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was last week's Mayor's Mulligan Golf Tournament in support of PRO Kids /5

Outgoing Mayor Bill Mauro, who steps down on Oct. 4, tees off on the first hole last Friday at Strathcona Golf Course to kick off the annual Mayor's Mulligan Golf Tournament. (Leith Dunick)



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A jury last week found Courtney LaBelle guilty in the 2020 killing of her 11-year-old son. (FILE)

LaBelle guilty of killing her child

Eleven-year-old was stabbed to death on Jan. 1, 2020 By Doug Diazcuk - TB Source in extensive blood loss and death soon after

After deliberating for a little more than three hours, a jury has found Courtney LaBelle guilty of second-degree murder for the 2020 stabbing death of her 11-year-old son.

Deliberations began just after 4 p.m. Thursday afternoon after closing submissions, and the jury returned to the courtroom with a unanimous decision just after 7:30 p.m.

The trial against LaBelle on the charge of second-degree murder opened on Sept. 12 and included six days of testimony. A publication ban was ordered by the court protecting the victim's name.

Crown attorney Andrew Sadler argued LaBelle stabbed her 11-year-old son 31 times and knowingly caused his death. The postmortem examination of the victim revealed of the 31 stab wounds, more than 10 penetrated his chest and abdominal cavity.

Two wounds penetrated his heart, resulting

in extensive blood loss and death soon after. He also exhibited numerous defensive wounds to his arms and hands.

Defense counsel Gil Labine conceded that LaBelle stabbed her son, but argued she was not aware of her actions because she was experiencing drug-induced psychosis, and therefore did not meet the threshold of second-degree murder. He asked the jury to find her guilty on the lesser charge of manslaughter.

LaBelle was also facing a charge of aggravated assault, but last Thursday, Sadler asked that the charge be stayed in order to allow the jury to focus on the charge of second-degree murder during its deliberations.

Under the Criminal Code of Canada, a conviction of second-degree murder carries an automatic life sentence with parole ineligibility ranging from 10 to 25 years.

LaBelle was remanded into custody. A date for a sentencing hearing will be set in November.



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Community Fund

IN BRIEF

Second arrest in January homicide

Thunder Bay Police have charged a second person in connection with the death of a city man in January of this year.

Allan Andrew Post, 30, of Thunder Bay was arrested in late August on a manslaughter charge related to the death of Antoine Bouchard, 37.

Bouchard was found dead at a residence in the 300s block of

Bethune Street on Jan. 26, 2022. Joshua David Leblanc, 28, of Kingston, ON was initially charged

with second degree murder. He was arrested in Kingston and transferred to Thunder Bay.

Crash kills woman

Ontario Provincial Police have located the body of a Thunder Bay

woman who was reported missing over the weekend.

Kaitlin Restall, 41, was found deceased Monday morning on the shore of the Kaministiquia River near Silver Falls Road, about 11 kilometres north of Highway 102.

Police said they made the tragic discovery after finding evidence of a single motor vehicle collision, which prompted them to conduct a search of the immediate area.

Vaccines open

lead us online at

Bookings for a new bivalent vaccine designed to offer more targeted protection against the Omicron variant opened Monday for all Ontario adults aged 18 and older.

Those 12 to 17 who are moder-

ately to severely immunocompromised are also eligible.

Appointments can be booked through the province's vaccination portal or by calling the Provincial Vaccine Contact Centre at 1-833-943-3900.

Eligible individuals can also book an appointment directly through public health units that use their own booking systems, Indigenousled vaccination clinics, participating health care providers and participating pharmacies.

Travel rules lift

The federal government will remove all COVID-19 entry restrictions as well as testing, quarantine and isolation requirements for anyone entering Canada as of Saturday, Oct. 1.

The move had been signalled earlier this month, but was confirmed Monday in a government announcement.

The government is also removing all existing travel requirements, so that as of Oct. 1, travellers will no longer be required to undergo health checks for travel on air and rail, wear masks on planes and trains, or use the ArriveCAN app.

Cruise measures are also being lifted, and travellers will no longer be required to have pre-board tests, be vaccinated, or use ArriveCAN.

The United States still requires non-U.S. citizens to be fully vaccinated to enter the country by land, water or air.



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Voting Open Oct. 6 - 18 Winners Announced Oct. 26

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NEWS 5

Tourney helps kids

By Leith Dunick TB Source

One of Bill Mauro's final acts in the mayor's chair may also be one of his most impactful.

Mauro, who steps down from the seat on Oct. 4, three weeks ahead of the upcoming municipal election, last Friday was joined by dozens of other golfers at Strathcona Golf Course to take part in the Mayor's Mulligan Tournament.

The annual event, postponed seven days because of the previous Friday's torrential rains, raised \$28,411 for PRO Kids, an organization that provides sports and other extra-curricular opportunities to youth whose families might otherwise not be able to afford the cost.

"As you know, the population that is served by PRO Kids is a very needful group and there's a long history with this tournament in helping marginalized populations take part in recreational sport and cultural activities in the city," Mauro said.

"We've got a big group here today. We've got a beautiful day to play and we've got a great community sponsor in Enbridge who has really made a difference in terms of what we're going to be able to achieve financially through the tournament."

Mauro, who grew up playing sports of all kinds, spoke to the impact of taking part in hockey, baseball, golf, or swimming and what it can mean for children later in life.

"People at my age, when they reflect on it, I think a lot of the skills that we earned and learned, a lot of the life-long friendships that were formed... It's hard to really quantify what we can gain by being part of teams when you're young. I don't think you really realize it at the time, but you certainly do as you age," Mauro said.

"This may give some of those opportunities to the young kids in our community."

PRO Kids executive director Laura Daniele said the tournament is a fun way to raise money for her



PRO Kids coordinator Laura Daniele snaps a selfie. (Leith Dunick)

organization, which is an arms-length department of the City of Thunder Bay.

The Mayor's Mulligan is one of PRO Kids' biggest fundraisers each year, she added.

"We're always thankful for the mayor for designating this to kids," Daniele said. "Obviously the money that we raise goes directly into PRO Kids and into community programs. This money is used for your local hockey teams, your swimming, your soccer and baseball – all the activities that are out there, along with arts and cultural programs," Daniele said.

THINK RECYCLE



COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE

Light refreshments served

Saturday, October 1st 2 p.m. – 6 p.m. 272 Park Ave. Thunder Bay

Hoito pancakes come to market

By TB Source staff

Starting in October, visitors to the Thunder Bay Country Market on the CLE grounds will be able to dine on Hoito pancakes and other popular menu items from the famous Bay Street restaurant.

The Finlandia Co-operative of Thunder Bay Inc. has signed an agreement with the market to become its kitchen vendor.

For the first time since the Hoito closed its doors due to a fire in December 2021, authentic Hoito pancakes and select menu items will be available every Wednesday evening and Saturday morning during the regular country market hours.

Both eat-in and takeout service will be provided. The co-op remains committed to reopening the Hoito at its original location, but president Paula Haapanen says operating a satellite location in the CLE's Dove Building will accelerate the timeline.

"Our goal when forming the Finlandia Co-operative was to keep the Hoito Restaurant running and to preserve the history of this important Thunder Bay culinary and cultural institution," Haapanen said. "The opportunity to be a part of the Thunder Bay Country Market is a great fit."

April Mercier manages the country market. She said they're excited to be able to offer a dining area again, with more options for customers to enjoy breakfast and dinner right at the market.

"We can't wait to welcome back the morning breakfast and lunch crowds," Mercier said. "Welcoming a big vendor like the Hoito into the market is a big win for everyone."

The exact date for the start of the new service will be announced as soon as it's confirmed.



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EDITORIAL Vitriol on rise

Politicians deserve to have their feet held to the fire, their ideas questioned and their philosophies challenged. It comes with the territory.

But lately, it seems, a disturbing line has been crossed.

A verbal attack against Deputy Prime Minister Chrystia Freeland is under investigation in Alberta.

This week, newly named Conservative leader Pierre Poilievre had to issue a statement angrily denouncing a Diagolon supporter who allegedly made comments about sexually assaulting Poilievre's wife.

Protestors feel free to protest outside the house of Premier Doug Ford.

Like their politics or not, these are public servants doing what they believe is in the best interest of the country or province they serve.

Locally, Aldo Ruberto was attacked online after posting controversial statements to social media. MP Patty Hajdu was screamed at in Geraldton, just for being a Liberal who supported public health measures.

And the sad thing, is it really doesn't accomplish anything. Yelling and screaming like a three-year-old does not convince politicians to change their minds. So maybe grow up a bit.

Stop the insanity To the editor:

If it rarely happened I would just drop the issue but now it "always" happens so here we go Thunder Bay bike riders.

A huge thumbs up to the pumping heart inside this elderly body of mine for resisting arrythmia/fibrillation when receiving a scare during outdoor exercise. I am not an athlete but athletic and subscribe to miles of a walk/run regime on existing paths our from Confederation College.

The thumbs down to this are to the numerous bike riders who come at me from the back and pass without any form of notice.

You know who you are: expensive bikes with all the proper tools, helmets, expensive outfits, gloves mirrors (so you can see who's approaching you!) flashing lights so you can be seen for your safety and all the necessary paraphernalia.

I know you have a bell on your bike because it's a law in Canada, but do vou use it.

One big fat no, nor do you use a voice I'm also sure you have to simply utter three important words ~ "on your left".

All we require is for you to say



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

this or to use your fingers and make use of your bell or horn.

Why are our bikers in this city not considerate enough to alert someone on foot of them

approaching from behind?

If I'm out for over an hour and passed by six or seven cyclists it's always the same, in fact when and if someone does let me know my

surprise bowls me over and I congratulate them profusely.

So how is it that you deserve to have folks advocating to extend our trails for you. Even families with young riders accompanying their parents are not taught the proper etiquette of biking when they are about to pass someone.

Let's inflict some courtesy training in these folks in order that we share all of our bike/walk trails safely for all.

Perhaps alerts painted on the trails or pamphlets given out at bike events etc.

If there are other issues preventing you from letting me know you're coming up behind me at full speed then by all means contact me. I will sit down to hear your reasons and maybe we can resolve them together, I'll even buy the coffee, but I will definitely sit "on vour left"!

Finally, while running on the bike path Tuesday morning Aug. 18 around 8 a.m. a male rider in an orange tee shirt said "passing on vour left."

I shouted with joy and thanked him profusely.

> Barb Rickard Thunder Bay

Gray's poetry bring churchyards to life

I spend a lot of time in churchyards. I like their peaceful calmness. For the local and family historian they are a valuable resource. They tell us so much about our local community. Browsing the headstones gives us a sense of history and continuity through the lives of the people who lay buried there.

The most famous literary work on this subject is Thomas Gray's Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard. Ever since it was first published in 1751 this beautiful poem has been loved, quoted and memorized by readers, admired by poets, evaluated by critics and reissued by publishers.

Born in London in 1716, Gray was the fifth of 12 children and the only

one to survive infancy. By the time he came to write Elegy in 1742 he was an accomplished young poet, but not a seeker of literary fame.

The poem's popularity predated and hastened its publication. It then continued to please an ever widening readership. It became central to the English school curriculum and well into the twentieth century generations of schoolchildren learned to recite it.

Gray's images are always in motion. The arresting first stanza assembles simple descriptive statements into a flowing view. Cinematic for today's readers it connects Gray's pastoralism to the newly emergent English landscape movement.

With a daring swoop from the horizon and its small figures, plowman and cattle, Gray reduces 'the world' to the immediate world of the poem and then to the stanza's last echoing word, 'me':

'The curfew tolls the knell of parting day / The lowing herd wind slowly o'er the lea / The plowman

homeward plods his weary way / And leaves the world to darkness and to me.'

As the Elegy progresses it empha-

sizes the contrast between the legacies of power and powerlessness and Gray delivers an eloquent discourse on human potential unfulfilled. The politics are radical: knowledge and talent are thwarted through social inequity.

Gray's argument that poverty circumscribes the 'growing virtues' of the poor is his opportunity to castigate the powerful who 'Wade through slaughter to a throne / And shut the gates of mercy on mankind.'

One of the Elegy's great achievements is its easy movement between public and more personal, meditative idioms. Both are perfectly judged. Gray's voice is never too oratorical, nor too private, to leave his readers feeling excluded.

He imagines the sadness of the dying as they contemplate a perhaps more frightening 'death' - that of being forgotten. But the people who are buried in churchyards are never forgotten because, sometimes hundreds of years later, we can still read their names on the headstones.

The 1938 edition of Elegy was illustrated by the wood engravings of Agnes Miller Parker, which perfectly and beautifully accompany the poem.

Her interpretations of Elegy fuse modernist and traditional styles of illustration. The social comment of the starker scenes re-emphasises Gray's own enlightenment values.

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John Pateman

BOOK BANTER

PERSPECTIVE 7

Somebody's watching me

By JR Shermack

Did you ever get the feeling somebody was watching or listening to you even when you thought you were all alone?

It might be more than just a feeling because our personal lives are being tracked, recorded and scrutinized electronically wherever we go.

There aren't many places on the planet that aren't under some kind of surveillance - someone or something is always watching.

The advances in technology along with the lowering cost of sophisticated gadgets has made personal surveillance available to consumers for their own covert applications.

It may be a nanny-cam to check on the babysitter or a mini doorbellcam to deter 'porch pirates' from stealing packages at your front door when you aren't home.

Also footage from a personal iPhone, security cameras, drones or satellites or maybe just a nosey neighbor peeking from behind the curtains.

In 2022 snooping, spying and

Sept. 30/Oct. 1

SIJHL Hockey

invading personal space has become the norm and a culture of surveillance is emerging.

This culture has gained a foothold in Canadian business where the advent of modern technology is used to track employees through their phones and computers.

Pandemic restrictions forced many employers to allow their staff to work at home using company laptops loaded with private software and data.

Some employers were concerned that workers might be loafing on the job, baking cookies with their kids or even napping while their inboxes overflowed with unanswered mail.

This fear fueled a big surge in demand for employee tracking software that would enable individual tracking of work habits, efficiency and productivity.

Employers facilitated the need for home offices but they wanted a high level of security and control over their employees' work day.

This is nothing new - worker surveillance dates back a hundred



years to a simpler time when moni-

toring workers was less sophisticated.

The Ford Motor Company would send inspectors from its "Sociological Department" to make unannounced calls at employees'

homes.

Now with the evolution of surveillance software employers can now secretly count keystrokes, measure mouse movement, peruse e-mails and take random screen shots.

They may use security cameras, monitor phone usage and employ GPS tracking – almost anything can be monitored that is business related.

However, as employers extend their reach into workers' home offices there is concern that personal surveillance and monitoring is creeping into personal family life.

There is an overlap between an individual right to privacy and the use of surveillance technology to detect and deter undesirable behavior in the workplace.

Accordingly, the Government of Ontario has passed legislation requiring employers to disclose their electronic monitoring practices to all employees.

That raises the question, if you actually know somebody is really watching you, does that make you

or less have priority.

feel any better?

Employers can legally monitor almost anything an employee does on the job but the spying comes at a cost - employee trust may be sacrificed.

In one survey 59 per cent of employees felt anxiety about workplace surveillance, 41 per cent constantly felt they were being watched (they were) and more than half would consider quitting.

A new report revealed that one third of Canadian employees are being monitored with computer software while they work - 23 per cent think it makes their workplace more unfriendly.

As for me, I think we are all living in a surveillance culture and to paraphrase Yogi Berra, no matter where you go, there you are, caught, photographed and digitized.

Even the surface of Mars is under our surveillance along with distant galaxies and everything else out to the edge of the known universe.

If there is intelligent life out there I wonder if they ever get the feeling that somebody is watching.

Nhat's Happening in and around. .

The Bay

To submit an event, email ldunick@dougallmedia.com. Please include details about the event, including any cost

The Kam River Fighting Walleye

and Thunder Bay North Stars are back on home ice this weekend, in a homeand-home series that gets under way on Friday night at the Norwest Arena.

The two teams, who went undefeated on the road to open the season, will switch to Fort William Gardens on Saturday night.

Tickets are available at the door at each venue and the puck drops at 7:30 p.m. each night.

Oct. 1-2

Autumn Psychic Fair Psychic readings will be held on a firstcome, first-served basis at the Autumn Psychic Fair.

Readings are \$50 and take place in the Salon Room at the Ramada Airlane Hotel at 698 West Arthur Street from noon to 10 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Admission to the fair is free to the event, presented by the Mystic Veil Psychics. There will be raffle prizes too.

Oct. 1 **Beethoven Rebooted**

Captivating audiences with their expert playing skills and their energetic, innovative approach, guest cello duo VC2 performs with panache. Their program, "Beethoven Rebooted", provides a snapshot of the cello repertoire-historic and new compositions-with ties to the great composer.

VC2's Amahl Arulanandam and Bryan Holt introduce their own arrangements of works by Beethoven, including Ludwig's cello colleagues Duport, Kraft, and Romberg. These works are intertwined with a few commissioned pieces by Canadian composers, again inspired by Beethoven's cello sonatas. Spanning genres and with influences from jazz to contemporary, and even hints of the rock world, VC2's program will showcase the diverse future of virtuosic music for cello duo.

Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$15 for students and 11 and under are free. The show is Saturday, at St. Paul's United Church from 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Oct. 2

Jesse Cook

An accomplished guitarist, producer and equally prolific film maker, Jesse Cook has evolved his talents to create experiences that delight audiences both in concert, and online.

He composed his first album, Tempest, over 25 years ago. Jesse could not imagine that such a humble recording, in which he played all the instruments, would spark into a music legacy with thousands of concerts performed around the world, over 2 million albums sold, five PBS TV specials, and tens of millions of content views and streams across the internet.

Tickets are available through Ticketmaster and start at \$61 for the main floor.

HOW TO WRITE TO US: Letters to the editor are most welcome. Those kept to 350 words

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:

Do candidate debates and forums influence your municipal election vote?

| TOTAL VOTES: 1,289 | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| YES | NO | ODON'T KNOW | | | | | | | | | |
| 50.35% | 45.31% | 4.34% | | | | | | | | | |

8 **NEWS**

City records 11th homicide of 2022

By TB Source staff

A man is dead after being assaulted at the Andras Court apartment building on Cumberland Street South.

The Thunder Bay Police Service identify the victim as an Ajax, Ontario man, aged 28.

Police did not immediately release the victim's identity in a statement Monday.

Officers, paramedics and Thunder Bay Fire Rescue were all dispatched to the 100 block of South Cumberland about 1:15 a.m. Saturday following reports of an injured male. Police learned the man had

sustained injuries consistent with a serious assault.

Paramedics took him to Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre for further evaluation and treatment, but the man succumbed there to his injuries.

Members of the Major Crimes Unit and Forensic Identification Unit are involved in the ongoing investigation.

Police are asking anyone with information about this incident to contact them at (807) 684-1200 or call Crime Stoppers anonymously at 1-800-222-8477, or online at www.p3tips.com

This is Thunder Bay's 11th homicide so far this year.

The only previous year the city recorded that many homicides was in 2014.



A Thunder Bay Police vehicle is parked outside Andras Court, scene of the city's latest murder. (Jessah Clement/TBT News)



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Signs of fall: skunks and firewood

So, the autumn equinox arrived and with it, cooler mornings. Great, I now need no excuse to light a fire in the fireplace in our living room which I do right after getting the coffee going.

I have been trying to walk with the dogs every day on our trails. What do I do on these

walks aside from stumbling along with les chiens? I timber cruise. When My wife, Laura, and I go together, we timber cruise. There are a lot of standing-dead trees - balsam, spruce, jackpine, and with the strong winds that

have swept across the land this past spring and summer, many more trees have been toppled.

Most of the toppled types are still sporting green needles, which means it would take a while after bucking and carting the pieces back to my wood-splitting spot to season before I could burn them. But there are also several easy-to-get-at dead ones, enough such that I could have a fire in the fireplace every day for a year or more.

All it would take is for me to retrieve them. And slowly I am doing just that.

I read a comment online that we northerners wait to the bitter end before turning on the heat. As the temperature steadily drops at this time of year, some of us are more inclined to don sweaters rather than crank up

the thermostat.

Fred Jones

RURAL ROOTS

After all, heating one's abode costs and like everything else at this time, the price has increased. Casa Jones boasts both a wood

boiler and an electric one in our basement. The house is heated with water moving through copper pipes to radiators. When we built the house back in 2000, the cost of propane, electricity, and oil were the same. Our plumber had a used electric boiler that he installed.

Getting the wood boiler to fire up and build heat takes time; the electric boiler takes next to no time. So, on very cold mornings, I turn on the electric boiler to get our "hoosie" warm.

So far this autumn, I have avoided turning on both the electric and wood boilers. Haven't needed to especially when I have a sweater chest full of warm woolies.

However, Saturday night I exited my library to observe a light coming from the boiler room. Sure enough someone had lit a fire in the wood boiler. It was Doug who said he was freezing. Fair enough.

I rise early. Can't sleep much beyond six or six-thirty in the morning. Mind you, I pass out in my Lazy Boy chair at night in my library usually with a book having fallen from my grasp onto my lap well before the other Jones residents retire. So, in the mornings I am up before anyone else.

The fire in the fireplace takes the chill out of the sitting room.

For me the fire is reassuring and entertaining as well as warmth; and once coffee is ready, I grab a mug and sit in my rocking chair in front of the crackling flames until it is time to rouse Laura and daughter, Beth and get them on their way to their jobs.

Eventually the pooches need to go outside.

I step out too and take a big whiff of the glorious aroma of wood smoke. Would like to hold off resorting to fires in the wood boiler until the thermometer registers well below zero for more than just one or two days. Must give Doug a couple of sweaters. And speaking of "whiffs" and smells typical of this time of year as we swing into Autumn and into October (good grief! So soon?): While driving to and from town recently my schnoz picked up the unmistakable 'Eau de Pepi' aka skunk. First time was at night as I drove to the airport to pick up my wife, Laura, returning from a conference in southern Ontario.

LIFE 9

I was just cresting a hill on the highway when I spotted the critter scampering across the road in front of my vehicle. Whew!

Narrow miss, that. Again further along the highway I detected that pungent aroma, and then two days later while driving home on a backroad, the same. I'm told that the "Pepis" are on the move looking for winter homes.

Observing that fact means that I must be vigilant at home especially at night.

Don't want any of the three pooches to get skunked.



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Wake the Giant was incredible

Wake The Giant is an incredible event for the city of Thunder Bay, and the region as a whole, it's a celebration of togetherness and understanding infused with a

great concert that has been something the city has been needing for a long time.

Another part of the Wake the Giant festivities is Feed the Giant. It's a dynamic, free flowing celebration of food with the same values as the concert itself. It brings together chefs from all

over the city (and this year, all of Ontario).

I was truly honoured to be asked to be a part of the dedicated lineup of wonderfully talented chefs that were plying their trade at this incredible event hosted by The Chanterelle.

There's something about the grind of being in the business that sometimes it's just fun to cook

with other professionals because you love it. Most of the chefs invited I had known or worked with for many years so it was something of a bit of a family reunion of sorts.

Havden Johnston, a renowned chef in his

own right, helps to organize and spearhead this incredible melding of great culinary minds (and me, for some reason.)

Feeling pressure to represent the



A Beefcake Burger Factor burger. (FILE)

of course did a slider burger. In some ways I felt as if I was cheaping out, however, in occasions to elevate and showcase our product, it's sometimes the best way to make the most of the opportunity.

It has been some time since I had been gifted the chance to flex some chef muscles around chefs that I admire, admittingly it was pretty nice to take a break from being a general and be a soldier for once.

It was a rare chance to catch up with old friends and make some new ones. Steve and Franco (from The Chanterelle/Tomlin) and I reminisced about some of the old times working together in hotels over a decade earlier, but mostly caught up on life and what's going on these days.

Meeting Austin, a tremendously talented imported chef and the current chef at Bight was a highlight as a lot of laughs were shared

over some drinks after service. There is something about most professionals in the business that we can almost always get along because this business attracts people of a certain personality and mindset. We are all a little bit left of center.

All in all, it was a very busy, but very rewarding evening. I hadn't had the opportunity to do one of these events in quite a while. I hope with things getting back to normal they become more frequent. I don't feel the pressure to do a burger any more though. Derek Lankinen is an award-winning chef, author, and restauranteur. He is the Owner/Operator of Beefcake's Burger Factory with two locations in Westfort and Current River and Co-Owner of Elite Beef. Brick and Mortar Food Co. and Eat Loco Tacos.



Beefcake's Burger Factory brand, I

Here's Cooking at You Kid

10 LIFE





Smallmouth bass are almost always willing to take a bite when one is out fishing for them. (Submitted photo)

Small mouth, big bite

Last week I was fortunate to get out one evening after work for some fly fishing with my friend Christian. We had high hopes of catching some elusive trout from a hidden little gem of a secret spot close to Thunder Bay.

Catching trout at this particular place has been my white whale in that it is a pursuit where I have come to accept there is little chance of success. Perhaps it is the fact that I continue to strike out here that keeps me coming back, and maybe once I solve the puzzle I will move on.

In the meantime, I go back about once a year and I am always rewarded with enough smallmouth bass to keep me from getting bored.

With each aggressive strike my hope is renewed that I have finally hooked a trout, but time and again, it is another smallmouth. These little bass fight valiantly, bulldogging in the depths, then leaping from the water as they try to spit my fly.

The smallmouth bass is a deep-bodied

warm-water fish that is native to Ontario. It has a distinctive red eye, two dorsal fins, and can be differentiated from a largemouth bass by the fact that its mouth does not extend past its eve.

Smallies are plentiful in many lakes around Thunder Bay and popular with anglers because of their eagerness to bite and then put up a spirited battle once they are hooked.

In our area, these fish average one to three pounds but some lakes are known to produce some really

big "bronzebacks" that push twenty inches in length. The Ontario record for a smallmouth is 9.8lbs.

Bass are not typically considered desirable for table fare but they are a really great option for catchand-release angling, especially when you are fishing with kids.

Many young anglers became hooked on fishing because they caught a pile of these eager-biting, funfighting fish off the dock at camp.

Last week, I had a run of four or five consecutive casts where a hungry smallmouth smashed my fly

with reckless abandon.



As soon as one fish was released, the fly was tossed back out and gobbled up by another bass the moment it hit the water.

The experience took me back to my childhood where I spent a lot of early mornings and late evenings targeting these fish at the family camp on Shebandowan Lake.

For a moment, I even forgot we had come to catch trout as I was enjoying

the constant action the bass were providing.

However, with daylight burning fast and our desire to bag a couple ruffed grouse off the trails on the way home, we packed up the rods even before the bass stopped biting.

Even though we failed to connect with our target species, we had a lot of fun catching bass.

One of the great things about Northwestern Ontario is that there is always something willing to bite.





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Flawed satire thriller

We'll ignore the many gossipy reports surrounding Don't Worry Darling (SilverCity) to concentrate on the movie itself, which is one-part satire on postmodern conformity and one-part psychological thriller, collectively inspired by The Stepford Wives, The Prisoner, and The Truman Show, with a dash of The Twilight Zone.

Florence Pugh (Midsommar) and Harry Styles (Dunkirk) play Alice and Jack, a young, amorous couple who live in the Palm Springs-like 1950s Shangri-la community of Victory.

Every sunshiny morning, the husbands dressed in suits and ties shuttle off to work in their snazzy period autos barreling off in a clockwork caravan, their dutiful wives uniformly kissing them and waving goodbye, outfitted in June Cleaver dresses, scampering back into their respective households to clean and cook, anticipating hubby's return. Returning home, randy Jack is ready to pleasure Alice, even at the expense of a dinner table setting.

The husbands are working on the secretive Victory Project, involving "progressive materials," over-seen by creepy Tony Robbins-like leader Frank (Chris Pine) who runs the town like a cult. Sporadic earthquakelike rumblings suggests possible weapons work. This is an idyllic self-enclosed world. Everything is cozy, predictable, and weirdly symmetrical.



Marty Mascarin

venturing beyond city limits to **MOVIE TALK** investigate a small plane crash.

> She begins to have disquieting visions. Henchmen in red jumpsuits pop out

Alice gets berated for

of nowhere to remove "problem" individuals.

This all leads Alice to challenge Frank at a dinner party in her home, a confrontation that leaves her looking like an emotional, rebellious outcast. Is Alice paranoid and delusional or is there something malevolent going on—but to what end?

The themes of devious patriarchal societies and suppression and objectification of women go nowhere. Katie Silberman's script is a jumbled narrative that raises more questions than answers. There is a twist in the film's latter stages suggesting something else is afoot but this muddies the waters further, nebulously tying into the narrative.

Director Wilde (Booksmart) gets marks for her ambition, with first-rate cinematography, soundtrack and production design, creating a twisted utopia suffused in plastic artificiality. The screen is awash with stylized images, including a needlessly repetitive Busby Berkeley sequence, which fail to illuminate the dead-end plot points, resulting in a scattershot effect.

Impressive, charismatic Pugh makes the movie watchable, inviting us to identify with her alarm and her rebellious resolve. Unfortunately, virtually all other characters remain stunted. Chris Pine's intimidating Frank has some promising jousting moments with Pugh which simply fizzle.

The suspense builds, and then the movie simply ends, curiously ambiguous. What is it all about? Of the many period pop tunes featured, the movie could have ended with Patti Page's Is That All There Is?





SPORTS 13 **Figers stun Vikings in second half**

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Mitchell Papineau is a rarity – a high school junior football quarterback with a big arm and pinpoint accuracy.

His skills were on full display in Thursday night's season opener.

Papineau, whose Westgate Tigers (1-0) found themselves down 30-8 at the half against the Hammarskjold Vikings, powered his team to a remarkable 52-37 comeback win, firing three touchdowns through the air in the third and fourth.

The Tigers QB finished 17-for-26 for 402 yards and four scores on the night and said despite being down 22 points after the opening 24 minutes, he and his teammates never stopped believing they could complete the comeback.

All they needed was a chance.

"Our confidence rose after we got the first (score) and our momentum just kept on going. We just rode it out the entire time," said Papineau. "Our defence stepped up crazy in the second half and got all those stops and we just started rolling."

Three of his scores fell into the arms of wideout Cole McVety, including a 59-yard bomb midway through the fourth that stretched the Tigers lead to 45-30.

"I guess I just trusted my receivers and threw it. They were getting open on a lot of routes. I just trusted my gut and threw it," Papineau said. "(McVety) actually never played football before, but he's fast and I trusted him with the ball a lot. He can do a little bit of everything."

For the first half, it was Hammarskjold running back Gerald Marshall who couldn't be stopped.



Jack Popowich runs the ball for the Tigers.

Marshall had 116 yards on the ground by halftime, including a 63yard scamper that pushed the

Vikings in front 16-0 at the time.

Their first score came in the first, on a 12-vard run by Ewan Reid. Liam Lucas added a three-yard TD before Papineau started the comeback in earnest, connecting with McVety for a 25-yard touchdown with 56 seconds to go in the second.

The Vikings needed just 28 seconds to answer back when quarterback Taylor Main hit an open Reid for a 45-yard TD.

They couldn't maintain the momentum in the second half. however.

After turning the ball over on downs on their first possession, Westgate's Michael Romeo stripped the ball from Lucas, returning it to the Hammarskjold 12. One play later Papineau found Jack Popowich for his second major of the night.

The Vikings (0-1) went three and

out and it took just three plays to find the end zone again, Papineau and McVety connecting for the second time.

Another three-and-out gave the Tigers the ball back at their own 31 and Papineau needed just four plays to march his team down the field for another touchdown to tie the game 30-30, Griffin Hlady hauling in ball from 12 yards out.

Westgate's special teams recovered a fumble on the ensuing kickoff and took the lead for good 1:38 into the fourth, Popowich punching one in from two yards out.

"We had a bad start, but then the second half came and one touchdown motivated us," McVety said. "The second touchdown, by that time we were tied and it just kept going up from there."



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