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SATURDAY, JUNE 20



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THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 2020

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Canadian Publications Agreement No. 0662445 Vol.17 No.25

Defund discussion

Local leaders say they're willing to talk about the idea of shifting some police spending to social services /3

TAMING THE TIGER



CAT'S MEOW: Customers lined up on Saturday to check out the grand opening of the city's new Giant Tiger store, located at the Thunder Centre. See more on page 6.

LEITH DUNNICK

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INSIDE FIRE DOUSED



Explosion at Richardson Terminals leads to pellet plant blaze /5

BACK IN BUSINESS



Intercity Shopping Centre reopens after being closed for months /5

BIRDIE BINGE

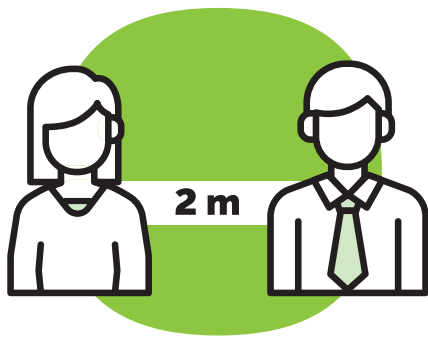


Father-and-son duo run away with Mallon's Better Ball title /13

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LOCAL NEWS



LEITH DUNICK

MONEY WELL SPENT?: Police execute a drug warrant recently at a Court Street condominium complex.

Defunding police can possibly be looked at

HEALTH

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

The head of the Thunder Bay Police Services Board says she's open to talks surrounding nationwide calls to defund police departments.

However, it's anything but cut-and-dried, said Georjann Morriseau.

"I don't think the answer is that black and white. I don't think it's that simple," Morriseau said in an interview with Thunder Bay Television.

"I think it's something that if we look at that type of an option, I would like to be having that type of conversation across the board with other mental health and social services and community services, not-for-profits and charities and community groups. That's where I would see that kind of conversation being had so we can all understand the need even more."

Calls to defund police have arisen across North American, following the death of George Floyd at the hands of a Minneapolis police officer.

The American city went as far as voting to disband its police department.

Defunding police doesn't necessarily take the solution that far, instead meant to shift funds from the police budget to social services to attack the root of crime, eventually leading to fewer calls for service and less dependence on police response.

Thunder Bay Police Service is operating in 2020 with a \$45 million budget, about 22.5 per cent of the City of Thunder Bay's overall operating budget.

Morriseau said the needs of the community are mostly known, but without fully understanding the problem, it doesn't make sense to spend money tackling problems that might not achieve the end goal of less poverty, addiction and crime in the city.

"It's definitely not something I'm not open to looking at. Of course I'd be willing to look at something like

that if it draws in the necessary components and the resources. We have a lot of good people in this city and a lot of good people in the service," she said.

Her comments come about a year after local police were once again thrust into the national spotlight with the release of an Office of the Independent Police Review Director report that accused the service of systemic racism toward Indigenous people.

The board itself temporarily lost its voting rights and had to pass sensitivity training before those voting rights were restored.

Police in January said they're making progress on some of the recommendations, including the trial of body and vehicle cameras, reopening several homicide cases flagged as problematic, additional training and the expansion of its criminal investigations capacity.

Morriseau said she would like to focus her energy on breaking down why the call for service is there in the first place, breaking down the issues surrounding systemic racism and the challenges there, making reforms where necessary.

The mayor, who rejected the ideal of abolishing police, said the less radical idea of shifting spending from policing to social service might have legs, even with police leaders.

He's not ready to jump on board, just yet.

"I'm trying to learn for sure what is meant when they say defund," he said. "If the idea is you take some of the money and use it for more frontline, proactive, social service kind of work, there may be some merit in that – and I think perhaps [it's] even something police services themselves might potentially support."

But the provincial and federal governments have to be in lock-step with any plan put forth, the mayor added.

"If there's a gap that exists that's the provincial or federal responsibility, that's where it needs to stay," Mauro said. – *With files from Ian Kaufman*

"It's definitely not something I'm not open to looking at."
GEORJANN MORRISSEAU

Weather Forecast

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy
Probability of Precipitation: 0% HIGH 28 LOW 15	Probability of Precipitation: 20% HIGH 24 LOW 15	Probability of Precipitation: 40% HIGH 26 LOW 14
SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy
Probability of Precipitation: 40% HIGH 23 LOW 12	Probability of Precipitation: 60% HIGH 19 LOW 11	Probability of Precipitation: 20% HIGH 20 LOW 12



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LOCAL NEWS

Return of travel inevitable, says DeMille

Health Unit ends self-quarantine rules for out-of region visits

HEALTH
By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Dr. Janet DeMille says with summer weather approaching, it was inevitable residents of Northwestern Ontario would want to start travelling again.

While she'd prefer people vacation closer to home, DeMille on Friday said it was unrealistic to expect people not to want to venture afar and even more unrealistic to expect them to self-isolate for 14 days upon return.

Combined with the low level of new cases across the country, the medical officer of health at the Thunder Bay District Health Unit said it became clear it was time to lift the isolation restrictions

this week, allowing travellers within Canada to enter the region without need to stay at home for two weeks. She also added it was good for people's mental health.

"It really wasn't reasonable to be expecting people, when they came here, to hole up somewhere for 14 days, and recognizing the challenges of being able to do that," DeMille said. "With all the reopening of the province and of the area, the businesses reopening and the opportunities to do more, it was very appropriate for us to back off that very significant measure we wanted people to take. We don't need that anymore."

Travellers, whether venturing into the region or leaving and coming back, are still being asked to take every precaution possible to avoid facilitating the spread of COVID-19. This includes frequent hand-washing, wearing masks in public, especially when unable to properly physically distance from others, and monitoring for signs of the virus.

"If you have symptoms, please isolate



LEITH DUNICK

STAY SAFE: People should still self-monitor when returning home, says Dr. Janet DeMille.

yourself and arrange to get tested," DeMille said.

Opening up the region for travel does come with its share of risks. Toronto and Montreal are still hotspots, for example.

As of Friday, there are six active cases in Thunder Bay, although one of those cases is actually hospitalized outside of the city. To date there have been 87 cases in the health unit's catchment area, with

80 resolved and one death.

"The number of new cases across Ontario is getting lower and lower every day. It's below 200 today and that was really exciting to see. We can see that Toronto and the GTA is getting their spread under control very much so. We see that in Quebec as well," DeMille said.

Ontario last Friday advanced into Phase 2 of its reopening strategy, allowing hair salons, tattoo parlours and malls to reopen, as well permitting restaurants to open for sit-down outdoor dining.

Travel options could also soon grow for people living in Ontario's North. Manitoba is considering lifting its 14-day self-isolation requirement for visitors from Canada's western provinces, all three territories and Northwestern Ontario. June 21 is the tentative date, should it go forward.

International travellers to Canada must still mandatorily self-quarantine for 14 days upon return to the country.

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LOCAL NEWS

Intercity mall reopens doors

After three months, many stores still remain closed after province loosens COVID-19 rules

BUSINESS

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Intercity Shopping Centre was open for business this weekend, but in many ways it still seemed like a ghost town.

The vast majority of the stores occupying the city's largest mall remained shuttered up on Saturday, despite the province earlier this week finally giving the approval for stores to reopen for business as part of Phase 2 of the reopening strategy.

A parking lot normally jammed with vehicles and the hustle and bustle of local commerce was all but empty.

But this didn't stop shoppers from venturing inside or several businesses to reopen their doors – albeit with strict limitations on the number of people allowed into their stores and plenty of hand sanitizer at the entrances to keep COVID-19 out.

Liam Vance said he just wanted to go for a walk around the mall.

"I haven't been in here since March," he said, adding in particular he wanted to check out Urban Planet and Zumiez, both of which were open



BACK AGAIN: Zumiez's Jazmine Mauro (left) and Avery Prete on Saturday at Intercity.

on Saturday.

For now, it's not the mall he left

behind three months ago. "It is really weird," he said. "But I just think it's really good that the mall did reopen. It really boosts up the

economy."

Jazmine Mauro, store manager at Zumiez, said that she and her employees have taken extra precautions when it comes to allowing customers back in. Staff members are wearing masks and the store is being disinfected on a regular basis.

She's glad to be back.

"I just missed the interaction with customers," she said, adding it's also a mental break from months of life at home.

"I'm a full-time mom, so it's nice to stop being a mom, come to work and just deal with people and have adult conversation again. It was nice."

Getting back to business is fantastic said Ashyea Ross, the junior assistant manager at La Vie En Rose.

"It's been a little nerve-wracking, but actually I'm kind of excited to just see everybody back together. It's a whole new thing that we have to do right now ... We're just taking it day by day," Ross said.

Sanitizing customers, cleaning more frequently and limiting customers are part of the new normal in retail, she added.

"We're just limiting the amount of contact we do," she said. "Everybody's been pretty good. They're definitely happy to see everybody's smiling faces again. And I think they're happy to see all the measures we're taking, too."

More stores are expected to open this week.

Explosion leads to Richardson Terminals fire

THUNDER BAY

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

An explosion and subsequent fire in a pellet plant Sunday at Richardson Terminals on Thunder Bay's waterfront could have been much worse.

Thunder Bay Fire Rescue said explosion doors on a dust filtration system contained the fire and damage to the system and some piping.

The fire department, in a release issued late Sunday night, said they arrived at the terminal at about 1 p.m. on Sunday and reported seeing heavy black smoke and flames coming from the roof of the structure.

A second alarm was requested and five pumpers and two aerial ladders, as well as a platoon chief, responded.

Firefighters were equipped with self-contained breathing units and made their way to the top of the structure, using ropes to hoist hoses, as well as using fire equipment on site.

The cause of the fire is unknown at this time. There were no injuries.



UNDER CONTROL: Thunder Bay Fire Rescue say no one was hurt in a Sunday afternoon fire at a pellet plant at Richardson Terminals.

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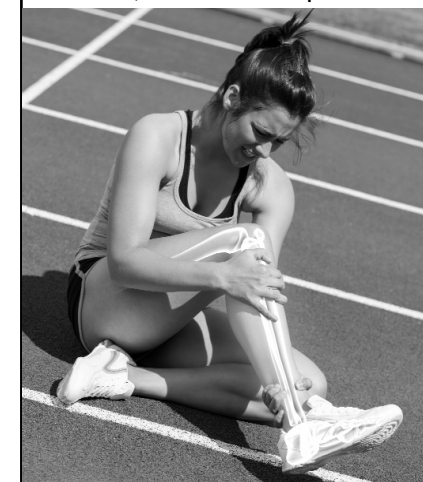
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Editorial

EDITORIAL

Reopening cautiously

It's great to see local businesses starting to reopen, after months of being shuttered due to COVID-19.

It's up to us to ensure they stay that way.

First and foremost, we have to support them with our patronage.

But more importantly, we have to respect their space.

If a business owner or employee insists you wear a mask or disinfect your hands before entering their store, please ensure you don't put up a fight.

Most businesses can't afford another lengthy shutdown. Many are lucky to still be in business at all.

The least we, as the buying public, can do is to do our part to ensure that COVID-19 doesn't take hold of our community.

As communities south of the border start to reopen, we're starting to see the number of coronavirus cases starting to rise in some states.

Beijing has already been scaling back the loosening of some of its restrictions, after an outbreak in the Chinese capital.

Masks might not help you avoid COVID-19, but they certainly help you from potentially spreading it to others.

Doctors and nurses aren't the only frontline workers impacted by the virus.

Let's keep our hairdressers and mall employees safe and healthy and let our economy get back to business.

Supporting each other

To the editor:

On a rainy June evening, households in the Mariday Park area came together to support the Dew Drop Inn and Roots to Harvest with a food and monetary donation drive.

Since the beginning of Covid-19 restrictions, three blocks of Winnipeg Avenue have been having weekly "masks and music" nights. Initially the nights were meant to show support for frontline workers and over time they became about just seeing each other.

Each Wednesday night at 7 p.m., one household blasts music suggested by neighbours, based on a different theme each week.

Residents in the neighbourhood dance, kids bike and rollerblade, and everyone comes out and waves hello to each other.

Previous themes have been 'fun in the sun', kids music, celebrating nurses week, 80's night, Nifty Fifties night and so on.

Dick and Dona Henderson, residents and ring leaders of the Wednesday night music nights, decided to take everyone's energy and dedicate one evening towards helping others.

So with the help of smaller neighbours (kids!), notes were delivered to 250 houses in the area with requests to bring donations of food towards Dew Drop Inn daily lunches and monetary donations to allow Roots to Harvest to purchase food and supplies to help with the food hampers for families and seniors they've been doing since the pandemic hit.

Even the rain and cold didn't hold anyone back. To the tunes of *Help by the Beatles*, and *Put a Little Love in Your Heart* by Mary Mary, among others – neighbours came out and dropped food donations at the street corners.

The music was loud and spirits were high. In the end, more than \$1000 was collected for both charities, and over 400 kilograms of food and hygiene products for patrons of the Dew Drop Inn who serves more than 300 lunches daily.

In the words of Dick Henderson, "You (neighbours) make my heart sing with your enthusiasm, positive attitude and willingness to volunteer. Us old guys are in good hands."

Erin Beagle,
Thunder Bay

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

STATUES



EDWARD COLSTON



JEFFERSON DAVIS



CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS



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IN BRIEF

No rush to open border

While it may be causing pain for some sectors of the economy, the federal government is in no rush to reopen Canada's border with the United States, says Health Minister Patty Hajdu.

The current agreement closing the border to non-essential traffic is set to expire June 21, but is widely expected to be extended. Canada recently allowed immediate family members of Canadian citizens or permanent residents to enter the country, with the condition that they self-isolate for 14 days upon arrival.

"We're in no rush to reopen any of our international borders until we're certain we have things under control in Canada, and that our systems at international borders are ready to go to be able to reduce any importation risk," Hajdu said.

Safety measures being prepared at the border included developing comprehensive screening protocols, staffing border crossings with public health

officers to support CBSA agents, and ensuring officials could effectively trace visitors' contacts within the country after they arrive, said the Thunder Bay-Superior North MP.

Testing for COVID-19 at entry points would be no panacea, Hajdu said, noting issues with potential false negatives.

"I would say that might be a component of a health screen, but it wouldn't be what we'd put all of our cards on."

Giant Tiger opens

Thunder Bay residents were out in force Saturday to take advantage of the city's newest – and long-awaited – retail option, as a Giant Tiger franchise officially opened its doors at the Thunder Centre across from the Intercity mall.

Some shoppers lined up as early as 6 a.m. to be among the first through the doors, said Alison Scarlett, director of brand communications for the

company. The enthusiasm was evident well before the company opted to expand into the city.

"The community of Thunder Bay has absolutely been asking for a Giant Tiger for a very long time," she said. "We've been getting emails, calls, and even letters from residents asking us to open a store."

What sets the store apart, Scarlett believes, is that shoppers can find nearly any everyday need – groceries, clothing, household items, outdoor gear, and more – at affordable prices, without wandering endless aisles.

"One of our secrets is that we have a bit of a smaller footprint than a lot of other retailers," she said. "We understand Canadian families are very busy, and they want to come in, get what they need, and get on with their day."

The COVID-19 pandemic delayed the store's opening by about two months. The company has around 260 stores across the country.

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Perspective

Stay true to circles

Put thought into who you allow into your social pact

OPINION

By J.R. Shermack
Special to TB Source

Tears were falling like rain in Ontario last week after a government announcement that the rules for social distancing were about to change significantly.

There is no cause for alarm – they were actually tears of joy as moms, dads, grandmas, grandpas, kids and grandkids were re-united after many weeks of isolation.

The concept of “social circles” not only allows, but encourages groups of up to 10 friends and family to get a little closer and enjoy each other’s company.

The news caught me by surprise but I was especially thrilled to hear that people within each circle are free to hug and touch each other once again.

Company again

I’m sure millions of lonely Ontarians of all ages breathed a collective sigh of relief, as if a giant weight had just been lifted off their shoulders.

Just last week I was lamenting the restrictions of family bubbles (remember those?) and now I am a hugging fool on cloud nine – what a difference a day makes.

But while we are all giddy with excitement at the prospect of social interaction without social distancing, we need the advice of public health professionals.

There are recommended safe

practices and guidelines that still need to be followed but the rewards for continued good behavior make it all worthwhile.

Social circles are an important step in supporting some serious mental health and well-being issues caused by the continued burden of social isolation.

They allow some families to get much needed additional relief with child care, elder care and other personal issues.

There is a clinical application as well – limiting the number of close personal contacts makes it much easier to track and isolate new cases.

The province has come up with a simple plan for creating a safe social circle for yourself and up to nine other loved and trusted individuals.

First, you must include all the people you already have close contact with including family members, roommates and babysitter or caregivers.

If there is still room in your circle you can invite additional people but remember, when you hug somebody you are also hugging everybody they’ve ever hugged before.

Choose your social circle partners carefully – everyone must agree to belong to one circle only while maintaining a physical distance from all outsiders.

In other words, be true to your social circle – no running around with other circles and no sneaking

around behind your circle’s back.

If you do, everyone will know about it when you inadvertently bring COVID home to the rest of your unsuspecting circle.

But by behaving responsibly we can enjoy the benefits of a hug whenever we need one and look forward to more positive news in the future.

This is especially significant given Canada’s successful managing of the virus so far and our continued public commitment to health and safety.

Should be safe

I am confident that the concept of social circles is backed up by reliable facts and figures along with expert scientific and medical evidence.

This was reassuring as I happily took part in a welcome back hug-fest with some bona fide members of my social circle.

Last week I was a grumbling and noticeably cantankerous curmudgeon, but with every hug I was transformed into a docile and more pleasant fellow.

That was the consensus among my circle – apparently anyone can experience the mental anguish of forced separation from loved ones.

But that was last week – all that is just an unpleasant memory as many Ontario communities move forward with a new, positive outlook.

There will be more encouraging news if we remember to be true to our social circles.

PANDEMIC PROTEST



NOT HAPPY: Some frontline workers at Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre say they do not qualify for the \$4-an-hour top-up during the COVID-19 pandemic. Only about a third qualify.

LEITH DUNICK

A look back in history:

Commercial Fishing Dock

A load of fish unloaded in Thunder Bay. Commercial fisheries on Lake Superior thrived through to the 1930s. In 1938, 400 tons of whitefish, 400 tons of trout, and 600 tons of herring were caught with a value of \$140,000. By this time, however, commercial fishing was becoming largely uneconomical.



HOW TO WRITE US:

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

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

Address them to:
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Should the city close off a portion of Red River Road to make it more pedestrian and business friendly?

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TB Life

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A Giant journey



**KEITH
AILEY**

THE GOOD LIFE

There is a magical place where, from the summit of the highest vertical rise in all of Ontario, we can view the crystal clear water of the world's largest freshwater lake over 1200 feet below.

What an amazing place this is. On a clear day, the view from here is nothing short of spectacular and we can view our city from across the bay. To hike to the top of the Sleeping Giant is a right of passage for Thunder Bay locals and now that our provincial parks are starting to re-open, this summer adventure can be put right back at the top of our "to-do" lists.

The sense of accomplishment one achieves by reaching the top is well earned. The journey begins from the Kabeyun Trailhead on the south side of Sleeping Giant Provincial Park, near Silver Islet.

To reach the Top of the Giant Trail from the Kabeyun trailhead and parking area, many people choose to hike or run the full distance, but we usually ride our mountain bikes along the Kayebun Trail, a distance of 8km, to the Talus Lake Trail junction.

Along the way is the famous Sea Lion rock formation and then Tee Harbour. A bike rack marks the point where the trail to the top begins. The first kilometre is tame, then the gradient really kicks up.

At points it may seem like you are

headed straight up the mountain, traversing the steep switch-back climbs over man-made "stairs" as well as piles of rocks and roots. After passing a few secluded lakes and climbing the ancient talus slopes, you will reach the top of the Giant.

Here, hikers are treated to the first spectacular view of Tee Harbour and the expansive Black Bay to the east. But the best views are on the far side, so keep trekking across the Giant's chest to the western edge and the impressive Chimney Lookout.

At the Chimney, there are no guardrails and you can get to the very edge of the impressively dangerous cliff face if you are brave enough. However, even without getting too close, the views are stunning.

This is the place to relax and have a snack before starting the second half of the adventure and heading back down.

On the way home, it is always a treat to wade into Superior for a natural ice bath to sooth tired legs.

By the time you are done, you will have travelled 22 kilometres.

When making this journey, you will need some general fitness as well as plenty of water, healthy snacks and bug spray. The complete adventure will likely take between four and six hours, but possibly longer, depending on your pace.

It is also important to realize that while this route is far safer than the now-closed passage we used to climb by the Giant's knees, there is still a lot of potential hazards along the steeper parts of the path, especially if the roots and rocks are wet from a recent rain. Nevertheless, this is a journey everyone should experience.



BRAVING THE WATERS: Charlotte Ailey takes a few steps into Lake Superior on her return trip from the top of the Sleeping Giant.

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Turtle meets dog seeking out nest



FRED JONES

RURAL ROOTS



DANGEROUS: Many turtles lose their lives this time of year trying to cross roadways.

I was looking up our local weather network when I noticed an announcement that June is the month of the turtle.

What (I was heard to ask)? Apparently, June is the month in which turtles of all shapes and sizes lay their eggs.

Oh, didn't know that.

A group of turtle fanciers are asking the public to be on the lookout for turtles crossing roads and highways. They ask that if we see a turtle in the middle of the road, that we assist it in getting safely across, taking it in the direction the turtle was heading. Simple.

Many turtles, the group reports, lose their lives by being run over by unwary drivers. The group wants us motorists and non, to be more aware of these critters as they try to find a place to lay their eggs.

Interesting find

Last week, actually just down our driveway that passes the vegetable garden, I noticed a shape. I investigated. It was a turtle. It had been digging in the gravel preparing to lay its eggs.

"Not a good spot," I advised the

painted thing. Son, Doug, his girlfriend, Ivy, and my wife, Laura, all came to inspect. "This won't work for the turtle," Laura announced and she asked Doug to remove the chelonian creature to the ditch which he did.

Enter our puppy, Lily. Somehow in her dashing about investigating everything and persisting in a constant barking, she discovered the turtle hiding in the long grasses in the ditch. I went to shoo her away eventually bribing her with doggie treat to re-enter Casa Jones.

But the next day when we were working in the veggie garden the barking

resumed in another ditch that borders the garden.

Sure enough, I spotted Lily doing her fake lunging at some object.

It was turtle who had migrated from one ditch across the driveway into the other one.

Fortunately, turtle had slipped (crawled?) under the page-wire fence that surround the garden. Lily couldn't get at turtle but I did not want turtle stressed at this time.

Hard enough for the crawly thing to find a suitable spot to lay her eggs let alone have a yappy canine harass her.

Again, bribes worked but only for a short time because when he deemed it safe to allow Lily outside again, she beelined for the spot where she last found turtle.

When I investigated, I saw that turtle was no longer there. Good.

Several days later, I was ferrying manure with Big Red, my ancient tractor, to what I call "Crumpet 2."

As I have written umpteen times before, I am not allowed to take Red up onto original Mt. Crumpet because it will get stuck. The mountain of manure mixed with wood shavings is too soft for the old thing. Lily, being a six-month old puppy, loves to accompany me. She is very spry and good at avoiding horses' hooves and large machines (thank goodness!).

When I finished the job, I observed that Lily was still near the trail entrance that is between both Crumpets 1 and 2.

She was barking up a storm and doing that attack/retreat lunging thing again. Now what? So, I trudged over to see that another turtle was trying to dig in the laneway.

Again, I attempted to shoo Lily away, calling and whistling. Fortunately, I still had some "bribe" in my pocket from the previous time I had to tempt her away from savaging the poor turtle.

Later that day, Doug and Ivy came into the house to report that they had discovered a turtle at the bottom of our front stairs.

Oh no.

I guess that Lily had returned to the

scene of her crime and scooped up in her wee mouth the poor turtle and proudly brought it home.

"What did you do with it," I asked?

"We took it to another part of the property where it would hopefully go unnoticed by Lily," Doug answered.

Lily has provided us with invaluable service.

When we let her outside to "do her business", if there are intruders such as deer, she races off barking up a storm, driving them away. Good. Keep them out of the vegetable garden.

Escapable

Unfortunately, a four-foot page-wire fence is no obstacle for a sure-footed Bambi. They are excellent high-jumpers. So far, we seen no deer-authored damage to any of the newly-growing plants.

Lily is adorable, smallish in size compared to our other pooch, Baxter, has a high-pitch bark, again, as compared with barrel-chested Mr. Basso-Profundo Baxter.

She harasses Baxter unmercifully, nipping and trying to bite the ruff of his neck. He has quite the vocal range complaining but never bites her.

And then you look either at the picture on the living room couch or when the two of them are settled on the front stoop, to see Lily peacefully lying on top of Mr. B and he doesn't mind.

Lily is a true friend for Baxter, just not for turtles.

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IN THE bay

arts | entertainment | culture

Growing up in the '80s

LITERATURE

By Lelth Dunlck – TB Source

For anyone who came of age in the era of big hair, leg warmers and the Go-Go's on the top of the charts, the 1980s may be a bit hazy.

The decade of greed was full of excess and Thunder Bay was no different.

There was cocaine a plenty being snorted in bar bathrooms from Westfort to Current River and the party never seemed to end.

Deb Donahue has managed to shake the rust off her memories and written a somewhat autobiographical, fictionalized tale of the time, earlier this year releasing her debut novel, *I Used to Live on Banning Street*.

The lead character, Danielle, is loosely based on her own experiences growing up in Thunder Bay, weaving her way through the crazy days and nights of the local party scene.

"The book is a comedic coming-of-age story about a girl growing up in the 1980s in small-town Thunder Bay. Her name is Danielle and it chronicles her struggles as she tries to find her way through the heavy party scene of the 1980s," Donahue said, reached recently by phone.

"Basically the book is sex, drugs and rock and roll – lots of parties. She's immersed in the drug world and she's kind of lost in that kind of world. That's all she knows."

Danielle, however, wants more.

On a whim, she decides to visit the local gym one day, tries a step aerobics class and is hooked.

"That becomes her new focus and she totally transforms her life around. She actually even becomes a health-fitness instructor."

Coincidentally, Donahue is a certified trainer.

"It's loosely based on non-fiction," she said. "My girlfriend got married really young and she started having kids really young. But I still carried on, was still single and partying and stuff and whenever I would tell her some crazy story about some crazy night gone by, she'd always say, 'Deb, you've got to write a book.'"

"Basically the book is about sex, drugs and rock and roll..."

DEB DONAHUE

"It was only after the third time that she said that, that I thought yeah, why not?"

She's changed the characters' names, to protect the innocent – and the not-so-innocent – but readers will recognize plenty of local landmarks and certainly those who lived through the '80s will recognize a shared cultural experience, Donahue said.



DEBUT NOVEL: Deb Donahue says *I Used to Live on Banning Street* is loosely based on non-fiction.

It's the perfect era to write about, she added.

"I believe it was a freer time. Picture ID wasn't even around back then. You could sneak into the bars when you were 16. It was just a looser, freer time, than it is now. People cared, but not as much as they do now, about the underage drinking and stuff," Donahue said.

"When you're young, you think you're invincible and you have the rest of your life in front of you. You're not thinking about anything bad happening to you. You're just going with the flow and all you're thinking about it your next good time. When you're young and free you can just immerse yourself in that kind of life and not really worry about

any kind of responsibilities."

But at some point, most people decide they have to grow up. Danielle is no different.

The book is meant to show that it is possible to escape the party-world merry-go-round and turn one's live around – without preaching about it.

Donahue has kept a journal for nearly as long as she can remember, and spent eight years putting the novel together, finally publishing it in March – just as the COVID-19 pandemic struck and the lockdowns began.

The book, which Donahue is writing a screenplay for, is available electronically at most major booksellers, including Indigo, Amazon, Kindle and Kobo. It's published

IN THE bay

Borderland Pride holding Emo Ambush on June 27

EMO, ONT.
By Leith Dunick TB Source

The Township of Emo is about to be colourfully ambushed.

Following a decision not to recognize Pride Month in the Northwestern Ontario community, members of Borderland Pride are planning a queer cheer to a community they say is in dire need of rainbows to drown out the bigotry.

On June 27, the organization says it plans to take LGBTQ2 pride to Emo, inviting everyone to join them for a peaceful protest through the town.

Supporters are invited to “rainbow-up” and head to the Emo Arena parking lot for 11 a.m. to join a protest procession through the community, featuring cars

and trucks and queens sashaying through a route they say will cover most of the community.

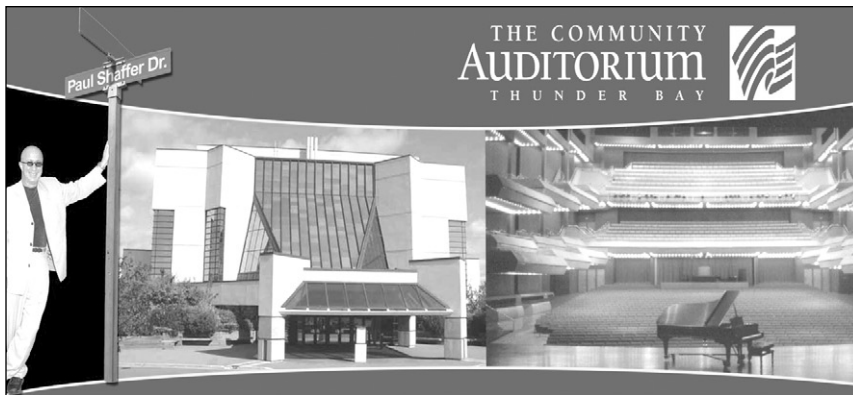
“This is going to be a five-kilometre COVID-cavalcade – an expression of our solidarity and support for our LGBTQ2 young people and other groups who continue to experience injustice, violence, hardship, and systemic discrimination because of who they are,” Borderland Pride writes in a release issued early last Saturday morning.

Prizes will be awarded in the Emo Fair Queen contest in a variety of categories.

“We encourage participants to bring trucks that their group can ride in the box of. Free Pride flags will be given to each participating vehicle, while supplies last.”



EXPLOITED: Da 5 Bloods makes a statement about how blacks were treated in combat during the Vietnam War.



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Spike Lee not subtle in movie Da 5 Bloods

Given the current racial fervor in the U.S., it would seem appropriate for one of the African-American community’s most prominent cinematic voices to be heard from: Spike Lee.

Lee uses the Vietnam war as a soap box to draw attention to the exploitation of blacks in the bitter conflict in his latest ambitious effort, *Da 5 Bloods* (Netflix.)

The Bloods in question are four aging Vietnam vets (Delroy Lindo, Clarke Peters, Isiah Whitlock and Norm Lewis) who reunite in contemporary Ho Chi Minh City, ostensibly to nobly recover the remains of their revered squad leader (Chadwick Boseman) for a more respectful burial in Arlington National Cemetery.

Their other motivation is purely mercenary: to recover CIA-procured gold bullion from a shot down plane intended to pay south Vietnamese troops that the group buried after a recovery mission went bloodily askew. As the soldiers were painfully aware of how they were being exploited (over 30 per cent of the fighting force in Vietnam was black) this would be their payback.

Battle scars remain in the present day as they encounter both South and North Vietnamese as well as French individuals, many of whom exude disdain, cynicism and duplicity towards the ex-GIs, making for general unease as their preparations unfold.

Old connections are revived (Clarke’s Otis meets an old flame and business partner) while uneasy new alliances are established with a shady smuggler (Jean Reno). Tagging along is Lindo’s adult son

(Jonathon Majors) a teacher who has simmering issues with his dad.

Lee interjects archival footage and flashbacks to the early 1970s to provide context for the vets’ experience as their squad leader Norman forges their loyal bond despite tumultuous events swirling around them (the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr, the My Lai Massacre, shootings at Kent State) that threatens their sense of duty.

As the team makes their way into the jungle in present time, the story takes on vestiges of *The Treasure of Sierra Madre* as Lindo’s volatile, tortured Paul becomes increasingly at odds with Peters’ more rational Otis. Friction surfaces as they contend with Nature, land mines, and double-dealers. There is also a heart of darkness tone reminiscent of *Apocalypse Now*.

Lee is hardly subtle as he drives home his points in sometimes scattershot fashion. The *Sierra Madre* plot device results in a predictable, raggedy latter section.

However, Lee compensates with a solid cast. Clarke’s Otis (wonderful in *The Wire*) is the calm, cool and sensitive central guiding force. But it’s Delroy Lindo who’s a standout, a driving pro-Trump force through most of the film who’s ultimately consumed by his demons and a bitter, fatal memory.

Despite the grim truths and a bloody climax, Lee strives to find positive closure for some storylines, perhaps straining credibility. The ethics may be questionable but in Lee’s eyes it’s a matter of things evening out. And a recalled letter near the story’s end is touchingly rendered.

Whatever its foibles, *Da 5 Bloods* is relevant and impactful, and worth checking out.



MARTY MASCARIN

MOVIE TALK

Mad's Al Jaffee a comic inspiration

Al Jaffee recently announced his retirement. Unlike Stan Lee, you may not recognize the name. But Jaffee earned the Guinness world record for the longest career as a comic artist when he was 95.

That was four years ago. I'm pretty sure, he still holds the title.

Jaffee has been a working comic artist for over 77 years.

While he drew for many publishers, most of his career has been spent at the infamous *Mad* magazine.

In 1964, he created its infamous fold-in comic which shows one image until the picture is folded horizontally inward, creating a secondary secret picture. The first one showed Elizabeth Taylor kissing Richard Burton with a cop holding back a crowd as it trampled her former husband, Eddie Fisher.

Fold in the image along the line and she was kissing someone else entirely.

His editor loved it and asked for more.

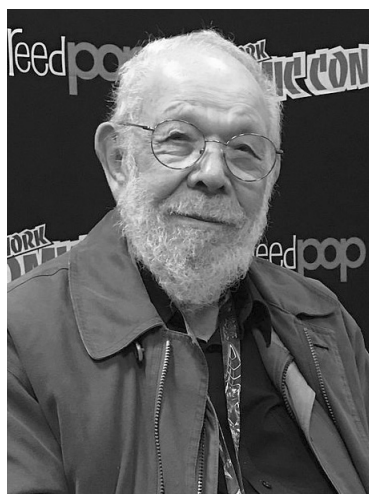


with **FIONA GARDINER**

Jaffee obliged until 2019.

His other work included numerous illustrations and articles, including his ever-popular "Snappy Answers to Stupid Questions." That one developed during his divorce as a means to exorcise his marital hostility.

Yes, he took his cues from both real life and his own personal theory that "to be alive is to be constantly beleaguered by annoying idiots." Consequently during the Vietnam War, Jaffee created "Hawks



LUIGI NOV/WIKIPEDIA

LEGENDARY: Mad magazine's Al Jaffee recently announced his retirement at 99.

and Doves," the trials and tribulations of Major Hawks who was constantly undermined by Private Doves' efforts to

post peace signs all over his military base.

Although that storyline didn't last, Jaffee spent decades lampooning celebrities, pop culture and the politics of the day. But more so, he inspired others to take chances too – and not just cartoonists.

In 1995 *Mad TV* hit the airwaves. In 2005, recording artist Beck used Jaffee's fold-in comics in the video for his song *Girl*. He even received on-screen credit. For Jaffee's 85th birthday, *The Colbert Report's* Stephen Colbert created a fold-in birthday cake in his honour.

And in 2010, *The Daily Show* was launching a book called *America* and asked him to contribute a fold-in for it. Then the producer asked him to deliver it in person so that the whole crew could meet him.

According to Jon Stewart and the writers, without *Mad* magazine's inspiration, there wouldn't be a *Daily Show*.

Even inventors have pointed to Jaffee as their muse. The artist's comics often included drawings of machinery – non-existent and bizarre – but done in a way that made them look functional. So some inventors ran with them.

In one patent filing for a self-extinguishing cigarette, the inventor actually thanked him for the concept. Jaffee didn't mind. He said creating the idea was the fun part. Plus, he didn't have to figure out how to actually manufacture it.

Jaffee's won numerous awards over his 99 years.

Fellow *Mad* writer, Desmond Devlin once described Jaffee as "smart but silly, angry but understanding, sophisticated but gross, upbeat but hopeless." And fans who didn't know his name, loved him.

I guess when you're a little off-balance in a world off-kilter, you just see things straighter than most.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

- ACROSS**
- Reserve Officer's Training Corps (abbr.)
 - S. Afr. assembly
 - Bureau of Labor Statistics (abbr.)
 - Lamb's pen name
 - Shelter (Fr.)
 - Science class
 - Half (pref.)
 - Ret
 - All (Lat.)
 - Kemo
 - Arrow poison
 - Bearing plate
 - Hawaiian shrub
 - Hindu servant
 - Exclamation
 - S.A. herb
 - Babism founder
 - Half-boot
 - Sp. article
 - February
- DOWN**
- Habitation
 - Unfavorable
 - Threading tool
 - Ladle
 - Turn aside
 - Apportion
 - Foe of Othello
 - Body of water
 - Concert halls
 - Knife
 - Culor
 - Eft
 - Cupbearer of the gods
 - Crimson
 - Bravo (Sp.)
 - Timid
 - S.A. alligator
 - Carbic grass
 - Down with (Fr., 2 words)
 - Circle segment
 - Double dagger
 - Tattle
 - Dead
 - Compass direction
 - Mortar beater
 - "Blue Eagle"
 - 21 Embur
 - Arm bone
 - Prate
 - Flat fish
 - Renegade
 - Geological vein angle
 - Maple genus
 - Cot
 - Air Force mascot
 - Asian gazelle
 - Exile
 - Biography (abbr.)
 - Con
 - Blue (Fr.)
 - Wings
 - Cook food
 - Tree
 - Soft drink
 - Chatter
 - Laconian clan group

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

DAUB	MONS	SIS
AGNI	AMRA	OCA
HAIK	DEAL	UHF
PLENUM	DEB	
LURID	ARRIVAL	
ONS	ICY	ICA
DIEAWAY	MUSEE	
	BAL	TOMCAT
CABAL	CRAPE	
AAA	RARE	IRAE
ARP	UREA	RAMP
MET	SEED	ELIA

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12				13				14		
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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		

WORD SEARCH

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

- | | | | |
|----------|---------|---------------|---------|
| Adhesive | Ensured | Misreads | School |
| Amused | Epithet | Misuse | Scowl |
| Biped | Fitful | Musty | Sketch |
| Bizarre | Flexed | Mutts | Slops |
| Chorus | Fores | Nested | Smock |
| Chums | Funded | Observatories | Tempos |
| Deposed | Gaiety | Pelts | Threat |
| Dives | Jetty | Prays | Thuds |
| Dozens | Masked | Sadness | Vandals |
| Drums | Minnow | Scarves | Zodiac |

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UZ VKVPF."

— ESATPCP VFUGPFI

PREVIOUS SOLUTION: "Bad politicians are sent to Washington by good people who don't vote." — William E. Simon

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Sudoku

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	5	3	1					
		8	3	6		9		
6		9	5		8			2
						3	7	
					3			
			7					6
	9	7			5	6		
2	1	6			9			
								2

Sports

local sports news | information | coverage

DeGrazias capture Better Ball

Father-and-son duo start back nine with six birdies to win first golf event of season

GOLF
By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Hayden Hickey and Chris Gardner could only sit and watch Evan DeGrazia singlehandedly knock them out of contention Sunday at the Mallon's Play it Again Sports Better Ball Tournament.

DeGrazia, paired with his father John, fired nine birdies on the day, including six straight to start the back nine, en route to a nine-under 63 at Strathcona Golf Course, good for a five-shot win.

It was the second straight year the duo captured the tournament, who were three-under on the front and shot a six-under 30 on the back, the younger DeGrazia lipping out a birdie chance on 18 for a 29.

"I just got to play 27 holes and got to find my rhythm," said DeGrazia, whose team followed up a seven-under 64 on Saturday at Chapples Golf Course that earned them a share of top spot, tied with Hickey and Gardner entering Round 2.

"Everything just started clicking. I just started hitting my shots and everything was working out for me. I made a nice long one on 11 that kind of really sparked it and then from there it was really pretty easy."

DeGrazia stuck his approach on 13 to within five feet and drained the birdie, then, after sailing just over the green on 14, chipped in for yet another.

"It was just kind of one of those shots that looked like putting my club under in it. Just in the moment, everything was going well for me, so it was just keeping it going."

Winning the tournament again with his father by his side made the win that much more special.

"It's awesome. Back-to-back years with my dad, around Father's Day, it couldn't be any better. I'm just really happy that we could get it done today."

Hickey and Gardner were one-under on the day at the turn, but were no match for their opponent, despite picking up three straight birdies on their second nine.

By then it was just too late and they had to settle for second, one shot up on Jeremy Kirk and Conor Carr, who finished with a two-day, 10-under total of 133.

"It's crazy, but I've seen it a lot. (Evan and I) play a lot of golf together and it's just fun to watch. You get caught up in his game before you're worried about your own shot. We battled today. We weren't playing amazing, but we were able to grind it out and hit some good shots. But trying to catch a guy like that, it's just sit back and watch and do what you can."

Before the COVID-19 shutdown, DeGrazia had earned a six-tournament conditional status on the Mackenzie Tour PGA Tour Canada.

Still, Hickey said he and Gardner, winner of last year's District Amateur, had their chances, but just didn't capitalize.

"Overall, we're happy with the result. Obviously we're super happy for Evan and his dad, John with the repeat again this year. We had a lot of fun," Hickey said.



ON A ROLL: Evan DeGrazia chips in for birdie on No. 14 Sunday at Strathcona.



LEITH DUNICK
SPORTS SHOTS

MLB blows its big advantage

Major League Baseball's owners and players had a chance to have the sports spotlight all to themselves.

And they blew it.

The players are adamant they won't play for prorated per-game salaries.

The owners say they can't afford to pay players any more than they've offered — essentially presenting the same deal three different times to the players' union.

After the league's latest offer, Tony Clark, the former Detroit Tigers star who heads the union, essentially said, "Tell us when and where you want us to play."

Rob Manfred, the MLB commissioner, is expected to announce a drastically shortened schedule, somewhere in the neighbourhood of 54 games.

That's a third of a normal season. There will be no expanded playoffs, because the players won't agree to it.

Instead of hitting the field on July 4, with a month to themselves, instead they'll likely be looking at starting at about the same time the NHL and NBA return, with both leagues' playoffs front and centre on the sports calendar.

Golf will be in the middle of a revised major season, and football will be about to return to pre-season mode.

After 50 games last season, the eventual champion Washington Nationals were buried at 19-31, nowhere near contention. A season that short won't be viewed as legitimate by anyone.

None of this back-and-forth bodes well for 2022, when the collective bargaining agreement runs out and the odds of a season happening grow dimmer and dimmer.

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ON HOLD: Jared Kreiner (left) was set to begin his third season with the Lakehead Thunderwolves men's basketball team in 2020, but the OUA has decided to cancel all sporting activity until at least January 2021.

OUA decision tough, but not unexpected

Lakehead's Jon and Jared Kreiner say player and fan safety has to come first, even though cancellations painful

BASKETBALL

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Jared Kreiner lives in the gym. Win or lose, after most Lakehead Thunderwolves men's basketball games, fans can find the third-year guard out on the hardwood, firing up shot after shot trying to improve his game.

It shouldn't be all that surprising.

The work ethic comes naturally, his father Jon, the long-time head coach of the Thunderwolves women's basketball team and a former university player himself.

The younger Kreiner grew up around the gym, which is why the COVID-19 shutdown has been so tough. Even tougher was learning that the earliest he and his teammates might start looking to build on a season that saw them vault into the national rankings is Jan. 1.

It's tough, he said.

"Yeah, it's pretty disappointing," said the younger Kreiner, who at times this past season showed signs of being able to take on a much bigger role as the outside threat he proved to be in high school, leading the St. Ignatius Falcons to multiple championships.

"I don't think you'll find a single student athlete that says they're happy about it. But at the same time, we all understand it's necessary for the player safety and for the community's safety as well. I guess as players, we're not mad, we're just disappointed."

The OUA, following suit with other governing bodies for university in Canada, last week announced it was cancelling all fall semester sports and

for now, won't consider allowing other sports, like hockey, volleyball and basketball, to return until the new year.

Most universities have also dictated classes will be held online only for the foreseeable future, which further complicates the ability to have student athletes on campus and able to practice together.

It's not going to be easy to keep in game shape, Jared Kreiner said.

"It's pretty frustrating because we're already missing out the first half of the semester and now we can't even get inside the gym to shoot. I feel if gyms were able to be open it would be not as upsetting," he said.

His father Jon has a whole other set of concerns to deal with.

Unfortunately, he doesn't have a lot of answers to give his players at this point. There are no guarantees the OUA will allow games to be played at all in 2020-21. And with travel restrictions in place, the veteran coach isn't even sure he can get all his players into the country in the first place. Veteran guard Sofia Lluch, who blossomed last season, is stuck in Spain, while first-year guard Rhianna-Mae Laing remains at home in England.

Not that the decision was all that unexpected, he said, adding his heart goes out to all student athletes, coaches and athletics staff at universities across the land.

"It's every student athlete's dream to play university sports and to continue that dream. To have that taken away from them, something they've done pretty much every day of their lives, has got to be very tough," said the elder Kreiner, who keeps the competi-

tive fires burning at home with knock-down, drag-'em-out Monopoly games and other contests with his family – and yes, there are championship belts to be won.

"But at the same time, it was an expected decision and we fully support it."

Jon Kreiner said preparing for the unknown is tough, both with his LU squad and his Junior Wolves team that includes his daughter, but he's been in constant communication with his varsity team and with coaches across the country, with the latter looking to create something that provides value to the athletes.

"There have been a lot of negative things that have happened in 2020 already, from Kobe Bryant to a lot of other things to this. That doesn't mean this year can't be special. And I think that's what we want to be focusing on."

"I don't think you'll find a single student athlete that says they're happy about it."

JARED KREINER



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