers are striking back with an equally cruel and sarcastic comeback.

It goes like this – millennials are lazy and have a sense of entitlement and if they spent less on lattes and avocado toast they might be able to afford a house some day.

Oooh, now that’s harsh.

Unfortunately there is nothing for either side to gain with this back and forth blame game.

Every generation has a contingent of young activists who protest their elders and blame previous generations for any misfortune.

Ironically, activist boomers held a similar sentiment back in the day which they expressed with the phrase, “Don’t trust anyone over 30.”

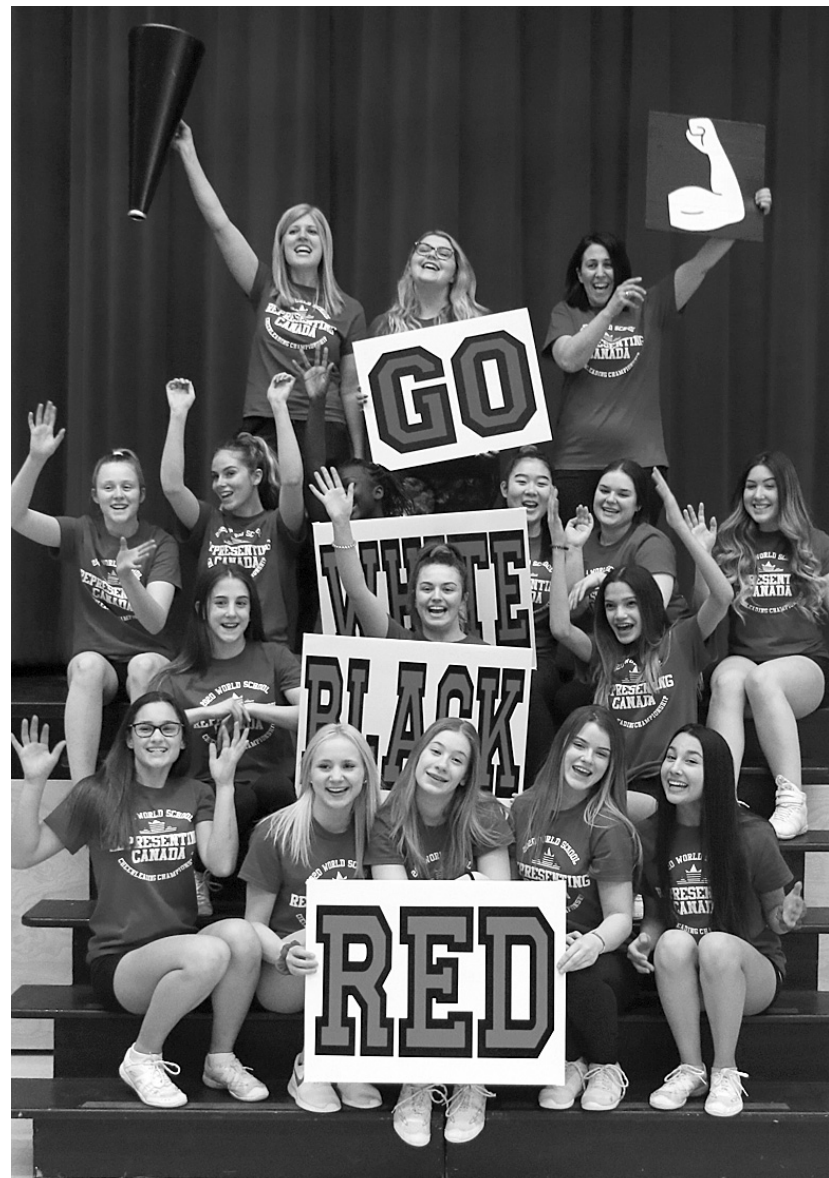
Well, they didn’t – that is, until they turned 30 themselves.

If anyone is responsible for the troubling success and excess of the boomers, why not blame their parents who made it all possible.

OK, Great Grandma and Grandpa, thanks for making things so difficult.

Let’s just sum it up with the phrase, “The more things change, the more they remain the same.”

### CHEER UP



THEY WENT TO DISNEY WORLD: The St. Ignatius Falcons took part last week in the International Cheer Union Scholastic Worlds Championships in Orlando, Fla.

LEITH DUNICK

*A look back in history:*

## FW Central School

Proof that school portraits have always been awkward, this class photograph was taken around 1905 alongside Fort William Central School. Not long after, a new, much grander brick and stone school, located where Paterson Park is today, replaced this old wooden structure.



### 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:  
Thunder Bay Source  
87 North Hill Street,  
Thunder Bay, ON P7A 5V6

Email: [ldunick@dougallmedia.com](mailto:ldunick@dougallmedia.com)

Visit our website: [www.tbnewswatch.com](http://www.tbnewswatch.com)

### THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

**your VOICE**

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VISIT [www.tbnewswatch.com](http://www.tbnewswatch.com) TO SHARE YOUR IDEAS AND VIEWS ABOUT OUR WEEKLY POLL QUESTION.

TOTAL VOTES: 392

YES  
38.52%

NO  
61.48%

## LOCAL NEWS

## IN BRIEF

# Arrest made in ongoing arson investigation

City police have made an arrest in conjunction with an ongoing arson investigation.

In a release issued on Tuesday morning, police say a 20-year-old man has been taken into custody following a fire outside the back of a McLaughlin Street home.

A family of four were trapped inside the home and had to be rescued by Thunder Bay Fire Rescue

crews, who used a ladder to safely remove them through a front window on the second floor of the two-storey home.

Trey Carlson of Thunder Bay faces two counts of arson, disregard for human life.

He appeared in court on Saturday and was released with a future court date.

The incident took place just after

10 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 31.

The suspect turned himself in last Friday.

## Pikangikum rewards

Ontario Provincial Police are now offering rewards of \$50,000 apiece for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the people who killed two residents of

Pikangikum First Nation more than a decade ago.

Judy Ann Quill, 33, was last seen leaving a relative's home in the early morning of March 22, 2009.

A short time later, she was found with serious blunt-force injuries in a clearing near a road.

Quill died later at the local medical centre.

In 2008, the body of 83-year-old

James Strang was found in his home, where he had also succumbed to blunt-force trauma.

OPP Commissioner Thomas Carrique and Detective-Inspector Randy Heida travelled to Pikangikum on the weekend to announce the rewards.

The tip line which could lead to someone claiming the \$50,000 reward is 1-833-728-3415.

## INSPECTION

### Approved Forest Management Plan Inspection Lakehead Forest 2020-2030 Forest Management Plan

The Ontario **Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR)**, **Greenmantle Forest Inc.** and the **Lakehead Forest Local Citizens' Committee (LCC)** would like to advise you that the 2020-2030 Forest Management Plan (FMP) for the **Lakehead Forest** has been approved by the MNR Regional Director and is available for inspection.

#### The Planning Process

The FMP takes approximately three years to complete. During this time, five formal opportunities for public and First Nation and Métis community involvement are provided. The fourth opportunity (Stage Four) for this FMP occurred October 16, 2019 to December 15, 2019 when the public was invited to review and comment on the draft FMP. This **'Stage Five'** notice is to advise you that the MNR-approved FMP will be available for inspection for 30 days.

#### FMP Inspection - Final Opportunity

During the 30-day inspection period, you may make a written request to the Director, Environmental Assessment and Permissions, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, 1st Floor, 135 St. Clair Ave. West, Toronto, ON M4V 1P5, for an individual environmental assessment of specific planned operations in the MNR-approved FMP.

The MNR-approved FMP and FMP summary are available for inspection, by appointment, during normal office hours for 30 days **February 7, 2020 to March 8, 2020** at the following locations:

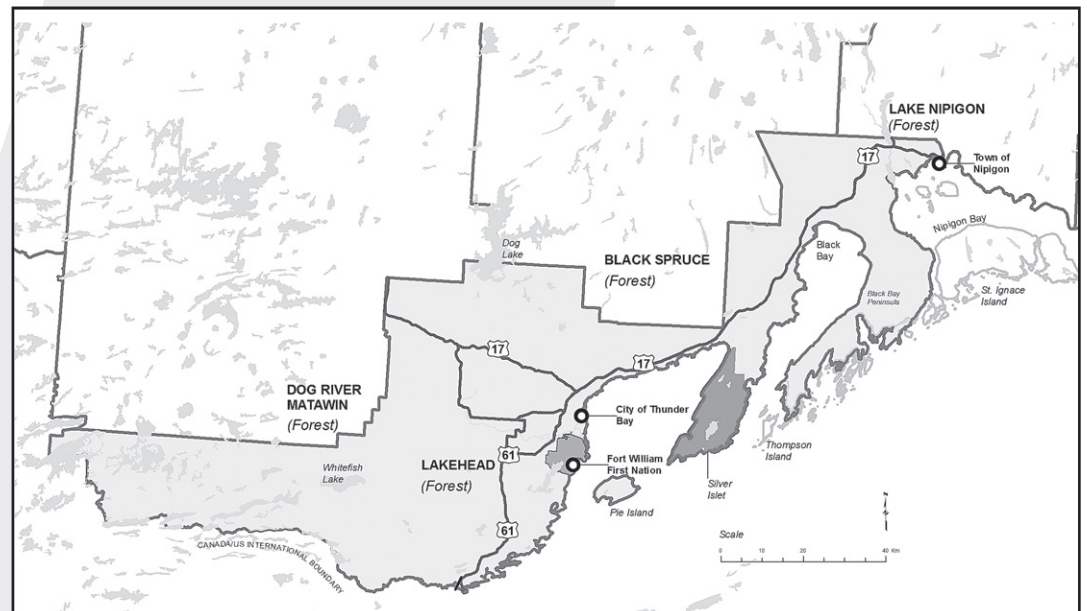
- Greenmantle Forest Inc. office at the location noted below, by appointment during normal office hours.
- MNR Thunder Bay District Office at the location noted below, by appointment during normal office hours.
- MNR public website at [www.ontario.ca/forestplans](http://www.ontario.ca/forestplans).

Interested and affected persons and organizations can arrange an appointment with MNR staff at the appropriate MNR District or Area Offices to discuss the FMP.

For further information, please contact:

#### Vishnu Kowlessar, R.P.F.

Management Forester  
MNR Thunder Bay District Office  
435 James Street South,  
Suite B0001  
Thunder Bay, ON P7E 6S7  
tel: 807-475-1163  
e-mail: [Vishnu.Kowlessar@ontario.ca](mailto:Vishnu.Kowlessar@ontario.ca)



#### Phil Brown, R.P.F.

Plan Author  
Greenmantle Forest Inc.  
179 25th Side Road, Rosslyn, ON P7K 0B9  
tel: 807-939-3136  
e-mail: [cpbrown@greenmantle.ca](mailto:cpbrown@greenmantle.ca)

#### Mike Grant

LCC Representative  
Lakehead Forest LCC  
e-mail: [lcc.lakeheadforest@gmail.com](mailto:lcc.lakeheadforest@gmail.com)

The approved FMP will be available for the 10-year period of the FMP at the same locations listed above.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry is collecting your personal information under the authority of the *Crown Forest Sustainability Act*. Any personal information you provide (address, name, telephone, etc.) will be protected in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. Your personal information may be used by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry to send you further information related to this forest management planning exercise. If you have questions about use of your personal information, please contact Alyson Dupuis at the MNR Thunder Bay District Office at 807-475-1512.





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After this portion of the exam we move into the functional testing portion where we will do thermal and SEMG computer scans of your entire spine, balance and coordination tests, foot scan and then order x-rays if necessary. A follow up appointment is then scheduled in order for me to sit down with you and review the findings. I let you know whether you are a candidate for chiropractic care and if I feel you can be helped.

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**DR. ALAN CRANTON DC**

ON HEALTH

laser therapy on its own or in conjunction with chiropractic care, then your options will be discussed with you.

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This format has helped thousands of chiropractic patients and hundreds of laser therapy patients.

One such patient, Barb, has an unusual story. She'd had back fusion surgery and had been on pain meds and was really suffering. The scar tissue from the surgery as well as the arthritic degeneration of her spine from years of wear and tear had left her feeling hopeless. Two of our patients that really care about

her referred her to our office and she decided that this was for her.

Since beginning both gentle chiropractic adjustments to her spine as well as laser therapy, she has shown a remarkable recovery. For years she had pain from her back and down her legs (sciatica). She'd tried physio, acupuncture and massage but did not find the relief she was looking for.

We are all so happy that she is seeing such great results with the combined therapies. The best news is that she is feeling well enough for the first time in years that she is taking a holiday south to get away from the cold and snow. There is no way she would've even thought about travelling with the pain she'd been suffering with.

If you would like to find out more about how we may help you, please come to our free seminar on **Wednesday February 19th at 6:30** at the **Thunder Bay Wellness Centre** (formerly Cranton Wellness Centre) at 701 Memorial Ave beside Ozone and behind The Power Center. We have limited seating, so please call **343 7932** and reserve a seat.

Dr Alan Cranton DC is a Chiropractor and retired Naturopath, practicing in Thunder Bay for 35 years. Jody Lawson is a Registered Kinesiologist and Certified Laser Therapist. Laser Therapy may be covered under your extended benefits through work.

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Dr. Alan Cranton DC

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# TB Life

people | health | home | food | leisure



**A WARM WELCOME:** Free hot chocolate and fire-roasted hot dogs were on offer at Kingfisher.

## Kingfisher marks 50th

Outdoor education centre's milestone celebrated with day of free activities

### EDUCATION

By Ian Kaufman - TB Source

**C**omplete silence: it's a sound rarely heard in a class full of young kids. Just one example of what can happen when your classroom is outside, in the middle of a forest, say staff at the Kingfisher outdoor education centre.

The children gathered quietly at Chickadee Landing, where birds will eat from your hands (or toque), were enjoying some of the free fun on offer at Kingfisher's 50th anniversary open house on Saturday.

Elsewhere, attendees of all ages were outfitted with snowshoes and cross country skis, with instruction available. Volunteers served up hot chocolate and fire-roasted hot dogs. Several of those helpers were teachers and principals who had seen the facility's benefits up close.

The centre is owned by the Lakehead District School Board – an uncommon arrangement that has paid dividends for generations of students in the region, says Kingfisher's lead instructor, Kelly Henderson.

"It's quite visionary to have an outdoor education centre owned by a school board," she says. "When they started it, they maybe weren't envisioning where it would be in 50 years. But from what we hear from teachers



**OUTDOOR FUN:** The centre provided equipment for cross-country skiing and snowshoeing.

and parents – and witnessing it ourselves – it is really such an important piece of students' experience in Lakehead public schools."

Pam Heffren still vividly remembers the three-day overnight trip she took with her class in February of 1996. She recalls being dropped on the road with backpacks and overnight gear, cooking meals over a fire, splitting wood, and many outdoor activities.

Heffren hadn't returned since her public school days, but was lured back by the anniversary event. Stepping out of the cold into Kingfisher's science building, Heffren

and her husband happened across the centre's archive of log books. The couple spent some time looking over their classes' signatures and reminiscing about old classmates.

"I think it's great it's still going," she said. "It's very educational for kids to come out and spend some time in the bush. They get to experience activities they may not if they live in town. It's an overall great experience."

For Henderson, the centre's lead instructor, seeing former students return years later is a powerful reminder of the lasting impact trips to Kingfisher can make on young minds.

"A number of times we have multiple generations coming out – sometimes grandparents with grandchildren, and they both have stories of their time out here," she relates. "Kingfisher has really reached so many people, and it's always nice to have an event where you get to hear some of those stories."

Throughout the school year, teachers work with Kingfisher staff to plan day trips and incorporate visits into the curriculum in a variety of subjects. Activities like pond studies, mapping and orienteering, GPS sessions, and animal biology studies can make classroom learning come alive for students, Henderson says.

# Snowshoe tracks under the full moon

Saturday, late afternoon: Fred and Laura don snowshoes and strike out for a trek. Doggies are to come along – Baxter and newcomer, Lily. We had not been out for a snowshoe walk for over a month. Why not? Who knows? The trek was wonderful... eventually. The trek offered a couple of rude shocks.

The main rude shock came when we saw poor Baxter who, I have to admit, is overweight, struggling to plough through the deep snow. It didn't take long for us to realize that he would have a heart attack if he tried to keep up to us. Even treading on the trail our snowshoes were making, he sank. So, we turned around and brought him back to the house. "Sorry, old man, but we don't want any canine cardiac arrests," I said. Lily, the three-month old pup not only didn't sink but danced across the snow. Lily is small and very light. So Far. But we reasoned that she would soon get very cold so she,



**FRED JONES**

RURAL ROOTS

too, was ushered back to Casa Jones. That left Laura and I to make trail.

It was heading into evening although only a couple of clouds interrupted the sun. Down from the house and through the paddock gate we snowshoed. Amazing but where I feared we'd be slogging breaking trail, sinking with each step, in fact our snowshoes barely sank at all, perhaps about two inches. Why? "There is a crust of ice underneath formed when we had that freezing rain," Laura said. Well, it worked. Our trek was easy until we got into "the back

forty" as I like to call it, and now had to share the trail with deer, fox, and bunnies.

As soon as we entered the paddock, we saw the snow surface criss-crossed with tracks made by the deer and the fox. The tracks of the rabbits didn't appear until we entered the bush through which the trail snakes. And lots of tracks. Some looked like deep depressions widely spaced. "Could these have been made by Bambi-on-the-run?" I mused. "Quite likely," came the answer. At one point the impressions were much wider than those of deer and, again, widely spaced. "Moose?" I asked. "Could be," Laura said.

Back about three weeks ago I just happened to be looking out our south window and spotted a large animal at the bottom of the main paddock where the tag alder bushes have invaded. Quickly I grabbed the binoculars and looked. Sure


looked like an antlerless Bullwinkle. I had two other family members verify my sighting and we all agreed that it was a moose. Very rare these days. When we first moved onto the property, we saw moose quite often. But suddenly we saw none. I was told that the invasion of the deer had driven off the moose due to the brain worm of which the deer are carriers but unaffected. For the moose, very bad news. So seeing a live moose on the property and then seeing moose tracks this past Saturday gave me hope that they may be coming back (although I doubt it).

So, lots of tracks in the snow. That is a major plus about snowshoeing in the country. Unless you are a master tracker like Tom Brown Jr., you rarely see the criss-crossing of animal life in the bush. But in winter, one gets to see all kinds of adventures in the snow. I once saw the wing imprints of an owl and some blood

in the snow in "the back forty" a couple of years ago. Some mouse (or something) was on the surface too long and at the wrong time. Oh, I mentioned a couple of rude shocks. Other rude shock was learning how out of shape I am. At first, ploughed on ahead but as the trek lengthened, the old thigh muscles began to ask just how long they were expected to continue. Number of stops increased to look at the beautiful view.

For me, one of the archetypal sights is a white surface of snow with a snowshoe trail heading out across the field, the shadow of woodsmoke being blown across that trail, all lit up by the full moon. Sunday night was clear with a full moon. Now there was a new snowshoe trail stretching out across the field and since I had lit a fire in the fireplace, the shadow of woodsmoke did gently drift across the moon-lit, snowy surface. Pure heaven.

STUDIO  
ON AIR



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Classified

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HITTING THE TRAIL: Keith Alley tests the limits of his outdoor apparel in -30C

## Staying warm and active

Once upon a time, dressing for the outdoors was simple: wear something thick and old. The rationale was simple too. Thickness meant warmth and, since it was old clothing, it could get splashed with fuel from the snowmobile or slime from a trophy fish and nobody would be too upset. While this system was easy, it wasn't necessarily effective.

Though we'd never ruin our good clothes, we would still get cold or sweaty. Looking back, the reason we would soon get a chill was simple, and it had everything to do with our foundation, or the base layer. The problem was that under all that old, thick clothing was a base of cotton. Cotton retains moisture next to the skin and, if you think back to grade 9 science class you will remember that evaporation is a cooling process. So cotton is not

what we want on a cold winter day. Luckily for us, times have changed and so has the way we dress for a winter excursion. The new three-part system is a monumental improvement and it is still really simple:

**Focus on your core & dress in layers.** If your core area is warm, your heart will just keep pumping warm blood to your fingers and toes. However, once we start to get cold at our core, blood flow will be more focused there to protect our vital organs. The side effect of this evolutionary efficiency is that less blood will flow to our fingers and toes, meaning cold and numbness in those areas. Merino wool and/or a

synthetic base layer under a thermal layer of fleece will keep you comfortable while a waterproof, windproof and breathable outer shell will protect you from the elements. This system allows you to shed layers if the temperature rises, and regulate your body temperature to stay comfortable with varying activity levels.

**Cover your head.** Wearing a toque or hood will serve to keep the heat in and make you feel warm.

**Protect your extremities.** Mitts are the warmest option for our hands. For the feet, wool socks can retain some heat, even when wet. One great tip is to put on a fresh pair of dry, warm socks when the toes get cold. Finally, keeping some chemical hot packs handy can save the day when all else fails.

In addition, there are other tricks to keep you comfortable in the great outdoors: remember to remove outer layers before you break a sweat; don't squeeze fingers into tight gloves or toes into a tight cocoon of socks. Rather, leave some extra space to trap that precious warm air next to your skin; and avoid the wind whenever possible because your body heat can quickly be carried off on currents of cold air.

Thunder Bay winters offer so many exciting outdoor activities that dressing properly is essential knowledge around here. As the old Nordic saying goes, "There is no such thing as bad weather. There are just bad clothing choices."



**KEITH  
AILEY**

THE GOOD LIFE

# IN THE bay

arts | entertainment | culture

## Parasite makes Oscar best pic history



TOP TITLE: Parasite became the first foreign language film to win the best picture Oscar.

The South Korean film, *Parasite*, made Oscar history Sunday night winning for best picture, marking the first time in the Academy's 92-year existence that a non-English language film would walk away with Oscar's top prize.

*Parasite* gained serious momentum once director Boon Joon-ho won for Best Director, after having won earlier in the evening for Best International Film (a nice re-naming of Best Foreign Language Film) and Best Original Screenplay.

The welcome surprise defied the aura of predictability that was hanging over the ceremony, given how award season was trending, with *1917* slightly favoured to win the top prize, while *Parasite* was expected to settle for the international title.

*1917* ultimately won for best cinematography (Roger Deakins), best sound mixing, and Best Visual Effects.

Joon-ho was also adroit at acceptance remarks, translated by his interpreter, which were by turns self-effacing, amusing, generous, and gracious.

He referenced an inspirational quote that impressed him as a young cinema student, ultimately attributed to Martin Scorsese which elicited a standing ovation. Joon-ho also saluted his

actors and Quentin Tarantino for promoting his films in America. He closed by saying he'd be drinking until "next morning."

The major actor awards went according to expectations: Renee Zellweger (*Judy*), Joaquin Phoenix (*Joker*), Laura Dern (*Marriage Story*), and Brad Pitt (*Once Upon a Time in Hollywood*.) The predictability factor was offset by their heartfelt acceptance remarks, though Zellweger resorted to reciting a laundry list of names, while meandering a bit.

Pitt fired off the most flagrant political shot of the night saying that the 45 seconds he had for his speech was 45 seconds longer than what the US senate gave (former U.S. national security advisor) John Bolton.

Laura Dern struck a sentimental chord dedicating her win to her acting "heroes", her long-divorced parents, Bruce Dern and Diane Ladd, the latter seen in the audience touchingly tearing up at her daughter's tribute.

Joaquin Phoenix, known for quirky behaviour, put forth an articulate call to effect positive world change for all beings and the environment. He expressed gratitude for being given a second chance in light of his previous 'scoundrel' antics. He also tearfully

referenced a lyric attributed to his deceased brother, River, a talented actor who succumbed to drug abuse: "Run to the rescue with love and peace will follow."

Another surprise came with Taika Waititi, winning best adapted screenplay for *Jojo Rabbit*, (beating out *Little Women's* Greta Gerwig) who encouraged Indigenous kids everywhere to create.

Comic by-play, usually lame and forced, consistently sparkled. Highlights included Steve Martin and Chris Rock, hilariously kicking off the show, referencing their 'demotion' as 'non-hosts,' trading quips over the lack of diversity and female nominees.

Maya Rudolph and Kirsten Wiig sang an inspired acapella bit.

Diane Keaton and Keanu Reeves chortled through a merry Annie Hall-ish moment.

James Corden and Rebel Wilson brought mocking fun, dressed in furry costumes from the recent notorious box-office bomb, *Cats*.

The in memoriam segment had some unfortunate omissions including Luke Perry, Sid Haig, Cameron Boyce, Robert Conrad, and Orson Bean.

(By the way, NOSFA is screening *Parasite* March 4 at SilverCity.)

**Weekday Mornings with Kaile & Dee**

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IN THE bay

# Chee Chee exhibit an amazing sight

## ART

By Linda Maehans - TB Source

The Oxford dictionary defines “lithe” as supple and graceful.

Inside the largest space of Thunder Bay Art Gallery the graceful supple art of Benjamin Chee Chee quietly gleams.

I wonder how he came to possess such graphic excellence: the ability to convey such forward flight-in-motion, together with a grounded sense of unity in everything he saw. I decide it must have been an innate gift, given directly from Creator to artist, because Chee Chee had no formal training. Nor did he have a lot of time to express his lithe vision, not quite making it to his 33rd birthday.

His roots are in northeastern Ontario. Demographic notes describe the Temagami region as n'Daki Menan, the homeland of the Anishnaabe living on Bear Island. In the Ojibwe language temagami translates as deep water by the shore.

All of Chee Chee's work is untitled by the artist. Some pieces, such as the well-known northern geese series, have been given names by people needing to organize his art for exhibitions, or the collectors of his prints.

We begin with a haunting sequence of birds rendered in starkest black-on-white, seventeen in total. Part of this



**FLY BY:** This untitled Benjamin Chee Chee acrylic on paper, sometimes known as Family in Flight, is part of Burt Curtis' collection.

greet us in the main foyer, then continues along the first wall (moving clockwise) through the gallery. The Black Geese Portfolio is Chee Chee's last work before his death.

Tempting to inject one's own imaginings and premonitions here, but that

would be wrong.

It is simply that these ebony curves-on-the-wing are so exact, so solid against the vastness. They conjure an idea of infinity; at least for this viewer they do. What do you feel or think when you gaze at The Black Geese

Portfolio?

Along the far wall we encounter another Chee Chee altogether: a grouping of large, vividly bright abstracts.

These are shapes we might see if looking through a magnifying lens,

amoeba; cells; a fascinating density of vibrant shafts arranged as a labyrinth. Is this what fur under a microscope looks like? Watch the way the overall effect changes as we move from up real close to, say, six to ten feet back. Tell me this piece doesn't immediately grab your attention from right across the room.

On the next wall, yet another aspect of Chee Chee's hand-eye skill: stencilled scenes of idyllic landscapes, forest glades with gentle bridges over meandering streams. These remind me of mild and “proper” parlour décor; but within this group is a stencil of horses running and again we note its graphic design even as we are admiring the texture he achieves.

As TBAG's Corey Wilkinson remarks, “it's important to recognize the many talented artists Canada has produced over the years.

For a long time we looked at European and even American artists while overlooking the very talented ones from Canada. I think Chee Chee's naturalistic shapes, the simplicity of his work is timeless; shows his level as an artist, especially when one considers most of his work was created in a four-year period.”

Drop by the gallery and take in this beautiful exhibit. The Life and Legacy of Benjamin Chee Chee is up until March 1.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

## The Birds And The Bees

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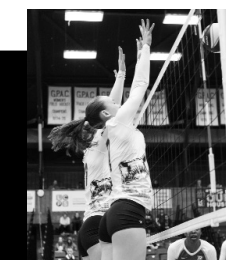


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# A half-dressed Super Bowl half-time show

**D**ave Daubenmire, former high school football coach turned activist and podcast host now looking to increase his listening audience, has announced he's going to sue the NFL for its recent *Super Bowl* half-time show. The performance in question involved one Jennifer Lopez and one Shakira of no last name.

According to Daubenmire, "the NFL gave no warning. Here we are watching a football game, next thing you know, a porn show breaks out."

I hate when that happens. Except was there really "no warning"? The NFL had been promoting its half-time show for weeks. It's one of the ways they justify charging \$5 million for advertising time. Who wouldn't pay a premium to have their product placed near that booty?

And Shakira's famous for what she



can shake during her shows. For heaven's sake, one of her biggest English hits is about her hips.

Of course, the pole dancing portion of J-Lo's performance was lambasted by critics who felt she was telling little girls they should aspire to be strippers. (Funny, I did gymnastics on the bicycle bars at school as a child. How is it I never thought to parlay that into a career?) Personally, I think J-Lo was just revamping the choreography that

helped get her nominated for a Golden Globe and a Screen Actors Guild Award for the movie *Hustlers* last year. I could be wrong.

Yes, a couple of the camera angles turned what should have been cool dance moves into somewhat uncomfortable crotch shots. But when you perform in the round to a 360-degree audience, odd angles are going to occur.

The show was a mishmash of political statements – Puerto Rico's flag kept popping up along with children in cages singing about making their voices heard – and cheerleader-style choreography – a nod to the fact that this was, after all, a football game. It was a constant flurry of movement and colour and music.

Were the costumes risqué? Yes – in that they gave the impression of a lot a skin despite being full bodysuits. At



**ON STAGE:** Columbian singer, Shakira was one of the performers at this year's Super Bowl Half-time show.

50, Lopez isn't going to allow something to move where it shouldn't. So at no point did viewers get any unauthorized side-boob.

However, there was jiggling. But that's what bodies do when they

dance. Especially Latin-inspired dance. And criticizing that is like complaining that an athletic cup makes a guy look bigger and draws attention "down there."

The hardest thing to remember was that these two ladies are 43 and 50 years old. They are mothers with decades-long careers in numerous countries around the world. They stand behind their music, their costume choices, and their message. So much so, that J-Lo included her own 11-year-old daughter in a short, but starring, role.

Daubenmire claims this offensive show "invaded ... [his] home with stuff [he] would never look at if [he] had a choice." Because apparently at no point did viewers get any unauthorized side-boob.

I hate when that happens.

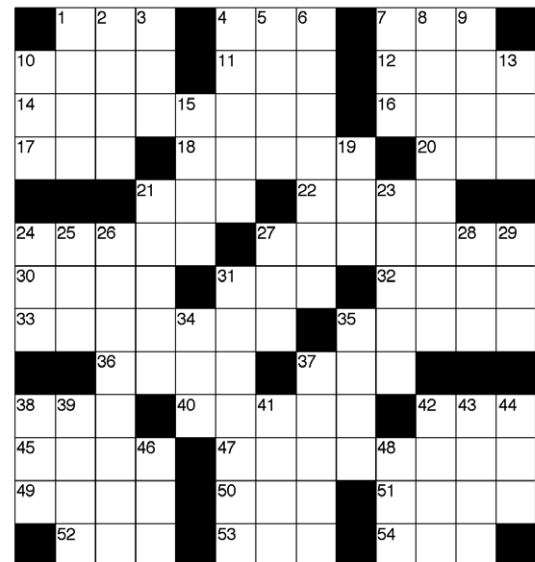
## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

- ACROSS**
- Foremost part
  - As far as (Lat.)
  - Air-to-air missile (abbr.)
  - Move (pref.)
  - Vase
  - Wound crust
  - Make
  - Synagogue
  - Alabama (abbr.)
  - Military macaw
  - Legal proof
  - For shame
  - Eye (pref.)
  - Horse of Hercules
  - Drunkard
  - Glass
  - Energy unit
  - Edible bulb
  - Fleb
  - Blasphemy of Jason
  - S. Afr. dialect
  - Agent (abbr.)
  - Lion of God
  - Repeat
  - Cutting tool

### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



- DOWN**
- Musical instrument (string)
  - Fraction of a rupee
  - Tennis term
  - Paper measure
  - Crab-eating mongoose
  - Without liquid
  - Simpleton
  - Trojan hero
  - Plaid fabric
  - Circuit Court of Appeals
  - Bureau of Labor Statistics
  - Pour
  - Amer. College
  - of Physicians (abbr.)
  - Medical pit
  - Perturb
  - Priest's garment
  - Electric reluctance unit
  - Open
  - Pitch
  - Pride
  - Lance of King Arthur
  - Loose
  - Gob
  - Kwa language
  - Eng. poet
  - Amount (abbr.)
  - Eucalyptus secretion
  - Yokel
  - Amer. Natl. Standards Inst. (abbr.)
  - 92 (Rom. numeral)
  - Poetic contraction
  - Sheep's cry
  - Et cetera (abbr.)



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 O W A M L E N K E E Z E K D S  
 Y L L A N O I T N E T N I N U  
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| Burials | Moment   | Rebels  | Totality        |
| Clock   | Motels   | Reloads | Unintentionally |
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5			2	6	9	1		4
				3	2			
		1	6		7	9		
		4						3
3								
	2	5		7	4	6		
				2				

# Sports

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## Thunderwolves hope they're Ram tough

### UNIVERSITY HOCKEY

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

There's no question the Lakehead Thunderwolves are entering their opening round playoff series as the underdogs.

At 13-12-3, the Wolves didn't even clinch a post-season spot until this past weekend, a 4-3 overtime loss last Friday night to the visiting Waterloo Warriors earning them the single point they needed to return to the playoffs after a one-year absence.

But unlike most No. 7 seeds, the Wolves aren't that intimidated by the Ryerson Rams, who finished in second place in the OUA West with a 20-5-3 record.

Lakehead split the season series with the Rams, on the road nonetheless, each team winning a 3-2 decision.

High-scoring forward Tomas Soustal said the OUA men's hockey circuit is so tight that any team can beat any other team on any given night.

"What it's going to come down to is who wants to work harder," said Soustal, who finished his sophomore season with 14 goals and 32 points, second on the team in both categories.

"I think that's what the playoffs are all about. Even last year, looking at the standings, teams who barely made it to the playoffs or just squeezed in beat out the top teams and Guelph went on to win the whole thing. Obviously we're the underdog, but I think we play even harder if we're the underdogs."

Second-year forward Jordan King, who had 22 points in 26 appearances, said the Rams will be a tough test, but one they're familiar with.

"Honestly, I like the match-up we have right now. Obviously, being the underdog it's easier to get up for it. It's



GETTING READY: Czech import Tomas Soustal stretches prior to practice on Monday afternoon at Fort William Gardens.

more exciting, right? I'm excited to play Wednesday and get things going," King said.

"It's going to come down to who is the harder working team, outworking them, playing the right way and keeping it simple."

The Wolves will be missing two key players.

Brett Wolframe will be on the sidelines, as will starting goaltender Nic Renyard, who has missed the past three games and remains doubtful for the entire opening round.

Aiken performed admirable in Saturday's 3-1 regular-season finale, allowing one goal on 34 shots against the Warriors.

Soustal said it really doesn't matter who's in net, as long as he gets help from his teammates.

"We expect our goalies to be as good as we are," Soustal said. "We are happy if he makes some saves, but it comes down to how we play as a team. If we defend well, keep the shots to the outside, he'll get those."

### FINAL STATISTICS

Player	G	A	P
Daniel Del Paggio	11	22	33
Tomas Soustal	14	18	32
Josh Laframboise	16	12	28
Jordan King	10	12	22
Kyle Auger	4	5	19
Jordan Larson	5	10	15
Geoff Dempster	3	7	10
Dexter Kuczek	4	5	9
Taylor Egan	0	9	9
Troy Williams	1	7	8
Patrick Murphy	3	5	8
Scott Gall	3	4	7
Greg Smith	3	2	5
Caleb Boman	0	5	5
Brendan Martin	2	3	5
Brett Wolframe	2	2	4
Cooper Leitch	1	3	4
Callum Fryer	0	3	3
Joe Leonidas	1	1	2
Tyler Jette	0	2	2
Daniel McKittrick	1	0	1
Aaron Wesley-Chisel	0	0	0
Brock Aiken	0	0	0
Tucker Scantlebury	0	0	0
Nic Renyard	0	0	0

LEITH DUNICK

"We just can't give too many break-aways or 3-on-1s."

Dougie Newhouse, Aiken's former Thunder Bay North Stars teammate, will serve as back-up.

Coach Andrew Wilkins said it's all about discipline. The Rams have plenty of high rollers up front, which will take effort to stop.

"You need to minimize their chances, stay out of the box and execute our game plan," Wilkins said.

"You have to manage them off the rush and I think if we can play the way we did against them earlier in the year, we definitely have some confidence from those results ... and it will give us a good opportunity to win."



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HELPING OUT: Pierre Grall, Graham Ritchie, Justin Campbell and Lisle Compton get set for skiing

# Elite skiers helping Special Olympians

Special Olympic Winter Games start Feb. 25

**SKIING**  
 By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Justin Campbell isn't taking the upcoming Special Olympics Canada Winter Games lightly. In fact, he's enlisted the help of some of Nordic skiing's top up-and-coming athletes to help him train for the competition, which takes place in Thunder Bay from Feb. 25 to Feb. 29.

Campbell regularly spends training time with members of the National Development Training Centre - Thunder Bay team, looking for advice on how to get better, but more importantly, just having a great time on the trails with fellow high-calibre athletes.

"I like it, because cross-country skiing is good for me," said Campbell, who takes part in classic-style skiing when he's competing. It's been tough waiting for the Games to arrive, and he said he hopes the final two weeks fly by so he can put all his training to the test.

"It's going to be a fun time," Campbell said. NTDC's Graham Ritchie was one of four skiers who took Campbell out on the trails at Kamview Nordic Centre this past Sunday.

Ritchie, who along with teammate Pierre Grall recently qualified for the upcoming World Under 23 Championships, said it's a fun way to be out skiing, without a lot of the pressure that comes with competing at an elite level.

"I think it's super important to get out with everyone and get the whole community involved. It's a nice day for it too and it's a fun experience for everyone," Ritchie said.

"I think it's super important for (the Special Olympians) to get out and ski with other athletes, who share the same passion, for sure."

Grall said skiing has made such a difference in his own life that he's glad to be able to give back.

"I think it's really special to help the whole community and really just share a great, fun time skiing in the sun. It promotes our sport in a positive way and it's really great for everybody," Grall said.

He's there to help however he can, Grall added.

"Just to be there to answer their questions, if they have questions about courses, how to pace a race, how to ski in a track, out of a track - whatever they're looking for," he said.

The FIS Nordic Junior and U23 World Championships will take place in Oberwiesenthal, Germany, starting on Feb. 28.

**"It's going to be a fun time."**  
**JUSTIN CAMPBELL**

LEITH DUNICK

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Dated at Thunder Bay, Ontario on the 23rd day of January, 2020.

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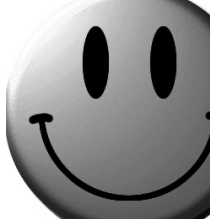
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