

Fire guts building

Thunder Bay Fire Rescue, police investigating Bay Street fire as a possible arson /3



TOTAL LOSS: Thunder Bay Fire Rescue crews spent Friday night and parts of Saturday putting out a fire at the Star-Lite Flooring store in the Bay and Algoma area. No one was hurt.



SEE BACK PAGE AD FOR MORE DETAILS

INSIDE





City council confirms vote not to accept multiplex tender offers /8

CATCH THE ACE



United Way, Port Arthur Rotary team up for new weekly draw /5

THEATRE RETURNS



Cambrian Players goes virtual on April 3 with new offering, Love/Sick /11



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Protecting traditional languages in foster care

Tikinagan Child and Family Services puts heavy emphasis on maintaining connection to Indigenous languages.

THUNDER BAY – It's more important than ever to maintain connection to traditional languages for foster children and families during the disruption of COVID-19, according to Tikinagan Child and Family Services.

"Some of our foster parents prefer to speak in their Native language, and with community visits limited, we wanted to be able to meet their needs during a challenging time," says Thelma Morris, the agency's executive director.

That prompted the community-based child services agency, which serves 30 First Nations, to develop a foster parent hotline offered in Oji-Cree and English. It was one of the first supports put in place in response to public health restrictions, allowing families to access services and information even when a local worker isn't available.

The effort is just one expression of Tikinagan's focus on language, one of the organization's nine core values.

All Tikinagan foster homes are Indigenous, and in many, the Indigenous language is the primary one used in the home, Morris said. About three in four families speak either Ojibway or Oji-Cree, she estimates.

That's no accident – the agency's service model emphasizes nurturing children within their communities and protecting connections to family and culture.

"When we're able to keep children in the same community and connected to their families, traditions and culture, including language, are maintained," Morris says.

As a children's aid organization, Tikinagan has a key role to play in averting the loss of traditional languages, Morris says.

"In our communities, mostly everyone can understand their community's first language," she explains. "However, our younger



A Tikinagan worker answers calls through the agency's foster parent hotline, which offers service in Oji-Cree.

generation, specifically those under the age of 30, are losing it. We're working toward empowering our families and communities to help preserve their languages."

Those efforts start with the agency's staff, more than 170 of whom understand, read, and/or write Oji-Cree or Ojibway, allowing it to run services like the parent hotline in-house.

Tikinagan offers incentives to staff who speak or write Oji-Cree or Ojibway, as well as educational opportunities to pursue language studies.

Call volumes for the hotline have been lower than expected, a fact Morris puts down to strong connections with local workers. While it's often not in person, workers have actually connected more often with families during the pandemic.

"Many of our communities prefer to speak directly to our Tikinagan workers based in our community and will be familiar with their language experience," Morris says.

The organization strives to communicate with children, families, and communities using both traditional languages in written and verbal communication and promotes the use of the languages with children in care.

For children living in an urban setting outside of their First Nation, the organization looks for alternatives to support their connection with culture, including language classes and other programming.

Ojibway and Oji-Cree are emphasized in many of Tikinagan's publications, including its website, social media pages, newsletter, and annual report.

"We're always looking for more ways to incorporate this in our work to underline how important it is to maintain this aspect of our communities' culture," Morris says.

Learn more at tikinagan.org or call 1-800-465-3624

LL° DAP"dd.d.) | Mamow Obiki-ahwahsoowin | Everyone working together to raise our children.



RUBBLE REMAINS: Crews examine the aftermath of a fire that destroyed the Star-Lite Flooring building on Bay Street.

Police to investigate fire as potential arson

Star-Lite Flooring building on Bay Street destroyed last Friday THUNDER BAY By Leith Dunick -TB Source through the burned out building on Saturday with police to document the area of the fire's origin.

ast Friday's Star-Lite Flooring fire is being investigated as a possible arson.

Thunder Bay Fire Rescue fire inspector Kevin Anderson said investigators have learned the fire likely began in a trash can on the second floor.

Two occupants of the residential area above the flooring store attempted to put out the fire, but were unsuccessful and it quickly spread into the walls and then into the attic.

Ongoing construction on the upper floor of the building, which had a residential component, aided in the rapid spread of the fire, which filled much of the north-side of Thunder Bay with thick, heavy smoke for much of Friday evening.

Interviews completed

"Through interviews with people on site it appears they were attempting to put out a fire in the bathroom before we arrived. Through

further interviews it looks like it was a possible arson, because it was a garbage can in the bathroom, a common bathroom for the second floor occupants," Anderson said.

"So now it's been passed on to police for them to do further interviews and determine what they can find out."

Anderson said it would be up to police to lay any charges, should they be warranted. He added he went

"At the same time, criminal investigations were also doing interviews, so it was left for them to follow up," Anderson said.

The building's age, combined with the tar on the roof, made it a tough fire to get under control. Firefighters were still on scene on Saturday morning.

Heavy damage

There's not much more than a shell of a building left, Anderson said.

"The roof, which is above the second floor, is mostly collapsed. The whole roof structure is pretty much gone and obviously the south side as well. And then of course, there's water damage throughout the building. I'm no engineer, but I would think that it would not be repairable," Anderson said.

"That's for the experts to determine." Anderson said once the fire got into the

four-foot attic, it became even tougher to battle. The blowing wind was also an obstacle, driving the fire to the south end of the

oustacte, ariving the fire to the south end of the building. "It just was puffing out of every vent and with a ter

"It just was puffing out of every vent and with a tar roof, it was a little harder to get at. When we arrived, the fire was really in there," Anderson said. "The platoon chief called everybody out of the building once we knew nobody was in there and it was more of a defensive attack after that."

No one was hurt in the fire.

Weather Forecast



Prices effective from Friday March 26 to Wednesday March 31, 2021

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"Through further interviews it looks like it was a possible arson." KEVIN ANDERSON

Chamber wants biz help

Province should make open.

BUSINESS By Leith Dunick - TB Source

coded framework

The Thunder Bay Chamber of Commerce is calling on the province to rethink its lockdown measures province-wide.

Led by chambers in Thunder Bay and Peterborough, they've provided the province with what they're calling a responsible business protocol that would refine the current colour-code system, better defines operating protocols by sector and adds a community contact reduction framework they believe would better address community spread.

It would be up to the businesses to adhere to safety standards, which in turn would allow them to remain

Ontario Chambers of The changes to its colour- Commerce have sent a letter to Premier Doug Ford with a dire warning in the face of looming bankruptcies, and supplier and bank delinquencies, caused by operating restrictions put in place by the province.

Charla Robinson, president of the Thunder Bay Chamber, on Monday said new protocols are needed to ensure businesses can survive.

Thunder Bay has been in Grey-Lockdown for three weeks, with no end in sight. Some businesses, like gyms, movie theatres and personalcare services are completely closed, while restaurants are reduced to patio dining or take out only.

"COVID restrictions must be refined to support the long-term health of our community and the economic health of our businesses," Robinson said in a statement released on Monday.

"This revised approach provides

safe operating rules for each sector that will allow all businesses to remain operational while also implementing a community contact framework that reduces business capacity in response to regional virus spread.'

Rather than closing businesses, the plan would see the province reduce capacity based on the colour zone -100 per cent for Green, 80 per cent for yellow, 60 per cent for Orange, 40 per cent for Red and 20 per cent for Grev.

Additionally, the framework would provide advice on operating guidelines that would allow restaurant, salon and gym owners and operators to protect staff and clients from COVID-19.

"Essentially the message to Ontarians is that these operating restrictions are about the community's actions to reduce their own contacts rather than the current messaging, which unfairly closes or restricts trade for small businesses," the letter reads.

Paper has new owner **BUSINESS**

By TB Source staff

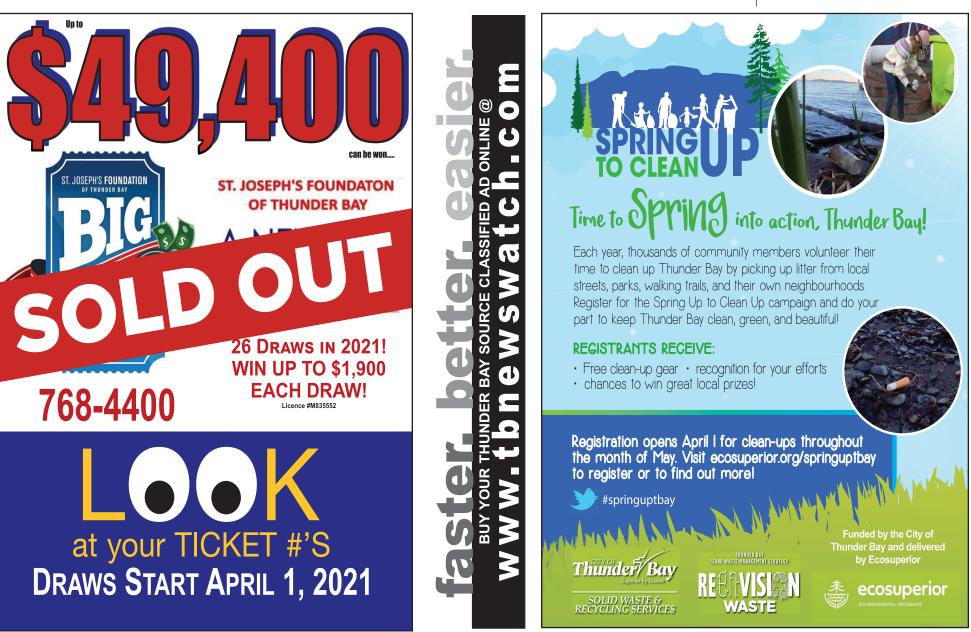
n application has been filed with the ACanadian Radio, Television and Telecommunications Commission for a change of ownership at Thunder Bay's Dougall Media, owner of this paper.

It's been submitted by Hector Dougall, the son of the late Fraser and Elizabeth Dougall.

Dougall says he believes its important ownership of the long-time family business remains local and he's pledging to maintain his family's long tradition of service to Thunder Bay and Northwestern Ontario.

He also says he hopes to grow the company's operations in order to meet the changing needs of local audiences and the company's long list of loyal advertisers.

A decision on the application is expected later this spring.





businesses reopen is a sound one.



GAME ON: Albert Brulé CEO of the United Way of Thunder Bay, Jake Behse and Jim Madder, presidentelect of the Port Arthur Rotary help launch Catch the Ace, a new weekly draw benefiting both agencies.

Catch the Ace, win a big prize

THUNDER BAY By Leith Dunick - TB Source

f you like to gamble, the United Way of Thunder Bay and Port Arthur Rotary have a fun, and possibly rewarding way to help them hit their 2021 fundraising targets.

The two charitable organizations on Friday launched their version of Catch the Ace, featuring weekly prizes and

a progressive jackpot that one lucky winner will take home if they find the hidden ace of spades.

There's a guaranteed prize every week.

Tickets are \$10 for 10 tickets, \$20 for 60 numbers. \$40 for 200 numbers and \$80 for 500 numbers and include the opportunity to pick an electronic envelope where a virtual playing card is hidden. When the weekly winner is chosen, lottery organizers will

also check their envelope to see if the ace of spades is inside.

If it's found, the weekly winner also wins the progressive jackpot. If not, the envelope is removed from the deck and the jackpot grows. Fifty per cent of the money raised will be turned over to the two organizations, with a maximum of 52 draws occurring before the ace of spades is found. There is a guaranteed progressive jackpot

prize of \$5,000. "United Way of Thunder Bay continues to rethink our approach to fundraising. The Catch the Ace Raffle is a creative and engaging way to help meet the urgent needs of the community as the demand for social services skyrockets in our city. Playing Catch the Ace is a fun and a safe way to help support individuals and organizations that are struggling to make ends meet, with a chance to win a lot of money too. Enjoy the thrill of chasing the ace,'

said Albert Brulé, CEO of the United Way of Thunder Bay, in a release issued on Friday.

"The past few months have tested all of us in ways we could not have ever imagined. We have friends and neighbours who were already vulnerable, struggling to make ends meet or put food on the table. It's been exceptionally difficult and sometimes heartbreaking. The need for vital supports only continues to increase.'

It's a great collaboration, said Krysta Logozzo-Daniele, president of the Port Arthur Rotary.

"Port Arthur Rotary is proud to partner with United Way of Thunder Bay to bring the Catch the Ace raffle to Thunder Bay and beyond! Building on both organizations' commitment to addressing a wide range of community needs, this initiative is a strong example of community collaboration.'

To play, ticket buyers, who must be in Ontario, visit www.tbayace.ca.

Social gatherings can have deadly consequences.

Stay home to stop the spread of COVID-19. Learn more at ontario.ca/covid-19

Paid for by the Government of Ontario



"Enjoy the thrill of chasing the ace." ALBERT BRULE

Editorial

EDITORIAL

Threshold must rise

Ontario's Sunshine List is out. Started in 1996 by then premier Mike Harris, it was the Conservative leader's way of taking a shot at public-sector employees, whom he viewed as overpaid.

Fast forward 25 years, however, and the province is still using the same \$100,000 benchmark.

It's time for an update.

While we believe it's important that the public deserves transparency, we also believe the rank-and-file government workers don't need their personal information posted for all to see.

According to the Canadian Inflation Calculator, \$100,000 in 1996 is worth about \$152,000 today.

This seems like a good place to draw the line.

The City of Thunder Bay, for example, had 559 employees who made \$100,000 or more in 2020.

That's up 107 over the previous year.

However, only 65 of thoe people, led by Police Chief Sylvie Hauth and city manager Norm Gale, made more than \$150,000.

At Thunder Bay Regional, where 338 made the Sunshine List, only 17 were over \$150,000.

Is it really necessary to know what every police officer, nurse, or teacher makes? Does that add anything to the conversation? Overall expenses, sure. But allow the people some privacy.

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Not the time to let up

To the editor: Why am I hearing constantly how the reopening plan is underway? I hate what all of us have endured during this pandemic. But people, this is exactly what it is, a pandemic, an unprecedented situation such as the world has never seen.

I feel horrible for the business community, it has to be tragic for them. But, as the health experts continue to tell us how much worse the third wave is going to be compared to the first two, we are still talking about the reopening.

What happens to small businesses if they start up and have to shutter the doors again within days? The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again hoping for a different result.

We sat and watched as they waited until after Christmas to lock us down so everyone could get together one more time and get those numbers up ever higher.

Then as the numbers finally got to a manageable level after the Christmas fiasco spike. we decided to reopen just as we were warned about the second wave coming, and how much worse it was going to be.

The numbers in Thunder Bay went off the charts, until then we were pretty much the model of despair in Ontario.

Numbers are starting to come down a little, not much, but a little.

We are now reopening up almost everything again.

Please people, we have endued this for over a year already, what's a few more weeks? Let's be smart about this, we are heading for another total lock down.

The numbers don't lie. Our hospital is already overwhelmed and the health-care workers are burnt out, to the extent that are we flying patients south, we are flying in doctors and nurses north to help with the burnout. The vaccines are coming. Please

let's just sit tight a little longer.

We are all yearning for everything to get back to normal. I believe it's just around the corner, if we just take it slow.

> Alex Cryderman, Thunder Bay

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Witch hunts in history



Witch hunts have happened throughout human history, most notably in Salem, New England.

The most well known recent political witch hunt was conducted by Senator McCarthy during the Cold War.

Dalton Trumbo was the central figure of the infamous 'Hollywood Ten', the screenwriters who were charged by the House Committee on Un-American Activities (HUAC) for their associations with the Communist Party.

Due to their refusal to cooperate during the investigation, Trumbo and his fellow screenwriters were declared in contempt of Congress and were ultimately blacklisted from Hollywood and some were even jailed.

Trumbo, whose story is told in Trumbo by Bruce Cook, was one of several hundred writers, directors, producers and actors who were deprived of the opportunity to work in the motion picture industry from 1947 to 1960. Arthur Miller was another victim of McCarthyism. In *Timebends* – A Life Miller describes how the Depression hurled his family into economic distress.

After working for two years in an auto parts warehouse to earn his tuition, he went off to the University of Michigan, where, during the years of the Spanish Civil War and the rise of fascism, he discovered his vocation as a playwright and formed the political outlook that, two decades later, was to bring him into courageous and ultimately victorious confrontation with the HUAC.

This experience inspired one of his most successful plays, *The Crucible*. From 1944 to 1957 Howard Fast was a member of the Communist Party.

Author of such internationally acclaimed best sellers as The Last Frontier, Citizen Tom Paine and Freedom Road, Fast was at the peak of his career when he joined the Party. But the years that followed - what Fast calls in his memoir, *Being Red*, the 'mini-terror' – were the years of the McCarthy witch hunt and the blacklist, of paranoia and betrayal, one of the most shameful periods in American history.

Fast's life became one of tapped phones, FBI surveillance, thwarted attempts to publish, and a prison sentence for refusing to give names to the HUAC.

He fictionalized these experiences in his novel *The Pledge*.

Paul Robeson's international achievements as a singer and actor in starring roles on stage and screen made him the most celebrated Black American of his day, but his outspoken criticism of racism in the United States, his strong support of African independence, and his fascination with the Soviet Union placed him under the debilitating scrutiny of McCarthyism.

Blacklisted, his famed voice silenced, he wrote *Here I Stand* as a bold answer to his accusers.

It remains today a defiant challenge to the prevailing fear and racism that continues to characterize American society.

During his growing up years James Laxer's parents were dedicated members of the Communist Party, true believers in a faith that was widely feared and at times outlawed.

Dramatic, humorous, and full of period detail, his engrossing memoir, *Red Diaper Baby*, offers a rare look at the McCarthy years through the eyes of a child.

Laxer became one of Canada's leading left-wing intellectuals. Today the witch hunts continue through social media.

Perspective

Shortages a sign of the times From toilet paper, to bicycles to garden seeds, Canadians bought up supplies in record fashion

OPINION By J.R. Shermack **Special to TB Source**

Not all shortages are created equal. During the first wave of the pandemic the first casualties were grocery store shelves which were emptied by nervous consumers preparing for the worst.

After hordes of consumers effectively scoured the aisles we saw what products were considered most essential by Canadian shoppers.

I remember about a year ago when Canada suffered the indignity of the great toilet paper shortage of 2020.

Toilet paper conspiracy theorists sounded the warning which became a self-fulfilled prophecy as thousands of soft, absorbent rolls were stashed in the nation's bathrooms.

It was fueled by the unjustified panic buying and hoarding of multiple rolls including one, two and three-ply.

Counting out

Canadians all across the country faced difficult choices about how many squares of tissue was a reasonable amount for the job at hand.

Fortunately we never had to answer that uncomfortable question because the shortage was a hoax - manufacturers were soon running full out and inventories grew.

Conspiracy theories, rumors and rumblings were also circulated about paper towels which were soon in short supply.

The fear and insecurity surrounding the pandemic affected the buying

A 19th Century

Newspaper man

During the isolated winter

two handwritten newspapers were started in Thunder

months of the mid 1870s

Bay, one in Fort William (The Perambulator) and one in Prince Arthur's Landing (the Thunderbolt).

They poked good-natured fun at each other, a

practice that turned

come.

nasty in the decades to

A look back in history

behavior of consumers struggling to prepare for an uncertain future.

This led to temporary shortages of many staples such as pasta, peanut butter, canned goods, Kraft dinner and other non-perishable items. Once it became clear that Canadian

supply chains were robust and groceries were readily available, consumers relaxed and shelves were re-stocked.

By that time the pantries of the nation were full of staple foods and essential ingredients.

That led to a sudden interest in home cooking as wannabe bakers everywhere rushed to their Canadian kitchens to rattle some pots and pans.

This widespread interest in culinary arts caused additional shortages and for a short time flour, yeast, sugar and other baking ingredients were hard to find

Nevertheless, depending on the availability of ingredients, Canadian homes were filled with the comforting aroma of fresh home baking.

And then early last year another shortage was created when enthusiastic, first-time gardeners decided to grow their own food from seed.

All this backyard garden activity caused the great Canadian seed shortage of 2020 as would-be urban farmers overwhelmed many seed suppliers.

The seed shortage continues this spring as I discovered when I tried to order seeds of my own and found that many varieties were sold out.

These are challenging times for

home gardeners in search of seeds and home bakers in search of ingredients.

The early panic-buying behavior of Canadians calmed down but now during the second wave of COVID many consumers are still experiencing shortages.

Some of the shortages we see today are driven by widespread lifestyle changes made by locked down consumers with time on their hands.

With people spending more time in the kitchen, cooking and baking supplies will be in demand – more backyard gardening will put pressure on seed suppliers.

Going quickly

Exercise equipment and bicycles are on backorder as more healthconscious consumers add fitness activities to their daily routines.

Patio heaters were in great demand as safely distanced Canadians hung out together on the outdoor deck for a chilly winter visit.

Consumers are still a little twitchy a nationwide toilet paper crisis has been averted, but we are still nervously waiting for one hardship to end.

I'm talking about the nationwide hug shortage - we have been deprived of close contact with family, friends and loved ones for over a year.

There is a huge stockpile of warm, loving embraces just waiting to be distributed.

Hopefully, just like the vaccine, one day soon there will be a heartfelt hug available to any Canadian who wants one

THUNDER BA'



T-P SHORTAGE: Empty toilet paper shelves weren't uncommon this time last year.

HOW TO WRITE US:

etters 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

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THINGS THAT MATTER MOST.

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COVID vaccines?

○YES ○NO ○DON'T KNOW 91.00% 7.07%

serious collision that resulted in Highway 11/17 being closed on Sunday has claimed the life of a 25-yearold Thunder Bay resident.

In a news release issued on Monday, March 22, Nipigon OPP said they responded to a report of a motor vehicle collision involving a passenger car and a tractor-trailer unit on Highway 11/17 in Shuniah Township.

An initial investigation determined an eastbound Hyundai Genesis car struck a tractor-trailer unit parked on the westbound shoulder of the highway, police said.

The lone occupant of the car, Dylan Vaudrin, 25, of Thunder Bay was pronounced dead at the scene. The occupant of the parked tractor-trailer unit was not injured, police say.

Highway 11/17 was closed for approximately four hours while police conducted their investigation.

COVID deaths hit 40

Case counts have steadily dropped for most of March, but the death count from COVID-19 continues to rise.

On Monday, the Thunder Bay District Health Unit announced the region's 40th death from the virus.

It was the 10th death linked to COVID-19 this month.

As of Tuesday Thunder Bay had 305 active cases of COVID-19, the fewest in the district since Feb. 24, when there were 304.

Deadly crash claims life

By Ian Kaufman -TB Source

City council affirmed its decision not to award a tender for a proposed multi-use indoor sports facility Monday night, leaving the project's

Councillors had voted 7-5 not to go forward at their last meeting on March 8, citing the facility's rising price tag and the uncertain financial impacts of COVID-19.

On Monday, councillors voted along the same lines to ratify that decision without any additional discussion.

The estimated project cost recently rose beyond \$37 million (\$39 million with builders risk insurance and a construction contingency) based on the lowest bid, from Tom Jones Corporation.

at roughly \$46 million over 25 years, thanks to around \$8.8 million in interest payments on a \$16.6 million debenture necessary to fund the

Taking out that debenture would cost the median residential property owner an estimated \$22.65 annually over the 25-year period, city treasurer Linda Evans has said.



BACK TO DRAWING BOARD: An artist's rendering of a proposed indoor turf facility some councillors want to built at Chapples Park.

it came to awarding the tender (councillors Aiello, McKinnon, Oliver, and You).

Several councillors who voted against awarding the tender said they remained committed to seeing an indoor turf facility built, but expressed the need for a pause due to the pandemic. Others, like Coun. Mark Bentz, simply balked at the price tag, suggesting the project needed to be redesigned to lower it.

Fifty per cent of respondents to community consultation performed in the summer of 2020 were opposed to moving forward with the project either entirely, or at that time - while 35 per cent clearly supported it. City manager Norm Gale also recommended a delay in August.

Couns. Aiello, Bentz, Hamilton, Johnson, McKinnon, Oliver, and You voted not to award the tender Monday; Councillors Ch'ng, Foulds, Fraser, Ruberto, and Mayor Mauro voted in favour. Councillor Trevor Giertuga is on a leave of absence.



future uncertain.

The real cost to the city is estimated project.

The facility remains approved in principle, following a 9-4 vote in August of 2020 to put it to tender. Four councillors who voted yes at that time had changes of heart when



Timing everything in spring skiing



Though there is almost no snow left in my yard, three of my crosscountry ski days last week topped the 50km mark. How is that possible with almost no snow in sight?

By taking a twenty minute drive north to the little rural township of Lappe, you will find the right combination of elevation, humidity and temperatures that seem to be the magic formula for perfect snow conditions.

The early snow they get in the fall allows us to enjoy fantastic skiing in the mild temperatures of November and December, but it also means phenomenal skiing throughout March and April (and sometimes into May) as well.

Right now, we are in a period of transitions. Some days, and most nights, the temperatures are below freezing.

Other days, the thermometer is pushing up past 10C and the snow melts quickly. Daylight savings means that sunlight is lasting longer into our evenings, making it easier to spend more time outside after work or school.

With unseasonable warmth, it has felt more like April than March over the past month. However, the cold nights and threat of another snowfall reminds us that winter may not be done with us yet.

The fresh snow will be welcomed by skiers as it recharges the quality of the trails and helps prolong the



SPRING FLING: Brooke Ailey takes a March ski at Lappe Nordic.

season

With the fluctuating temperatures we have been experiencing, the snow and the skiers are in transition too.

Spring skiing is all about firm and fast morning conditions, sun-softened midday snow and sloppy, slushy afternoon skiing. Sometimes, if the temperatures drop quickly in the evening, there is a "golden hour" of amazing skiing as the sun sets and the snow crisps up and gets very fast before it becomes icy.

This is sometimes called "hero snow" because it allows even recreational skiers to cover bigger kilometers with relative ease. Overnight, the snow will again freeze up, creating a firm surface that is great for crust cruising in the morning. As the day and snow warm up, the snow transforms to "corn snow," a creamy smooth surface that can still be good for glide as long as the sun stays hidden behind the clouds.

I often say that, in Thunder Bay we are blessed with unparalleled outdoor recreation opportunities. Right at the top of that list I would put our big five: fishing, hunting, mountain biking, hiking and Nordic skiing.

Of those, fishing would be the most popular, mountain biking seems to be the fastest growing, hiking is the most accessible, but it is Nordic skiing that has the essential job of getting many of us through these long Canadian winters.

Though this current winter season seems to be winding down, we should still have a few weeks of the very best skiing before we fully transition into spring.

Kids must learn to manage emotions

DANIELLE

RIDER

DORSET PIER

Mental health

Perhaps one of the most important and often over-looked milestones for a child's development is emotional regulation. As a society, we are often so hyperfocused on our milestone checklists, that we can forget that children are also learning how to manage the new and often intense emotions they are experiencing.

Although frustrating for parents, tantrums are actually a natural part of development: your child is being flooded with an emotion, often one that feels unpleasant, and their body is unsure how to manage the sensations.

The experience of a

tantrum is an opportunity for the child to 'practice' emotional regulation.

Emotional regulation refers to one's ability to manage their emotions and behaviours in accor-

dance with the demands of the situation. It means experiencing an intense emotion, and being able to work through it, calm yourself down, and adjust your expectations accordingly.

Children learn to do this through experience and maturity.

Figuring things out

As they grow, they are able to move through their emotional experiences with greater ease.

What happens if a child does not learn to regulate?

When this occurs, it is referred to as emotional dysregulation, which presents itself differently depending on the child. Some kids have intense reactions immediately, such as tantrums even at older ages, while others allow their emotions to build up and eventually 'overflow' with an intense reaction.

The reasons behind why some kids struggle with emotional regulation while others don't are vast.

Some key factors that can explain it include traumatic childhood experiences, the child's temperament and personality types, their environment and learned behaviour.

Tough times

I am discussing emotional dysregulation

this week as I recognize that many families are having a difficult time given the current closure of schools. Research tells us that increased time on screens as well as interruptions in daily routines

and schedules can increase a child's struggles with emotional dysregulation.

I am sharing this information to normalize the difficult experiences many families are currently experiencing.

Living with emotional dysregulation is an experience that affects the entire family unit. The child struggles, and so do the parents, siblings and extended family. Accessing counselling interventions to support the entire family system is one of the most beneficial ways to help manage the situation.

Children who struggle with emotional dysregulation often respond well to interventions such as play and animal therapy. There are a number of local supports, and I encourage you to reach out and know that you are not alone.



Warmer weather has Vaccine slots fill quickly arrived (it's muddy)



What a difference a day makes. Friday I'm walking on our trails without snowshoes and only occasionally hitting a soft spot. Saturday? Sinking with every step.

Amazing how quickly the snow has been disappearing. Daily I observed less and less of the stuff covering the ground. Now we are into mud season (oh joy) wherein said pooches now must have their paws wiped with a towel before entering Casa Jones.

So, when each day of last week I departed our 'hoosie' for a tromp along the trails, I wondered when that tromp would no longer be possible, when the mere act of walking would be a slog. You take a step and fine, the snow holds; you take another and whump! Your boot sinks with a suddeness that jars your back.

As I mentioned, for the most part of Friday's walk only in the open spaces where the sun had a chance to soften the snow did the 'jarring' take place and not very often.

Saturday, however, my wife, Laura, wanted to come for a walk too. Great! I love it when we can go together along our trails to observe stuff like animal tracks in the snow or how many standing dead balsam, spruce, or jack pine trees we can eventually cut down, perfect for the fireplace as the wood will be dry.

We ran into problems almost immediately.

I saw that the snow on the trail beginning seemed softer so I suggested we walk along what we term 'Winter Trail', a trail that at the south end is largely under water in summer but traversable in winter, since most of it would be shaded. Surely the crust on the snow would be hard enough to allow easy passage. Well, yes and no. Again, in the 'open' spots of which there were few, we sank more often.

When we made it to the end of the trail we decided to see if following the route over the back field where horses had been ridden would present firmer ground.

Again, it did and it didn't.

Fortunately, there were bare patches of ground upon which Laura could walk but those bare spots didn't last long and we had to try to locate our snowshoe track that we packed down during several tromps, in the hopes of a smoother walk.

Nope, the warmth of the day had rapidly softened most of the snow even on well-packed snowshoe trails.

It was when we arrived in the field behind that house, a large section of land, that we saw a lot more snow-free ground and by being selective we managed to get back to the house tired and a bit sore

"I'm not going on our trails until all of the snow is gone," Laura announced. Walking on snowshoes at this time of year when the snow is so soft and sticky is as bad as trying to walk without.

If the melt continues then it won't be long before trail-walking on bare ground can take place.

I am hesitant, however, to remove the farm snow-blower from the back of my tractor, Big Red. Ol' Man Winter might just be lurking nearby to give us perhaps one, last shot.

HEALTH **Bv TB Source Staff**

Within hours of the opening of the booking system for COVID-19 vaccinations for people 75 years old and over, all the appointments in the first round were filled.

The Thunder Bay District Health Unit made the announcement at 10:18 Monday morning.

The provincial government had announced on Friday that appointments for 75+ would be accepted starting on Monday following an Ontario-wide decline in demand for vaccinations for the number of people 80 years old and over.

In a message posted on social media, the TBDHU says it will advise when more spots for the 75+ group will become available.

"Thanks for your patience as we continue to serve as many folks as possible with the current supply and capacity available," the message adds.

The TBDHU vaccination clinics take place in the CLE Coliseum building.



LIMITED AVAILABIITY: Vaccine slots were filled in a matter of minutes on Monday.



🗾 807-766-2090 🛛 🖂 Patty.Hajdu@parl.gc.ca PATTY HAJ[Member of Parliament

Thank you, frontline and health workers we see you, and we are grateful.

IN THE Day arts entertainment culture

Love/Sick answers live theatre call

THEATRE By Linda Maehans -TB Source

ans long-starved for live theatre in Thunder Bay have good reason to rejoice: the next best thing is just around the corner.

And yeah. I mean, c'mon. Haven't we all felt it? Wanted it? Those nervous little butterflies in the stomach; checking oneself in the mirror umpteen times a day; taking deep breaths in a fruitless attempt to quell the excitement whenever our mind conjures up our new beloved?

Alright, already! Do Cambrian Players have the show for you. Believe me, a week from this Saturday night *Love/Sick* is the only place you'll want to be.

Devotees of this city's outstanding troupe of amateur thespians will recall their rendition of "Almost Maine" by John Cariani (June 2018): nine vignettes as wondrous as the spell cast by the Aurora Borealis over a town called Almost. The same northern lights we sometimes get in our own night skies, except this time the playwright's clever whimsy has taken a decidedly edgy turn.

Cambrian's director, this time, is Thomas McDonald; (in Almost we met him in the laundromat). "There, everything was about coming together, about building or repairing love. Now? In Love/Sick things don't go the way we hope. This show's about subverting our expectations of love, of having to come to terms with the reality instead. No question it gets a bit surreal.

We all know people who've fallen into situations, allowed themselves to be talked into or out of things; people caught up in circumstances who, when it comes to love, lose themselves; or do desperate things. Yeah, the love is there. The sick comes in when expectations get twisted."

Gee, maybe that's me; or you? It sure couldn't be Kelly and Mark from a vignette called Lunch and Dinner. When I first met them, actors Mary and Bryan Davis (in character) appeared so cool, calm and collected; in fact I found myself wondering why, after a draining workweek, neither seemed particularly enthusiastic about Friday night. Go figure.

OK. I'll bet not many of us have opened our doors to a Saturday night date that goes the way things do in Singing Telegram. Then again, it could



PLAYING A PART: Actors Mary and Brian Davis play Kelly and Mark who are found in a vignette called Lunch and Dinner in the Cambrian Players offering, Love/Sick.

be falling madly in love at first sight in a grocery aisle, who cares whether it's day or night, is more your style? In Love/Sick guaranteed there will be little "walks on the wild side" you weren't expecting. Or were you?

But no worries 'bout social distancing and all that stuff: in these our times-ofCOVID Cambrian Players are well out in front. Audiences can live-stream Love/Sick in the safe comfort of their homes, inside their usual bubbles of family or friends. Because Cambrian's theatre space on Spring Street has been transformed into eight separate sets, from which Love/Sick will roll out like

a titillating made-for-TV movie. "The actors, masked until their performances, are each other's conduits for projecting all the energy, drama and emotion of Love/Sick straight into the living rooms of our audience," notes McDonald.

Tickets for Love/Sick are \$15 single;

\$25 household/bubble; book on www.showtix4u.come/events/cambrian One show only: Saturday, April 3; 7:30 p.m.

Note: add-on refreshment/food bundles available directly from local businesses; visit Cambrian Players. com on Facebook for details.

IN THE **BAY**

Pieces of a Woman too fragmented



Previously scouted at virtual TIFF 2020, *Pieces of a Woman* (Netflix) deals with a sensitive topic, namely home birth loss.

The film offers a very affecting opening act with committed performances by the leads (Vanessa Kirby, Shia LaBoef) only to immediately falter in the ensuing stages, with a spotty script, one that offers insubstantial characterization and questionable narrative lines on one hand while tossing in extraneous material that belongs in another movie.

Kirby and LaBoeuf play Martha, an office worker of indeterminate designation, and Sean, a construction engineer who are determined to have their first child born at their Boston home (Montreal stands in). However, when



BABY DRAMA : Shia LaBoef and Vanessa Kirby star in Pieces of Woman.

Martha's time comes, their midwife is unavailable. She sends a fellow midwife, Eva, (Molly Parker) in her place.

Eva tries to assuage their disappointment and doubts by suggesting going to the hospital to which Martha strongly declines. This first act is very convincingly staged, capturing the harrowing mix of tension, anxiety, pain, and fleeting joy of childbirth in seeming real time. Kirby makes the pain of her labour very real, LaBoeuf is the anxious attentive partner and Parker is calm and capable. All seems well until the baby exhibits distress whereupon 911 is called.

Director Kornel Mundruczo and his wife Kata Weber who wrote the screenplay are working from their own personal experience. They credibly conjure the heartrending atmosphere that permeates the film. However, they leave their characters rather under-developed, with equally threadbare narratives, inexplicable behaviour, and plot points curiously left dangling.

Martha and Sean soon go out of sync once they are plunged into their own private grieving which tests their relationship. Then there is Martha's over-bearing, wealthy mother, Elizabeth (Ellen Burstyn) who promptly condemns the midwife and demands a civil suit, aside from pending criminal charges stemming from the tragedy.

Some critical points go wanting. The coroner's report to the couple reveals that there is no explanation for childbirth tragedy 60 per cent to 70 per cent of the time. So why is the midwife being demonized by Martha's family and the media,

especially as Martha herself refused hospital care? Martha remains maddeningly silent on this until a crucial though dubious moment in the film's last act.

Elizabeth, who admittedly doesn't care for the bearded, 'boorish' Sean, tries to impose her will on the situation, thereby alienating everyone. She later launches into her own childbirth horror story as a Holocaust survivor. This only serves to provide an award-pitching soliloquy for Burstyn. As if that isn't enough, her character subsequently begins to exhibit dementia.

Toss in Sean's lapse back into addiction, his curious dalliance with Martha's lawyer cousin, and a too-brief trial sequence and we have a film going into too many under-cooked directions at once. The scenes cry out for credible dialogue which is woefully wanting.

More's the pity, as Kirby (TV's *The Crown*) turns in a stand out performance, exuding anger and emptiness in equal measure, garnering an Oscar nomination. Much effort here is sadly undermined by pieces of a screenplay.



IN THE**BAY**

Mom belongs among sit-com royalty

CBS recently announced that after eight seasons, the hit sitcom Mom is coming to an end.

The show launched with the story of Christy, a recently-sober alcoholic and addict, young mother-of-two who learned her wicked ways under the tutelage of her equally-damaged alcoholic/addict mother, Bonnie. (Yes, I know. Hilarious.) Both got high, spent time in jail, and got knocked up as teenagers while in an unstable household.

Ironically, that's not where the comedy lies.

Allison Janney stars as the also-sober Bonnie trying to re-connect and make amends to her daughter.

Anna Faris is Christy, trying to be a better mother to her two kids while still resenting the heck out of Bonnie for only getting sober after she had ruined her daughter's childhood.

And then Christy's own teenage



daughter repeats the cycle by getting pregnant.

If that isn't comedy gold, well, let's add in the oddball list of characters from Alcoholics Anonymous. Now, we've got a powerhouse of laughter.

And it was. Instead of disrespecting AA, the show told viewer that sometimes life is so hard, you just have to laugh to get through it. The truth can be painful. It can also be funny and healing.



ROLE PLAY: Allison Janney in Mom.

It all depends on how you look at it. And the writers chose to see the funny.

And the healing. *Mom* dissected all sides of addiction in its various forms.

There was substance – drugs, alcohol,

nicotine, gambling – and emotional – anger, dependence, poor choices. Some results were funny. Others were painful. All were relatable.

And the stories were constantly changing. Issues weren't solved in a single episode. Growth happened much slower. And there were a lot of missteps.

Fast forward eight seasons and Christy's two kids are long gone. The son lives with his dad and the daughter moved to Vegas, blaming her failures on her mother. Apparently, even sitcoms don't always have happy endings.

And last summer, Faris left the show too. Consequently, going from three mom relationships to none, the final season looks absolutely nothing like the original. And that's OK.

Because Bonnie's female AA supports have always been the backbone of *Mom*. They're women with a past – a painfully honest set of life experiences, mistakes, and regrets.

And while the show's male characters have mostly come and gone as boyfriends, father-figures, husbands and employers, the women have remained supportive.

And there's been a lot to support. One went to jail. Another was released. New addictions replaced old ones while others just relapsed.

Now, you might wonder, "What's so funny about that?" The answer: everything. *Mom* has been compared to comedy royalty, *All in the Family* and *Mary Tyler Moore* for its ability to balance humour and life's pain, and to make viewers laugh – not just at the characters, but at themselves whom they see in those characters.

And just like MTM, I'll probably cry when it's time for *Mom* to say goodbye. There hasn't been a show quite like it – ever. But like so many, I'll be left with lessons learned. And episodes available in syndication.

WORD SEARCH CROSSWORD PUZZLE Sudoku GSTENNOBJD 0 U S D ACROSS ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE 2 words) Е BCSOG S Y Х S н Р L Fill in the grid so that every row, column and 54 Turkish caliph LOLA HOC AMAH 55 Occupational Hive of bees 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9. С W B V Т U С L Μ 0 н Н S С ABET OAR Safety and Health REBA Mast support 5 9 Admin. (abbr.) DISPERSE GRAF Bicycle 1 3 5 Е LOADS тw O W A R R Α В 8 56 Number (suf.) motocross (abbr.) EATNATALCST 57 Office of 12 Muslim judge ANTMASH С С Κ Е Economic S E V 1 Μ D 1 1 Y 13 Concert halls Development 9 14 Meadow DECLAIMSHADE 5 7 8 (abbr.) ENKEEZ Е D S OWAM 1 Κ 15 Cognate ANOAOAFUNIO 58 Trée 16 Occupant HECTOORESTES 59 Sea eagle 18 Radon 0 - T Α Ν - 1 Т Ν F Т Ν Ν 11 2 20 Three (Sp.) KERFISH 21 Maid Е 0 0 S Е S 0 S E Κ Т L U - E W KGBBADENJET DOWN 24 Skull bone ALOERENEGADE 27 Both 9 Е В 0 κ 0 Μ U 1 R A 1 L R Δ 31 Caper Peruse DEAL ABDODEA 32 Hymn N.Z. bird DTS GELT LUMB Κ В INTL Ζ Κ D Т Ρ L 33 Scot. island 3 Redact 3 8 35 Nose (pref.) 4 Edible seed 19 National (abbr.) 30 Ditch Е С F Е А S LΕ B R N 36 Gangster's gal 5 Polish general .1 22 Pronoun 34 Lop 37 57 (Rom. 38 Week Cyprinoid fish contraction First-rate Т W D Т А Μ Ν G 40 Cheel F 23 Brit. trout numeral) 2 42 Lack 8 Child (Scot.) 25 Wife of Esau 39 Form thoughts 43 Father 9 Benediction G Е S R Е Ν V 26 Misplaced 41 Ship's deck 10 People 45 Two-spot 44 Rest 27 Burial place 2 5 11 Totem pole 49 Maim 9 Δ 46 Above (Ger.) Х Е 1 Ν Е G 0 R Т 1 Ν Ν Е D 28 Aroma S 53 Down with (Fr. 17 Late 29 Of laughing 47 Basse-Normandie city Ρ A R 1 S H E R EBYVA ΕH 48 Anglo-Saxon 3 2 7 Alkali Hereby Outfits Sprints serf 13 12 49 Chin. chairman Blind Letting Parish Taming 50 Diminutive 15 16 Plumb 9 8 (suf.) **Bonnets** Teeter Likely 51 Arabic letter Ticket Booted Livers Primate 18 52 Auricle Brewed Rabbis Tinned Looses DIFFICULTY: ★☆☆☆ 25 22 Burials Moment Rebels Totality Clock Reloads Unintention Motels 28 Decode Uplift Nitrogen Ropes TM Enigma cryptograms are created from quotations ENIGMA 32 and proverbs from around the world. Each letter Genies Shaken Vices Noblemen stands for another letter. Hint: "A" = "O" 36 Heavy Noodle Snubbed Wring CRYPTOGRAM 40 "ASF AD GOF LFTBSFUUFU AD AJK TZF Classified WE'RE 43 IU AJK TMMTKFSG ISTEIRIGC GA **ON-LINE on** 50 52 51 QIUGISZJIUO AJK SFFQ DKAH AJK **TBNEWSWATCH** ZKFFQ." - TJGOAK JSBSALS

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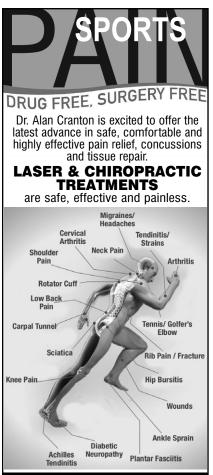
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Sports news information | coverage

Border Cats players dispersed

BASEBALL By Leith Dunick – TB Source

he Thunder Bay Border Cats may be sitting out for a second straight summer, but many of their players found new homes on Friday.

The Northwoods League held a special dispersal draft to scatter players signed by the Border Cats throughout the league.

Harold Coll, a shortstop with San Jacinta College, was the first player taken, grabbed at No. 1 by he Battle Creek Bombers.

Former Cats outfielder Jakob Newton was on the list, taken 16th by the Willmar Stingers. Newton, an Oakville, Ont. native, hit .292 with three home runs and 23 RBI for Thunder Bay in 2019. The Border Cats will retain the rights of any eligible players when the team returns to action in 2022.

A complete list of draftees has not yet been published, but based on Twitter posts from 12 of the 21 teams, here's a partial list of who went where.

• 1. Battle Creek Bombers: Harold Coll, SS, San Jacinta College **2. Kokomo Jackrabbits**: Evan Elliott, RHP, University of Iowa

3. Duluth Huskies: Caden Griffen, LHP, University of Missouri • 4. Lakeshore Chinooks: Jason DiCicco, LHP, Eastern Illinois

5. Bismarck Larks: Khalid Collymore, OF, University of Motevallo

• 6. Green Bay Booyah: Braden

Babcock, LHP, Southern Illinois • 7. Rockford Rivets: Daniel Cantu, INF, University of South Florida

• 8. Kenosha Kingfish: Cam Collier, OF, University of South Florida

9. Wisconsin Woodchucks: Harley Gollert, LHP, Austin Peay State University

10. Waterloo Bucks: Ike Buxton, RHP, Lipscomb University

11. Mankato MoonDogs: John Lindgren, LHP, University of North Alabama

12. Fond du Lac Dock Spiders: Jackson Lofton, INF, Sam Houston State University

13. Kalamazoo Growlers: Jess Miller, RHP, Centre College

• 14. La Crosse Loggers: Lukas Barry, RHP, Connors Sate College • 15. Rochester Honkers: Patrick Williams, RHP, Lipscomb University

• 16. Willmar Stingers: Jakob Newton, OF, Florida Tech

17. Eau Claire Express: Jackson Beaman, INF, University of Missouri

● 18. Madison Mallards: Sam Beuerlein, RHP, Georgetown University

• 19. St. Could Rox: Zachary Gagnon, RHP, Tarleton State University

20. Wisconsin Rapids Rafters: Ben Schoneman, RHP, Colorado School of Mines

● 21. Traverse City Pit Spitters: Camden Traficante, INF, Stetson University



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STAR PLAYER: Jakob Newton hit .292 for the Thunder Bay Border Cats in 2019.

Nats Soto is baseball's next best player

Wike Trout is the best player in baseball.

He's a hall-of-famer, first ballot, is already entrenched in the top 100 in WAR and moving fast up the chart.

I just don't think his reign is going to last much longer, thanks to a trio of young players who are looking to overthrow the king.

The heir apparent is Juan Soto.

By the time he turned 21, the Washington Nationals outfielder had hit 69 home runs, and would have been closer to 90 if it wasn't for the shortened season.

Soto last year hit .351 to lead the National League, slugged at a .695 clip and led the league in OPS, OPS+ and intentional bases on balls.

Marcus Stroman, the former Blue

to say about Soto on Twitter last week.

He's incredibly talented man. His eyes and zone judgement are second to

he's super locked in and essentially has no weaknesses. Will tell my kids one day I competed against this man!"

Sounds a lot to me like they're describing a young Ted Williams.

Unlike Williams or Trout, Soto also has a World Series ring. The Dominican Republic native had three homers and seven RBI in the 2019 Fall Classic, helping the Nats knock off the heavily favoured Houston Astros to claim the crown, the first in franchise history.

I think I wrote a similar column to this a year ago, and at the time, I thought Ronald Acuna Jr. was going to be the guy

The Braves outfielder has better 162game average power numbers than Soto, with 81 home runs in 313 games. He's got 40-40 ability if let lose on the basepaths, but that .250 average last season, 100 points less than Soto, has downgraded him a bit in my books.

The other guy who could give Trout a

run for his money in the National League is San Diego shortstop Fernando Tatis Jr.

All he's done is hit 44 home runs in 143 games, maintained a career batting average over .300 and developed into one of the best-fielding shortstops in the game. San Diego liked him enough to sign him to a 14-year, \$340-million deal.

Add in Mookie Betts with the Dodgers and the National League is going to be fun to watch for the next decade or more.

Check out this space next week for our annual Major League Baseball predictions.

Any guesses who I'm taking for National League MVP?

LEITH DUN SPORTS SHORTS

Jays pitcher, had this

"It's a chess game.

none. Every time he steps into the box,

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