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Class in session

Outdoor exercise classes of up to 10 people now permitted in Grey-Lockdown zones /2



EXERCISING RIGHTS: Former Thunder Bay mayor and Liberal MP Ken Boshcoff on Monday takes part in an outdoor Tai Chi class, led by Peng You, at Prince Arthur's Landing.

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INSIDE

SHIPPING STARTS



First lakers arrive in port in 2021 /8

STANDOFF ENDS



Police swarm Cumming Street after alleged firearms incident /4

WIN NOW MENTALITY



Eric Staal reacts to his recent trade to the Montreal Canadiens /14

LEITH DUNICK

LOCAL NEWS



HEAD OF THE CLASS: Peng You (front) leads a Tai Chi class on Monday at Prince Arthur's Landing.

Outdoor exercise classes permitted

Province allows groups of 10 to get fit together

THUNDER BAY

By Leith Dunick -TB Source

Ken Boshcoff says he missed the camaraderie of his Tai Chi class.

On Monday, the former Thunder Bay mayor found some of that kinship along the city's waterfront, taking part in an outdoor class led by Tai Chi Master Peng You.

Monday marked the start of looser restrictions surrounding exercise in Grey-Lockdown zones, with new regulations allowing for outdoor classes of up to 10 people to take place.

"It's been the same across our whole society. You miss the people, you miss the friendship, you miss the ability to gauge your own technique against someone when you're training," said Boshcoff, one of nine participants in You's afternoon class at the Tai Chi Park at Prince Arthur's Landing.

"You can do it (alone) all you want, but people are people. We love being together."

Boshcoff, 71, said the group has taken all the necessary precautions to keep the virus at bay, including wearing face masks while practicing Tai Chi and keeping two metres apart.

He said he's not too concerned, given what he knows about the people in the class.

"This is a mighty safe group to begin with, so you can bet they're all following the rules from the beginning," the former Liberal MP said.

You, who led the class, said it was great to be back, particularly for the mental well being of his students.

"It's really important because regardless of who we are, we need exercise. Mentally, physically, we need to get strong. Tai Chi is a very good exercise for both. We need that," You said.

It's tough not being able to gather as a group.

"We always emphasize the Tai Chi motto of health, friendship and happiness. The friendship part is very important, for example, for our seniors," You said.

"They're lonely. What do they need to do? They need to see people, not just sit at home watching TV."

In addition to allowing outdoor exercise classes, the province announced last Friday that starting on April 12, personal care services like hair salons and spas, will be allowed to reopen, at 25 per cent capacity or five customers at a time.

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LOCAL NEWS



LEITH DUNNICK

STAYING SAFE: Team Rubicon's Robert Allain delivers a snack to a COVID patient at one of Thunder Bay's isolation centres.

Feds give \$1.5M for city isolation centre

THUNDER BAY
By Doug Dlazuk - TB Source

With household contacts accounting for a large percentage of COVID-19 infections, both in Thunder Bay and across Canada, the federal government is providing much needed funding to voluntary isolation centres in an effort to break the chain of transmission.

Minister of Health Patty Hajdu announced on Monday that \$1.5 million will be made available through the federal government's Safe Voluntary Isolation Program to an isolation centre in Thunder Bay.

Hajdu said Thunder Bay and surrounding region has a fragile health care system and the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre serves a vast region.

"When we see infections rise with COVID-19, the hospitalizations and ICU admissions follow. It's in all of our health interests to reduce the number of infections that people in our community and region face," she said.

"Part of reducing infections is doing that work is supporting people to isolate as soon as possible when they receive their diagnosis so we can reduce the number of infections in households."

The \$1.5 million will be made available April 1 through Sept. 30 and will be used to add 40 rooms consolidated in one isolation centre and hire additional support and nursing staff.

Tracy Buckler, president and CEO of St. Joseph's Care Group, which has taken the lead along with 10 other community agencies in staffing and operating the isolation centres in the city, said the funding will fill the temporary position needed for a six month period.

"We've cobbled that together up to this point. To be able to have temporary positions filled on a regular basis for the six month period will help every community agency and ourselves provide the care on a very consistent matter," she said.

"The minister's announcement of \$1.5 million to support this in the community is really critical to continuing what we've been doing for the last almost year now to provide that safe voluntary isolation shelter. This funding allows us to have on site supports, health care in place, support

services in a safe and appropriate environment."

According to Buckler, St. Joseph's Care Group and partnering agencies have been able to provide isolation spaces for more than 1,300 people in the city to date.

"Having a safe place for isolation is so important for the individual but also for the community and the other people that might live in a congregate setting that might live together in housing that has multiple occupants," she said.

Thunder Bay District Health Unit medical officer of Health, Dr. Janet DeMille, said the funding is a relief and provides reassurances that supports for people needing to isolate will remain in place.

DeMille added that throughout the pandemic the virus has easily spread among people living together, leading to surges in positive cases.

"Sometimes people can have a lot of difficulties isolating in their own homes or the place they are living for a number of different reasons and that can be very challenging in management and trying to control the spread of this virus," she said.

"Throughout the pandemic, but more recently, we have also been dealing with individuals who haven't had reasonable alternatives for self isolation. The fundamental importance of a safe isolation site where they can maintain that isolation where people can be provided with the supports they need to maintain that isolation for the 10 days they have COVID or even longer."

In February, the city of Thunder Bay declared a second state of emergency due to outbreaks of COVID-19 among two correctional facilities and in vulnerable populations.

There were concerns isolation centres could become overwhelmed and city officials advocated for more financial and human resource assistance.

"This I am certain will bridge us through the summer months and when we come out on the other side of this around September I think we will all be in a much better place and the needs of this population have been met," said Thunder Bay Mayor Bill Mauro.

"What we are doing at this isolation centre is providing great relief to the local hospital. If the isolation centre was not in place, much of this work would fall on the regional health sciences centre."

**"It's in all of our health interests to reduce the number of infections that people ... face."
PATTY HAJDU**

Weather Forecast

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p>A mix of sun and clouds Probability of Precipitation: 30% HIGH -4 LOW -16</p>	<p>Sunny Probability of Precipitation: 0% HIGH 0 LOW -9</p>	<p>A mix of sun and clouds Probability of Precipitation: 30% HIGH 6 LOW -3</p>
SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
<p>Mainly sunny Probability of Precipitation: 20% HIGH 13 LOW -2</p>	<p>A mix of sun and clouds Probability of Precipitation: 30% HIGH 11 LOW 2</p>	<p>Cloudy with showers Probability of Precipitation: 60% HIGH 7 LOW 2</p>

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LOCAL NEWS

IN BRIEF

Sex assault charge laid

A Thunder Bay man is facing charges related to sexual assault dating back more than three years ago.

Court documents show Derek Kenney, 42, is facing one count of sexual assault from an incident that allegedly took place in November 2017.

The incident was reported to police in March. Kenney was released with conditions last week and is scheduled to appear in court next on May 4.

Thunder Bay police say the investigation into the incident remains open and active. Due to the integrity of the investigation, police say they cannot share more details at this time.

Standoff ends

City police continue to investigate an incident involving a firearm that led to a man showing up at the hospital with serious injuries.

The incident also led to a seven and-a-half-hour-long standoff outside a Cumming Street residence in which police could be seen outside the residence with a weapon trained on the front of the



TAKING PRECAUTION: Police point a gun at a Cumming Street house last Friday.

house.

Police said they became aware of the possible firearms incident at about 3 p.m. last Friday after an

injured male arrived at hospital.

The incident wrapped up at about 10:30 p.m.

No charges have yet been laid.

Vaccine bookings for 70+ are expected to begin soon

HEALTH

By Doug Diaczuk – TB Source

The age threshold for those to receive a COVID-19 vaccine could be lowered again in the Thunder Bay District this week according to the medical officer of health.

Dr. Janet DeMille, medical officer of health with the Thunder Bay District Health Unit, said vaccine appointments for those who are over the age of 70 should be opening up soon.

Currently in the district, vaccine appointments are available to those over the age of 75.

“We did want to make sure that was the next age group that had access to immunizations,” DeMille said. “We opened up a significant number of appointment slots for that.”

On Sunday, the provincial government announced 11 health units moving into offering the COVID-19 vaccine to those over the age of 70, including one in Northeastern Ontario.

The Thunder Bay District was not included in that initial announcement, but DeMille said

she expects the health unit will be able to begin offering vaccinations to those 70 and over this week.

“We wanted to be assured that 75 to 79 have access to those appointments. We will be opening it up to 70 plus and we anticipate that could happen this week,” she said.

Vaccine appointments in the district have been filling up within minutes of being open, though the health unit announced on Monday morning that appointments were still available for those over the age of 75.

There have been concerns expressed by public health and city officials on why Thunder Bay has not been labeled at COVID-19 hotspot and not included in the province’s pilot project to administer the AstraZeneca vaccine in pharmacies.

However, there have been concerns regarding the safety of AstraZeneca vaccine in Europe and on Monday, P.E.I. suspended use of the vaccine after it had allocated doses for people between the ages of 18 and 29 who work directly with the public.



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LOCAL NEWS

Turf facility to get meeting

City manager Norm Gale says April discussion will look at what comes next

CITY HALL
By Ian Kaufman – TB Source

Open questions about the future of a proposed indoor turf facility will find some answers – or at least a venue – at an April meeting of city council.

City manager Norm Gale announced at Monday’s council meeting he would convene a special, non-business meeting of council next month to identify potential next steps.

“In an effort to support council’s consideration of options that council may wish to proceed with, I will convene a non-business meeting that will happen in April,” he said.

No debate

Councillors will receive information and be able to ask questions, but the meeting format doesn’t allow for debate or decision-making.

Residents can watch the meeting as usual on television and via livestream, Gale said, and it will be promoted to the public once a date is set.

Councillors voted narrowly earlier this month not to move forward with awarding a tender for the \$37 million project.

The real cost to the city is estimated at roughly \$46 million over 25 years,



JUST SAID NO: City council last month voted not to award a tender to build the proposed indoor turf facility at Chapples Park.

thanks to around \$8.8 million in interest payments on a \$16.6 million debenture necessary to fund the project.

Council had voted 9-4 in the summer of 2020 to approve the indoor turf facility in principle, offering a home for activities including soccer, Ultimate Frisbee, cricket, football, lacrosse, and baseball training.

Opponents cited the facility’s rising price tag and the uncertain financial impacts of COVID-19 as key reasons to at least hit pause, though many said they remain committed to seeing the project completed eventually.

Mayor Bill Mauro warned before the tender vote that the current council could be running out of time to move forward with the project, which he has championed.

He has since expressed hope that council would move the ball forward.

Possibilities exist

“There are still opportunities there for sure,” Mauro said earlier this month. “I think most still want to see something. I think the work we’ve done over the last couple of years will ultimately lead to something for the community.”

Vaccines for Indigenous people 40+

HEALTH
By TB Source staff

Indigenous people living in the city of Thunder Bay who were born in 1981 or earlier can now book an appointment for a COVID-19 vaccine, along with non-Indigenous partners who reside in the same household.

Anishnawbe Mushkiki announced on Monday that in partnership with the Thunder Bay District Health Unit, Nookiwin Tribal Council, and the Indigenous Primary Health Care Council will be hosting a mass vaccination clinic for urban Indigenous people living in the city.

“Effective immediately, Indigenous residents of Thunder Bay over the age of 40 and their non-Indigenous partners residing in the same household will be able to start booking COVID-19 vaccination appointments online,” reads a statement issued by Anishnawbe Mushkiki. “Those born in 1981 or earlier, regardless if they’ve turned 40 yet this year are eligible to book an appointment.”

The province has identified Indigenous people as a priority for the COVID-19 in the first phase of the rollout.

“In honouring and respecting the Indigenous population as a priority, we trust that the people will honour this position on servicing and abiding by these guidelines,” the statement reads.

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Editorial

EDITORIAL

Give them a break

Ontario Premier Doug Ford has said the province will let students, parents and teachers know this week if the province will keep the revamped spring break in place, or push it back once again.

The main argument for moving it is the growing number of cases in southern Ontario and the arrival of the dreaded third wave of COVID-19.

The fear is students and their families might travel, or get together outside of the classroom.

The danger, however, is the risk of burning out teachers and students.

Spring break is a chance for everyone to recharge.

It's been a trying school year, to say the least, in Thunder Bay.

In-school learning has been paused through April 12, when the new spring break is scheduled to begin.

Teachers and education workers are doing what they do best from afar, trying to corral 25 students, keep them engaged and ensure that what's being taught is being both absorbed and comprehended.

It's even tougher for education workers working with special needs students.

Giving students and staff a one-week break, even if it means keeping them out of the classroom for another two weeks just to be safe, is what they need. It's what they deserve. And it's what needs to happen, Mr. Premier.

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Freeze admin salaries

To the editor:

The 2021 Sunshine List is out again and the results show Thunder Bay is at the top of the list for most city workers per capita making in excess of \$100,000 in the province.

In fact the average salary for Thunder Bay's 559 city employees on the sunshine list was \$127,012.

The sum of all these salaries was \$71 million.

City manager Norm Gale's salary of \$265,759 was also one of the most generous in the province per capita for a CAO of a municipality and is in the top one per cent of all those individuals in Canada who earn in excess of \$250,000.

We took data from 12 other cities in Ontario with populations closer to that of Thunder Bay's. Using an average figure we compared the results of the Sunshine List to those of Thunder Bay.

Here's what we found

1. Thunder Bay had 290 more employees on the sunshine list.
2. Thunder Bay taxpayers shelled out \$43 million more to these employees.
3. The average salary in Thunder Bay for employees on the Sunshine List was about \$4,000 higher.
4. Norm Gale's salary was \$19,593 higher compared to the other 12 CAOs

The cities we used in this comparison were Sault Ste. Marie, Sudbury, Guelph, Cambridge, Kingston, Whitby, Milton, Barrie, Ajax, Waterloo, and Chatham-Kent.

With salaries and wages accounting for the biggest part of our operating budgets it is no wonder Thunder Bay has the second highest taxes in the province of Ontario.

Combined with the economic uncertainty fueled by the pandemic now is not the time for another ambitious and risky infrastructure project such as the proposed indoor turf spectator facility.

It is the time however for management to set an example and freeze their salaries that combined, totalled more than \$10.5 million.

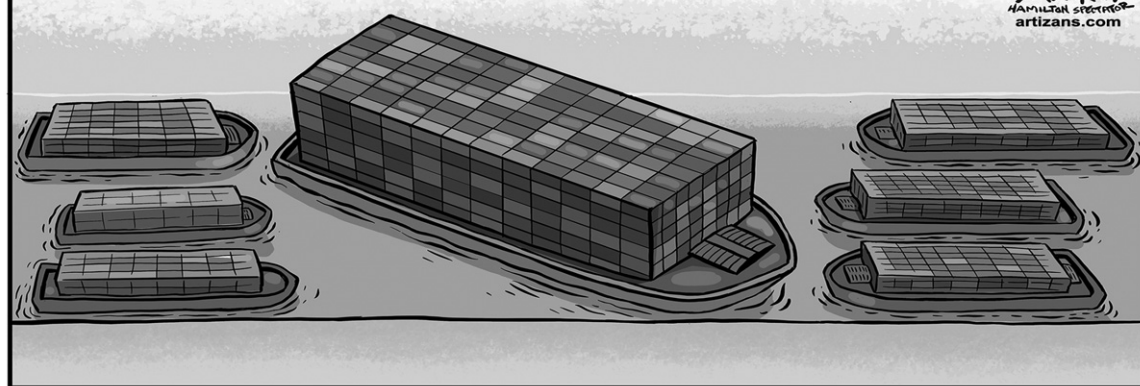
In addition positions need to be eliminated through attrition as the present status quo is not sustainable.

Ray Smith,
Thunder Bay

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WEEK IN REVIEW:

MASSIVE CONTAINER SHIP GETS STUCK IN SUEZ...



CANADIAN CONSERVATIVE LEADER GETS STUCK ON CARBON PRICING...



Tales of gypsy living

I am an English Romany Gypsy. I discovered my Indigenous ancestry while delving into my family history. This history had been hidden from me because of the acute social stigma that is still attached to the word 'Gypsy'.

My grandfather was born in a 'house cart'.

Also known as a vardo, caravan or wagon, the gaily painted house cart was once a common sight on Britain's roadsides. Gypsies would travel around the countryside seeking work on farms picking seasonal fruit, vegetables and hops during the spring, summer and autumn.



JOHN
PATEMAN

BOOK BANTER

Moved in

In the winter they would settle in large encampments on the edges of major cities where they told fortunes, sold lucky heather and clothes pegs, mended chairs and sharpened scissors and knives.

Brian Vesey-Fitzgerald tells the story of the *Gypsies of Britain*, from their arrival in Scotland in the 16th century until the termination of their traditional life style in the 1970s.

This is a history of relentless prejudice, discrimination and racism. From the moment that the 'Egyptians' (as they were first termed due to their colourful clothing which led to them being called Gypsies) set foot on British soil they were subjected to the most ruthless persecution.

At one point it was a capital offence punishable by death to live the traditional life of a Gypsy. Many Gypsies were executed and many more were transported for life to the colonies.

In *Smoke In the Lanes*, Dominic Reeves describes

what life on the road was like for English Gypsies in the 1950s when the Romany people lived on the brink of great change. In their bright wooden wagons they journeyed between horse fairs and traditional stopping places – stoic, humorous and wild, often poverty stricken but protective of their freedom – on the fringe of a society that was soon to close around them.

Reeves describes the fairs, the joyful muddy squalor of an outdoor existence, and an unforgettable cast of fireside characters – bold children, fierce matri-

archs, and dandyish villains in snap-brimmed hats. He tells of sharp deals done and rings run around country policemen, of love affairs, dances and open air feasting in this vivid, memorable and unsparing record of a disappeared world.

Dromengro is the Gypsy word for Man of the Road, and Sven Berlin describes his life in the beech glades of the New Forest, where Gypsies lived for centuries before the modern world caught up with them.

Forced change

He witnessed the tragic conclusion of their traditional lifestyle: their camping grounds closed, their people forced into Council houses, crushed by a society that could not tolerate the exceptional, the eccentric or the nomadic.

No more would it be possible for George Borrow's *Petulengro* (The Romany Rye) to say: 'There's night and day, brother, both sweet things; sun, moon and stars, brother, all sweet things; there's likewise a wind on the heath. Life is very sweet, brother'. For the Gypsy, the wind on the heath no longer blows. But I will always be proud to be a Romany Gypsy.

John Pateman is CEO of the Thunder Bay Public Library.

Perspective

The air we breathe

Carbon pricing designed to reduce carbon emissions

OPINION

By J.R. Shermack
Special to TB Source

As Canadians continue going about their business while wearing masks and social distancing it is becoming clear how much our good health depends on the air that we breathe.

Each time we inhale we take it for granted that the air is fresh and clean and contains no pathogens or other substances that will harm us.

That belief has changed dramatically over the past year or so and we have learned that every breath we take has the potential for serious harm.

But even before the pandemic disrupted our lives and exposed our false sense of security we were well aware of another danger, the "other" airborne existential threat.

Action required

Climate change due to carbon emissions is still disputed by some die-hards but the mounting scientific evidence makes it tough to deny the proven facts.

This threat is not as immediate as COVID-19, but predictions show that the effects will be even more devastating in the long term.

Calls for action on climate change are getting more desperate but progress has been hobbled by political, personal, financial and other ideological self-interests.

Ideology continues to be a barrier to positive action and both

sides of the climate change issue have been wasting valuable time by taking the case to court.

One issue in particular was decided recently by the highest court in the land and the Canadian Government got the go-ahead to continue using a carbon tax to curb emissions.

Some are overjoyed by the decision and others are disappointed - the court was asked to determine if it was legal to make Canadians pay for their carbon footprints.

Last week the Supreme Court of Canada ruled that climate change and carbon emissions are a threat to the entire country and a coordinated national approach is needed.

Accordingly, the Canadian government can legally enact laws dealing with this matter of national (and international) concern and the carbon tax is constitutionally justified.

In its decision the court affirmed Parliament's right to legislate on matters of "peace, order and good government" for the benefit of all Canadians.

The plan first introduced by the Trudeau government in 2018 is now official, putting a price on carbon for both industrial polluters and regular consumers.

The current level of \$30 per tonne of greenhouse gas goes up to \$40 this April - this translates into an extra 8.8 cents per litre of gas at the pump.

The carbon price will continue to

rise every year until it reaches \$170 per tonne in 2030, making for a total hike of 39.6 cents per litre.

These measures aim to reduce carbon emissions by 32 per cent which modestly exceeds our agreed to Paris Accord goal of 30 per cent.

But will it succeed - simply put, a carbon tax attaches a monetary penalty to every tonne of carbon emitted into the atmosphere and makes emitters pay the price.

How not to pay

Avoiding the carbon tax becomes the incentive to explore low carbon options in industrial production and consumer purchasing.

For example, the rising cost of gasoline might accelerate the demand for electric vehicles.

Increasing taxes on fossil fuels will force industrialists to consider using alternate sources of energy and more eco-friendly production facilities.

Carbon pricing is a market-based strategy widely considered to be a powerful, efficient and flexible tool for reducing carbon emissions.

The Canadian government hopes to use this tool to encourage a reduction in carbon emissions and speed the transition to a cleaner, low-carbon economy.

Many Canadians are happy with the Supreme Court ruling - some are calling it a final confirmation that climate change is real.

It's as real as the air we breathe.

UPLIFTING EXPERIENCE



IN THE AIR TONIGHT: Synergy North crews last Thursday install a hydro pole behind an Edward Street home.

LEITH DUNICK

A look back in history:

Kings Garden

In 1899 Joseph G. King of Port Arthur acquired a fine residence on North Algoma Street bordering McVicar Creek. An elevator man by profession, King had a passion for city beautification. He started with his own property, turning raw bush into a fabulous private park, known locally as King's Gardens, which became a tourist attraction featured often on postcards.



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.

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THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

your
VOICE

Should Ontario teachers be given the COVID-19 vaccine over spring break?

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TOTAL VOTES: 2,420

YES 73.35% NO 22.89% DON'T KNOW 3.76%

LOCAL NEWS

Salons get reprieve

Province to let salons open for haircuts April 12

BUSINESS
By Doug Diaczuk – TB Source

The announcement that salons and barber shops can once again welcome clients inside next month despite an area being under lockdown is welcome news for local owners, though there are some concerns that limited capacity could present more challenges.

“We are extremely excited,” said Bryan Fresco, owner of The Barber Shop in Westfort. “It’s going to be exciting to get back behind the chair and see our customers and our friends and people who locally come into our business.”

Personal care services were forced to close during grey lockdowns as part of the provincial government’s COVID-19 response framework.

Long layoff

According to Fresco, since last March, his shop has been closed for 170 days and counting due to several lockdowns.

“The uncertainty has really gotten to us. It’s nice knowing we are going back to work and be where we want to be,” he said.

“We enjoy doing what we do. That’s why we chose to be hair cutters, because we enjoy being behind our chairs and being with our customers. It was a difficult year for the industry.”

The provincial government announced on Friday that indoor hair cutting will be permitted for areas still under a grey lockdown as of April 12, though capacity will be limited to 25 per cent or a maximum of five people.

The limits on capacity have Michael Muia, owner of Michael’s



NOT OPEN: The Barber Shop has been closed for more than 170 days total.

Hair Design and Day Spa, concerned.

“It’s kind of bittersweet,” Muia said of the announcement. “We are happy we are getting to reopen, but on the other hand, a five person capacity, that’s all great if you have a small salon with one or two people. If you have a large establishment, you can pretty much lose five people in this place. It’s going to be a scheduling nightmare.”

Throughout the pandemic, those in the personal support care industry have expressed frustrations over having to close. A rally in Thunder Bay was held earlier this month, pressuring the province to allow services to resume.

“Everyone has said it has been unfair all this time,” Muia said. “Now that we can reopen, they still have their heels dug in because

it’s like throwing us a little bone and saying we can reopen our doors. What they should do is base it on capacity and square footage.

Same with restaurants.”

Muia added he has had to reinvent his business numerous times over the years, but this is the biggest reinvention he’s ever had to do.

“But going forward, I’m positive I’ve done it before, and I know we have a great group of people, and clients are already texting us asking when they can get in,” he said. “This is going to be great that we can do this, but challenging in how we are going to do this.”

Safety first

Fresco, who is celebrating an important milestone this year after his father Armando first opened the shop 60 years ago, said customer safety will always be put first and he will be following whatever stipulations are put forward by the health unit and province.

“We cut our client’s hair and make them look good,” he said. “The last thing we ever want to do is harm any of our clients. We are going to do everything it takes to make sure they are safe when they come into our businesses.”



IAN KAUFFMAN

HOPEFUL: Port of Thunder Bay CEO Tim Heney is optimistic about the upcoming shipping season.

Shipping season begins

SHIPPING
By Ian Kaufman – TB Source

Thunder Bay’s shipping season kicked off on a high note over the weekend, with eight ships expected to be in the harbour by the end of Saturday.

The tug *Sharon M1* and barge *Huron Spirit* earned top-hat honours as the first ship to officially arrive in 2021, coming abeam of the Mission Pier entrance at 11:32 p.m. last Friday.

The tug-barge also opened the 2020 navigation season exactly one year ago, the port noted.

The ceremony that usually marks the occasion may have been cancelled due to COVID-19, but the pandemic has hardly had a negative impact on operations, said Port of Thunder Bay CEO Tim Heney.

Still going strong

Far from it, the port experienced a banner year in 2020, with the pandemic helping to drive up demand for Canadian wheat in foreign markets, with wheat shipments through the port reaching their highest levels since the 1990s.

“[COVID-19] hasn’t been an extreme barrier for the port so far,” he said Saturday. “People are adapting.”

Two lake-going cargo vessels followed the *Sharon M1* early Saturday morning to load grain, with six more anticipated throughout the remainder of the day. Their arrival followed the opening of the Soo

Locks on March 24, a day earlier than usual.

“It’s been a good start, a very quick start – not much ice to break this year, so it’s pretty clear going,” Heney said, with ice in the harbour at only about half of its usual thickness of about three feet.

Two icebreakers cleared the way in the harbour over recent weeks, *USCGC Alder* from Duluth, and the Canadian Coast Guard vessel *Samuel Risley*, which remained in port Saturday.

Left town

Two wintering vessels also departed Thunder Bay earlier this week with bulk grain: *MV Blair McKeil* and *MV Algoma Strongfield*.

Heney is optimistic the 2021 season will resemble last year’s, when the city regained the title of largest Canadian Great Lakes port.

In addition to booming grain shipments, Heney credits increased inbound cargo as another factor in the port’s recent success. That includes fertilizer bound for the prairies, steel, and wind turbines.

“The most unusual thing [this year] is the fertilizer we started last December – we’ve never had inbound fertilizer before,” he said.

“That’s a perfect match [with] the ocean ships going out with grain. Normally they come into port empty. This’ll be the first time we have full loads both ways, which is certainly something that helps the economics of the seaway.”

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Be prepared for spring fishing time



**KEITH
AILEY**

THE GOOD LIFE



RANDY BEAMISH

GREAT CATCH: Columnist Keith Ailey hauls in a trophy brook trout while fishing the waterways of Northwestern Ontario.

Early spring is the time of year when I like to do a bit of preparation work to ensure I am set up for success each time I head out angling in the upcoming season.

Between work and family commitments, fishing time is precious and there is definitely no time to waste looking for gear, fumbling with tangled line or losing fish because of dull hooks.

Now is the time to take inventory, get organized and replace or repair anything that is worn out.

Take inventory. There is an overwhelming selection of fishing tackle available to the modern angler. With thousands of lure options and multiple sizes and colours for each, there are literally millions of choices in a well-stocked tackle store.

However, deciding what to fill your tacklebox with does not have to make you dizzy. There are a couple proven favourites for each species of fish, and those are really all we need (most of the time).

While I am guilty of having way too much fishing gear, the honest truth is that I have a very small selection of

“go-to” options for each species, and I always reach for those first.

It is only when the bite is off that I start digging out the other stuff.

I would recommend just refilling the supply of favourite lures in your tacklebox and maybe purchase a few extra

as backup to keep the box topped up all season long.

Get organized. There is nothing worse than running around the night before a fishing trip looking for your licence, tackleboxes, rain gear, PFD and other essential gear.

After making that mistake too many times, I now keep everything organized in a few key areas. If I am heading out in the boat, I have a big dry bag with everything I will need on the water.

If I am hiking up some river looking

for trout, I have another bag full of essential gear that is ready to go.

Ice fishing also has a dedicated storage box in the garage and all my different fishing rods are organized on a series of rod racks in the basement.

The relaxed feeling one gets by being organized and efficient is well worth the time it takes to get there.

Replace and repair. Making the mistake of heading out on a multi-day fishing trip with old line, rusty hooks or leaky rain gear is a mistake you do not want to make.

Pulling old monofilament line off the reels and respooling with fresh line can not only save you from the frustration of dealing with tangles, but it can also save you from snapping off and losing that trophy fish you have been after.

Similarly, I like to replace any rusted hooks in my box, recharge the breathable rain gear with a waterproofing spray, and patch any holes in the waders right now so I do not have to deal with bigger problems once the fishing season heats up.

Most of us probably are not thinking about fishing yet, but investing some free time right now can really pay off down the road.

In May, when we get an invite to go out fishing, or hear of a hot bite, we can be ready to roll in minutes thanks to some pre-season planning and organization.

Dealing with grief and loss in a pandemic

Grief is perhaps one of the most complex of human emotions. The word itself is reflective of a multitude of different emotions and stages; its complexity only compounded during the current global pandemic.

Grief is triggered as a natural reaction to loss. “Loss” does not simply mean the passing of a loved one.

The examples of loss that people experience are countless: the ending of an important relationship, the loss of a pet, job loss, loss of safety through being the target of a crime, loss of independence through disability, and so forth.

Grief is the emotional rollercoaster that follows after someone experiences a loss.

It is an overwhelming, often debilitating

emotion. The presentation of grief will vary depending on which stage of the cycle one finds themselves in. Grief is typically understood in the following five stages:

- **Denial:** “This isn’t real, this can’t be happening.”
- **Anger:** “Why is this happening? Who can I blame? How dare this happen to me.”
- **Bargaining:** “Please make this stop happening and in exchange I will...”
- **Depression:** “I’m immobilized by this sadness.”
- **Acceptance:** “I am at peace with what has happened.”

One of the most important things to understand however, is that grief is not always linear. Individuals are taught these stages and subse-

quently made to feel as if processing them out of order is not acceptable. Grief is not linear. Individuals will jump between the stages, often more than once.

Some individuals, depending on the circumstance of the loss, may not even experience all of the stages. There is no ‘typical’ response to loss; every experience will carry with it its own unique circumstances and feelings. The point is: this is OK.

The symptoms of loss will vary: they will vary depending on the stage one finds themselves in, and they will vary from one individual to the next. Some of the potential symptoms though, include shock, disbelief, sadness, guilt, anger, fear, fatigue, trouble sleeping and aches and pains.

So what does grief look like during a global pandemic?

The layers are amplified and the stages are even

further highlighted.

Families are finding themselves in positions where extremely difficult things, such as the death of a loved one, are made even more challenging: being together during these times is not currently an option. Limitations on funeral numbers are causing families to make even more difficult decisions.

Individuals feeling the loss of an important relationship or job, are now feeling further isolated due to the current restrictions. When loss happens, people naturally want to get together to bond and share in pain; the inability to do that, is also a loss.

Grief can feel debilitating, and isolation can make processing that grief feel impossible. I need you to hear that you are not alone. We are here, at any time, for you to make the call and get support.



**DANIELLE
RIDER**

DORSET PIER
MENTAL HEALTH

Dreaded Murphy strikes again

If it could go wrong, it has, caring for the horses on the farm

It had to happen sooner or later: Murphy!

You know, Murphy's Law that states the principle that "whatever can possibly go wrong, will." Well, it did and, typically, at the worst time, too.

Murphy likes to visit Farmer Fred, not often, at least not as often as he did. Life toddled on fairly smoothly and any mess-ups were usually caused and acknowledged by said farmer. "Dang! (or a word to that effect), I messed up again!" I was heard to growl.

Horsing around

Example: three of the horses on our property spend their day in a divided paddock. It used to be two, but I took down the boards separating the two at the narrowest place so that the equines could now wander twixt each paddock.

Most times the horses are standing,

waiting at the gate nearest the barn, ready to lead inside. But on two occasions, they have waited at the further gate. Fair enough. If it is me alone, I halter the two bossier ones, open the gate, and hope all goes well bringing them inside.

It almost always goes smoothly.

But being possessed with a failing memory (age or years of cooking with aluminium pots?), twice after bringing the horses in for the night, I have forgotten to go back and close that far gate. Result?

The next morning when I'm leading each horse outside to the paddock, I always send them through the near gate.

Back into the barn I trudge and after a minute, I hear thunder hooves outside.

What the...? The two horses have discovered the open gate and are now joyfully charging around the yard and even around the oval.

Now I must quickly toss some treats into a feed dish and try to coax them back into the paddock which eventually I did.

The horses don't go anywhere. They just like to go visit with the others but...

Whew!

Those are the most recent examples of me messing up without any help from 'Murphy'.

But it snowed last week. I saw that those two horses in our western paddock needed another round, hay bale so I fired up my ancient tractor, Big Red, and drove to grab a bale from the storage area in the barn, and then after bribing the horses each with a dish of treats, managed to open the upper gate to their paddock and deposit the bale sans incident.

But when I climbed down from Red to open the gate, I noticed fluid pouring from the heater. I quickly completed the task of getting the bale inside the paddock, backing Red back out, and closing the gate while the two horses were happily munching their treats.

Then I motored back to the shelter where Red sleeps when not being used.

The snowstorm had deposited enough of the white stuff to warrant some snow removal where the winds had caused drifts in front of barn doors.

I hadn't yet removed the snow blower from Red's rear but now with the massive leak, Red was out of commission until I could fix.

So what had caused the leak? I

inspected the hose where it attaches to the heater. The very end of the hose had rotted. I fetched a screwdriver and undid the clamp and removed the hose.

It was then that radiator fluid (it is all connected) poured out fortunately into the bucket. Well, mostly. Some spilled in its haste unto the ground beneath Red. I would have to get some dirt to cover the spill as dogs love radiator fluid and it is deathly poison to them.

Tried to fix

So, I cut the rotted piece of hose off and then tried to affix the hose back onto the heater. It was tough going, but it just fit.

Now to refill the radiator. What? No anti-freeze/coolant? Rats! Now I have to drive to a store and buy a couple of jugs of the stuff.

Even after emptying two jugs and reusing the fluid that spilled into the bucket, it still wasn't enough. Now I had to make another trip to the store to get more of the anti-freeze/coolant.

But it seems that peace, order, and good government hath been restored Chez Farmer Fred.

For now.

Thanks Murphy. Go bug someone else.

Woman wins \$664K draw

THUNDER BAY

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Edna Parsons thought she might be the victim of an early April Fools prank.

Instead, after having officials at the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Foundation check and recheck her ticket number, she was \$664,885 richer on Friday.

Parsons is the winner of the second installation of the foundation's

Thunder Bay 50/50 draw, to help the hospital purchase new equipment and cover costs not paid for through provincial funding.

"Really?" Parsons asked, reached by phone on Friday

by Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Foundation CEO Glenn Craig.

"It's a pretty nice sum of money on a Friday afternoon," Craig said.

The next draw is April 30.



FRED JONES

RURAL ROOTS



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Hopkins masterful in *The Father*



**MARTY
MASCARINI**
MOVIE TALK

In *The Father* (Shaw Premiere) Anthony Hopkins gives an achingly touching performance as a man succumbing to the horrors of dementia.

The film generated much buzz at the Toronto International Film Festival (virtual edition) in 2020 and it's easy to see why he has an Oscar nomination. Hopkins is positively masterful.

Director Florian Zeller has skillfully adapted the screenplay from his own award-winning 2012 play assisted by Christopher Hampton.

The script, combined with editing and set design, brilliantly captures the unease, confusion and disorientation that torments one's mind as memory and sense of self begin to falter.

Few other films dealing with dementia are as consistently strong in all areas. Zeller impresses in his cinematic directorial debut.

The audience shares in the bewilderment as different actors play the same roles, enabling us to identify with Hopkins' Anthony whose discomfiture escalates as faces become increasingly unrecognizable.

Ditto with the furnishings in the apartment he occupies. What is real and what is hallucinated?

Initially, we meet Anthony's daughter Anne played by Olivia Colman, arriving at the apartment to check on her father, who's just had a disagreeable time with yet another caregiver Anne had hired to assist in looking after her dad. Then the scene is repeated, but this time to



PARENTAL GUIDANCE: Anthony Hopkins was nominated for an Oscar for his role in *The Father*.

Anthony's eyes Anne is someone totally different (Olivia Williams).

Things feel off, both for Anthony and the audience.

It's not only the faces but the characters' situational context that also flip-flops. Does the apartment belong to Anthony or to Anne?

Anne, long divorced, may be departing for Paris to live with a new love, news which elicits hurt from her dad. Or is she?

In another instance, Anne is arguing with her current partner Paul (Rufus Sewell) over whether to institutionalize Anthony (something he overhears). In yet another turn, Anne's partner is played by a different actor (Mark Gatiss.)

Both males are less than sympathetic towards Anthony, becoming emotionally and in one instance physically threatening, or at least as he perceives them.

An ongoing motif has Anthony constantly grumbling that his watch has been stolen. (It hasn't.) Anthony also misses visiting with his younger daughter Lucy that elicits troubled expressions from Anne.

Something ominous happened to Lucy that Anthony cannot recall.

As the film progresses, Hopkins' transformation is subtle, detailed and spectacular. His body language slowly devolves. His eyes are the most startling and intimate, betraying an increasing vagueness and emptiness as his disturbed mind tries to right a very faulty course.

Colman exemplifies the anguish and stress of family caregivers, barely holding it together in dealing with her double-edged father and respective partners who have conflicting views on caring for Anthony.

Hopkins' final scene is devastating, as Anthony becomes completely vulnerable and emotionally naked.

The Father is not an easy watch but it's a necessary one as Anthony's plight cries out for compassion and understanding.

Given the current concern surrounding long-term care facilities and the need for stronger support, the message from *The Father* is inarguable.

LANDMARK MEDIA

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Kardashians are part of our lexicon

Keeing Up with the Kardashians is set to end this season after 14 years on the air. The show gave viewers a backstage pass into the life of a wealthy family known only for their famous fathers and a sex tape. Yet, *KUWTK* spent 20 seasons becoming a hit.

Ironically, depending on who you talk to, it can be difficult to find someone who will actually admit to watching it.

But someone did. Because the family has made billions and changed pop culture like no one else.

When the show started in 2007, the youngest kids – Kylie and Kendall – weren't even in their teens and the husband was still named Bruce. Fast forward and the family has ten babies, nine spinoff shows, and multiple new businesses. And Bruce is now Caitlyn.

Originally, they were the butt of jokes, taunted as being “famous for being famous.” But the ladies K knew how to self-promote.



Kim understood that social media was going to be her ticket to infamy. So she posted everything she did (with as much cleavage as possible) and monetized everything she posted. Fashion lines and a personal “brand” followed.

Soon her sisters were following suit and an empire was born.

Clothing, intimate-wear, accessories, and make-up all got the Kardashian touch. Even the publicity-shy brother,

Rob, co-owns a line of socks. (Yeah, didn't know socks required a “line” either.)

And it all became the next big thing. But one has to wonder why. It's not like they had anything in common with the buying public.

Yet, the family has “broken the internet” with a butt, a hairstyle, and a baby. Unfortunately, they were outdone by, of all things ... an egg – which doesn't say much for the social media crowd – for the most-liked Instagram post ever.

The family has also allowed cameras to follow their dramas: Jenner's gender transition, Kim's wedding ceremonies, the drug treatment, infidelities, pregnancies, and divorces. Of course, most of it came in staged scenes that were watched months after the tabloids had already covered the stories.

But viewers liked to think they were finally getting the real story of what

happened.

Despite their influence on social media and the Twitter-verse, nobody ever saw *KUWTK* as life-changing content. Yet their impact is undeniable, even to the highest levels. In 2018 while working on a law degree, Kim wrangled a meeting with the president to ask for clemency for a 63-year-old woman convicted of non-violent drug charges. (She got it.)

Of course, without a reality star in the Oval Office, it's unlikely this reality star would have gotten in.

But the Kardashians have always known how to strike when the iron is hot.

So whether it's a late-night punchline or just general conversation, the Kardashians have become part of our lexicon – even for those who never watched. Once they're gone, what then?

Of course, these are the Kardashians. And they'll never truly leave the media eye.



LONGEVITY: Keeping up with the Kardashians has been on for 20 seasons.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 1 Small armadillo
- 5 Sheep disease
- 8 Cricket field
- 12 Cheese
- 13 Argument
- 14 Great (Ger.)
- 15 Depute
- 17 Gnarl
- 18 Guido's note (2 words)
- 19 Wattle tree
- 21 Cape
- 22 Monkey
- 23 Wasted
- 25 Joss
- 29 Vitiate
- 32 Face
- 33 Habakkuk (abbr.)
- 35 Clasp
- 36 Heart auricle
- 38 Met (2 words)
- 40 City on the Irtys
- 42 Underhand

DOWN

- 1 Foot (suf.)
- 2 Noble (Ger.)
- 3 Geological epoch
- 4 Soul or spirit (Fr.)
- 5 Ashen
- 6 Greek letter
- 7 Bide
- 8 Tree
- 9 Use
- 10 Fluorine (pref.)
- 11 Carnelian
- 16 Federal agent
- 20 Tract
- 22 Turk. sultan
- 24 E. Indian term

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

SKEP BIBB BMX
 CADI ODEA LEA
 AKIN RESIDENT
 NITON TRES
 TOGETHER DIDO
 ODE LEWIS NAS
 MOLL SENNIGHT
 BRAVO NEED
 SIRE DEUCE
 MUTILATE ABAS
 ALI OSHA TEEN
 OEC PEAR ERNE

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14		
15			16					17		
18			19				20		21	
		22			23		24			
25	26	27				28		29		30 31
32				33			34		35	
36			37		38		39			
		40			41		42			
43	44			45		46			47	48 49
50			51			52			53	
54						55			56	
57						58			59	

- of address
- 25 Mountain on Crete
- 26 Insect egg
- 27 Vitamin A source
- 28 Sound perception
- 30 Used to express negation
- 31 Boxing decision
- 34 Equilibrium
- 37 Cleopatra's serpent
- 39 Jap. food alga
- 41 Inuit sealskin boot
- 43 Great omentum
- 44 Qualified
- 46 Yemen capital
- 47 Haw. goose
- 48 Grape disease
- 49 Egypt. crown
- 51 Pers. gateway
- 53 Devotee

WORD SEARCH

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

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

Sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9.

3								6
	4				8	5	1	2
	5				1		4	
2				8				
		6		4	3			
4				6			8	1
7			5		2			
								5
		3	7					

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“TICWHIC RHI SZI ONVCIC BA SZI
 CBNV; RC OZGCWEWRPC LNTJI XG SZI
 ROOISWSI, CB URG GBN XG TICWHIC.”

– URPSBP

PREVIOUS SOLUTION: “One of the weaknesses of our age is our apparent inability to distinguish our need from our greed.” – Author Unknown

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Baseball picks and prognostication

BASEBALL

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

I think I'm starting to feel the prediction pressure. Two years ago I picked the Washington Nationals to win the World Series over the Houston Astros.

Thanks to Howie Kendrick, it happened.

Then last year, not knowing what was going to emerge from the pandemic-shortened season, I peered into my crystal ball (there's an app for that) and predicted the Los Angeles Dodgers would defeat the Tampa Bay Rays.

That's how it played out.

No, I don't have access to Biff Tannen's sports almanac from the future. I wish.

This year I'm going with the Yankees over the Dodgers. Just don't tell David Pineau, the SSSAA sports director and the biggest Yankees fan this side of the *Chronicle-Journal's* Reuben Villagracia. Don't tell him, either.

We've got a little new blood in our prediction pool this year. Jordan Lester, a local lawyer and a huge baseball fan, asked to join the fun. Ryan Gagnon is back, another huge ball fan, slo-pitch legend and booster of that soon-to-be-renamed team in Cleveland.

Then there's some of the usual Dougall Media suspects, including CKPR news director Bryan Wyatt and reporter Ted Jessop and sales executive Ryan La Via, who is trying to catch up to me in ballparks visited.

No surprise, the Yankees, Dodgers, Braves and White Sox are the front-runners in 2021. The Padres drew a lot of love too. Just not sure they've got enough to topple their neighbours to the north.



CONTENDERS: A revamped Toronto Blue Jays squad is in the hunt for MLB's postseason in 2021.

- **NL wild-card:** Los Angeles Dodgers, Washington Nationals
- **World Series:** Atlanta Braves over Chicago White Sox
- **AL MVP:** Mike Trout, Los Angeles Angels
- **AL Cy Young:** Lucas Giolito, Chicago White Sox
- **AL Rookie:** Ryan Mountcastle, Baltimore Orioles
- **NL MVP:** Mookie Betts, Los Angeles Dodgers
- **NL Cy Young:** Jacob de Grom, New York Mets
- **NL Rookie:** Ke'Bryan Hayes, Pittsburgh Pirates

Bryan Wyatt
CKPR Radio

- **AL East:** New York Yankees
- **AL Central:** Chicago White Sox
- **AL West:** Los Angeles Angels
- **AL wild-card:** Tampa Bay Rays, Minnesota Twins
- **NL East:** New York Mets
- **NL Central:** Milwaukee Brewers
- **NL West:** Los Angeles Dodgers
- **NL wild-card:** San Diego Padres, Atlanta Braves
- **World Series:** Los Angeles Dodgers over Chicago White Sox
- **AL MVP:** Mike Trout, L.A. Angels
- **AL Cy Young:** Gerritt Cole, New York Yankees
- **AL Rookie:** Nick Madrigal, Chicago White Sox
- **NL MVP:** Mookie Betts, Los Angeles Dodgers
- **NL Cy Young:** Walker Buehler, Los Angeles Dodgers
- **NL Rookie:** Ian Anderson, Atlanta Braves

Leith Dunick
Editor, TB Source

- **AL East:** New York Yankees
- **AL Central:** Chicago White Sox
- **AL West:** Oakland Athletics
- **AL wild-card:** Minnesota Twins, Toronto Blue Jays
- **NL East:** Atlanta Braves
- **NL Central:** St. Louis Cardinals
- **NL West:** Los Angeles Dodgers
- **NL wild-card:** New York Mets, San Diego Padres
- **World Series:** New York Yankees over Los Angeles Dodgers
- **AL MVP:** Mike Trout, Los Angeles Angels
- **AL Cy Young:** Gerrit Cole, New York Yankees
- **AL Rookie:** Wander Franco, Tampa Bay Rays
- **NL MVP:** Juan Soto, Washington Nationals
- **NL Cy Young:** Blake Snell, San Diego Padres
- **NL Rookie:** Dylan Carlson, St. Louis Cardinals

Jordan Lester
Blue Jays Booster

- **AL East:** New York Yankees
- **AL Central:** Minnesota Twins

- **AL West:** Oakland Athletics
- **AL wild-card:** Toronto Blue Jays, Chicago White Sox
- **NL East:** Atlanta Braves
- **NL Central:** St. Louis Cardinals
- **NL West:** San Diego Padres
- **NL wild-card:** Los Angeles Dodgers, New York Mets
- **World Series:** San Diego Padres over Oakland Athletics
- **AL MVP:** Mike Trout, L.A. Angels
- **AL Cy Young:** Gerrit Cole, New York Yankees
- **AL Rookie:** Jarred Kelenic, Seattle Mariners
- **NL MVP:** Nolan Arenado, St. Louis Cardinals
- **NL Cy Young:** Max Fried, Atlanta Braves
- **NL Rookie:** Sixto Sanchez, Miami Marlins

Ryan Gagnon
Cleveland Crusader

- **AL East:** New York Yankees
- **AL Central:** Chicago White Sox
- **AL West:** Oakland Athletics
- **AL wild-card:** Minnesota Twins, Toronto Blue Jays

- **Blue Jays**
- **NL East:** Atlanta Braves
- **NL Central:** St. Louis Cardinals
- **NL West:** San Diego Padres
- **World Series:** L.A. Dodgers over Chicago White Sox
- **AL MVP:** Jose Ramirez, Cleveland
- **AL Cy Young:** Shane Bieber, Cleveland
- **AL Rookie:** Jarred Kelenic, Seattle Mariners
- **NL MVP:** Mookie Betts, L.A. Dodgers
- **NL Cy Young:** Jacob de Grom, New York Mets
- **NL Rookie:** Ian Anderson, Atlanta Braves

Ted Jessop
CKPR Radio

- **AL East:** New York Yankees
- **AL Central:** Chicago White Sox
- **AL West:** Houston Astros
- **AL wild-card:** Minnesota Twins, Toronto Blue Jays
- **NL East:** Atlanta Braves
- **NL Central:** St. Louis Cardinals
- **NL West:** San Diego Padres

Ryan La Via
Baseball wanderer, movie maker

- **AL East:** New York Yankees
- **AL Central:** Chicago White Sox
- **AL West:** Oakland Athletics
- **AL wild-card:** Minnesota Twins, Boston Red Sox
- **NL East:** Atlanta Braves
- **NL Central:** St. Louis Cardinals
- **NL West:** Los Angeles Dodgers
- **NL wild-card:** San Diego Padres, Philadelphia Phillies
- **World Series:** Los Angeles Dodgers over Chicago White Sox
- **AL MVP:** Jose Abreu, Chicago White Sox
- **AL Cy Young:** Lucas Giolito, Chicago White Sox
- **AL Rookie:** Randy Arozarena, Tampa Bay Rays
- **NL MVP:** Freddie Freeman, Atlanta Braves
- **NL Cy Young:** Trevor Bauer, Los Angeles Dodgers
- **NL Rookie:** Dylan Carlson, St. Louis Cardinals

Habs give Staal a win-win

Veteran NHL forward wants to put forgettable time in Buffalo in the past

NHL

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Eric Staal says at some point during his six-hour drive from Buffalo to Montreal, he got goose bumps thinking about the opportunity that lays ahead.

The 36-year-old, facing a seven-day quarantine after being traded by the flat-lining Buffalo Sabres for a pair of 2021 draft picks, is joining a Montreal Canadiens squad in the thick of the NHL's North Division hunt and looking to turn themselves into a Stanley Cup contender.

The trade brought an end to a tumultuous season with the Sabres and gives him the opportunity to do what he likes best about the game of hockey.

"I just want to win. I want to be out there and win and be competitive and try to help our group win games, wherever that is in the lineup, I will do what I can. I feel like I've got some game left in me and I can be a contributor," Staal said on Sunday morning, meeting with members of the media via Zoom, as he continues his modified seven-day quarantine in Canada before being allowed to join the Canadiens line-up.

Tough situation

Staal, who at the time he was traded last summer said he was shocked to be on the move, on Sunday said there were just too many hurdles to overcome in Buffalo.

"There were so many things that just didn't line up the way that we had in mind or had envisioned. The reality is we started OK. We had an up-and-down kind of couple of first two weeks or. We were kind of finding our game and filling our roles and then we got hit with COVID," said Staal, who won a Stanley Cup in 2006 with the Carolina Hurricanes, the team he spent the first 12 seasons of his NHL career.

"I just want to win."
ERIC STAAL

"It went through our room like wild fire and it wasn't great. Two weeks of guys battling that – and a couple of guys battling it pretty hard – it was difficult. We kind of, after that when we came back, never found any footing. And then injuries started to mount," he said.

"And in that division, when you're playing teams that don't beat themselves, it's difficult."

For Staal, it's been the worst offensive output of his 17-year career. In 32 games the veteran forward, who has 1,031 points in 1,232 games, had just three goals and seven assists for a team that has managed just six wins all season long and are currently on a 17-game losing streak.

He sees plenty of possibilities with the Habs (14-8-9), who have a mix of veteran talent like goaltender Carey Price and defenceman Shea Weber and up-and-comers like Nick Suzuki.

"It's crazy and the fact that now I'm a Montreal Canadien is exciting. It's an unbelievable market and obviously a phenomenal place to be



MOVING NORTH: Eric Staal is looking forward to continuing his NHL career in Montreal, his first Canadian stop.

an NHL player. So I feel grateful for that and an opportunity and I'm going to embrace it," said Staal, whose two-year, \$6.5-million contract ends after the 2020-21 campaign.

"I'm just going to do what I can and I look forward to the challenge."

Misses his family

One thing he's not looking forward to is more time away from his family, who remained in Minnesota after last summer's trade.

The veteran forward had to waive a partial no-trade clause in his contract to move to Montreal, relenting when the federal government cut the quarantine requirement for NHLers from 14 days to seven.

He's got his fingers crossed that border restrictions will ease to allow his wife and three children, all 11 and younger, to visit.

"Hopefully, as we move forward in the next little time, I'd love to see us go on a run and we can get my family up here to enjoy a game here at the Bell Centre because there's no place better to play."

For now, he'll just enjoy the rest.

ERIC STAAL CAREER NHL STATS

Season	TM	GP	G	A	PTS
2003-04	CAR	81	11	20	31
2005-06*	CAR	82	45	55	100
2006-07	CAR	82	30	40	70
2007-08	CAR	82	38	44	82
2008-09	CAR	82	40	35	75
2009-10**	CAR	70	29	41	70
2010-11	CAR	81	33	43	76
2011-12	CAR	82	24	46	70
2012-13	CAR	48	18	35	53
2013-14	CAR	79	21	40	61
2014-15	CAR	77	23	31	54
2015-16	CAR	62	10	23	33
	NYR	20	3	3	6
2016-17	MIN	82	28	27	65
2017-18	MIN	82	42	34	76
2018-19	MIN	81	22	30	52
2019-20	MIN	66	19	28	47
2020-21	BUF	32	3	7	10
	MTL	0	0	0	0
TOTAL		1272	439	592	1031

*Won Stanley Cup

** Won Olympic gold medal

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06. Cottages
07. Commercial for Sale
08. Investment Property
09. Out of Town
10. Real Estate Wanted
- FOR RENT**
11. Houses
12. Apartments
13. Rooms
14. Room & Board
15. Shared Accommodations
16. Cottages
17. Commercial
18. Storage/Space
19. Wanted
20. Condos
21. Miscellaneous

- MERCHANDISE**
22. Bargain corner
23. Misc. For Sale
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26. Office Equip.
27. Machinery
28. Pets & Livestock
29. Food
30. Misc. Wanted
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36. Motor Homes
37. Marine Equip.
38. Snowmobiles
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40. Current River
41. Northward
42. Southward
43. Westfort
44. Rural
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45. Auctions
46. Health
47. Travel
48. Financial
49. Lost & Found
50. Personal
51. Notices
52. Tenders

- BUSINESS & SERVICES**
53. General Services
54. Home Improvements
55. Bus. Opportunities
56. Training Courses

- EMPLOYMENT**
57. Help Wanted
58. Careers
59. Child Care
60. Health Care
61. Employment Wanted
62. Students For Hire
- ANNOUNCEMENTS**
63. Coming Events
64. Craft & Flea Markets
65. Happy Ads
66. Cards of Thanks
67. In Memoriam
68. Death/Funerals

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54. LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS
In the Estate of
WILLIAM McKAY DUNLOP

All Persons having claims against the Estate of WILLIAM McKAY DUNLOP, late of Thunder Bay, ON, deceased, who died on or about January 22, 2021, are hereby notified to send particulars of the same to the undersigned on or before April 22, 2021, after which date the estate will be distributed, with regard only to the claims of which the undersigned shall then have notice and the undersigned will not then be liable to any person of whose claims they shall not then have notice. Dated at Thunder Bay, Ontario on the 25th day of March, 2021.

RICHARD CHILDS, ESTATE TRUSTEE c/o ERICKSONS LLP ATTN: KENNETH E. ERICKSON
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70. PUZZLE ANSWERS

70. PUZZLE ANSWERS

ANSWERS TO THIS WEEK'S PUZZLES

P	E	B	A	G	I	D	O	F	F	S	D	E	Q	Q	C	G	A	E	D	I	S	P	U	G	V		
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D	E	L	E	G	A	T	E	K	N	U	R	W	I	S	E	L	Y	U	X	E	G	E	R	N	P	R	
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3	1	2	4	5	9	8	6	7
6	4	9	3	7	8	5	1	2
8	5	7	6	2	1	3	4	9
2	7	1	9	8	5	4	3	6
9	8	6	1	4	3	2	7	5
4	3	5	2	6	7	9	8	1
7	6	8	5	3	2	1	9	4
1	2	4	8	9	6	7	5	3
5	9	3	7	1	4	6	2	8

PREVIOUS SOLUTION: "Desires are the pulses of the soul; as physicians judge by the appetite, so may you by desires." — Manton

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**2019 Honda
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46,057KM | Stock #:2528TA **\$19,999****



**2018 Nissan
Altima 2.5S** Thunder Bay
51,834KM | Stock #:2492TA **\$16,357****



**2016 BMW
3 Series 320i xDrive** Thunder Bay
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**2015 Ford
Explorer XLT** Thunder Bay
133,317KM | Stock #:2427TA **\$20,139****



**2017 Hyundai
Elantra LE** Thunder Bay
105,356KM | Stock #:2526TA **\$12,294****



**2019 Chevrolet
Cruze RS Package Turbo** Thunder Bay
54,385KM | Stock #:2450TR **\$18,290****

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