



Boshcoff unveils plan /3



Review: The Menu /14



Police seek murder info /5



Hackner going strong /17

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Thursday, December 1, 2022

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Lakehead captain Tyler Jette (left) and forward Greg Smith, who scored the goal that sent the stuffed animals flying, help collect the gifts for children in need off the ice. (Leith Dunick)

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Three-time Mayor Ken Boshcoff says inflation, the designated truck route and a turf facility are key issues. (Ian Kaufman)

Council has lots to do: Boshcoff

By Ian Kaufman - TB Source

Mayor Ken Boshcoff looked to set the tone for the new term of Thunder Bay's city council in an inaugural address Monday, calling on the municipal government to deliver clear progress on issues including economic development, homelessness, and climate change over the coming four years.

In remarks lasting around 10 minutes, Boshcoff acknowledged council comes in facing a number of what city manager Norm Gale called "heavy files," including an inflation-year budget and decisions on long-debated issues like the proposed designated truck route and indoor turf facility.

"We have a very full, indeed an overflowing plate of serious issues before us," Boshcoff said. "But we knew that coming in, and are now here to serve."

In the address, Boshcoff said he hoped to lead a council that would minimize tax hikes and limit the size of the municipal government while delivering on priorities including economic growth, alleviating homelessness and poverty, fostering civic pride, and climate action.

After acknowledging Thunder Bay sits on the traditional territory of Fort William First Nation, Boshcoff touched first on the question of tax increases, which council will soon tackle when it reviews the 2023 budget in January and February.

"I am energized and determined to do everything possible to make Thunder Bay the community we've always known it could be," he said. "I believe this starts with coming to grips with our financial

realities. We must address the issue of tax increases, and it must be our goal to hold the line as much as possible for the rest of our term."

Notably, he said the municipal government has a "high ratio of staff to population," adding "we have to stay the right size to appropriately staff our city properly."

Boshcoff also further outlined plans he put front and centre in the election campaign to seek "special status" from the provincial and federal governments to recognize Thunder Bay's role as a regional hub.

"We've learned that we are providing services (not only) for 110,000 citizens, but also for a much larger transient population whose numbers are estimated at approximately 20,000," he said.

"To properly, decently, and respectfully accommodate and address this... we must have provincial and federal designation as a regional support centre. This requires additional financial assistance for poverty, homelessness, affordable housing, addictions, crime, racism and discrimination, food assistance, and medical treatments."

The address came during the first public meeting of Thunder Bay's recently elected city council on Monday, after several weeks of orientation.

The meeting was a ceremonial affair, with the only item of business the establishment of a schedule for councillors to serve as acting mayor, in the case of Boshcoff's absence.

Council will meet again Tuesday to appoint council and citizen representatives to sit on a variety of city committees and outside boards.

WEATHER FORECAST

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy
Precipitation: 30% HIGH -3 LOW -3	Precipitation: 80% HIGH 2 LOW -9	Precipitation: 80% HIGH -9 LOW -17	Precipitation: 30% HIGH -2 LOW -9

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Fifty-fifty guarantees \$1 million

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Glenn Craig's December phone call is going to be worth at least \$1 million to a lucky Thunder Bay 50/50 ticket buyer.

The Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Foundation president and CEO on Thursday announced next month's draw will come with a seven-figure guarantee, gambling that Christmas shoppers will snap up tickets like they did in December 2021, when the draw set a \$2.3-million record.

"We've been talking to people and saying how long is a piece of string? Who knows. We might hit \$2 million or \$3 million. There's no upward limit, so if people get behind this the hospital is going to do extremely well, but somebody's going to have a very nice 2023," Craig said.

Prior to last December, the previous one-month high had been \$965,000, the amount raised in the popular lottery's inaugural draw. "We were looking at what we've

been doing on a monthly basis, about a half-million dollars, which is not a bad amount to win," Craig said. "But we wanted to add some excitement, so we thought let's go big and let's guarantee a million dollars.

"And I must say, when you sign that guarantee your hands shake a little bit, but we're confident in our community. We've been able to show the impact of these funds at the hospital, so I don't think it's too big of a gamble."

Proceeds from the December draw will be directed to a planned three-phase improvement to the hospital's emergency department, which has seen more and more visitors as a trio of respiratory illnesses have made the rounds.

"It's three moderate-level projects, under \$10 million each, so they're still significant projects," said hospital president and CEO Rhonda Crocker-Ellacott. "So we're looking to do it in three phases where we would do the emergency room, registration area and triage desk.



Hospital CEO Rhonda Crocker-Ellacott and Hospital Foundation president Glenn Craig.

Most people who have seen the emergency department know that we could make some improvements in terms of patient flow and experience."

Phase 2 would be a mental health emergency department and the

third phase is a psychiatric intensive care outside the ER.

The projects still need provincial approval.

Tickets for the draw will be available online, and also at the Foundation's pop-up location at

Intercity Shopping Centre, located in the food court at the former David's Tea store.

Craig said the idea for the pop-up – which may become permanent depending on how successful it is – derived from the former Christmas 50/50 draw sponsored in part by the shopping centre.

It gives ticket-buyers more options, he said.

"For years we had a paper-based 50/50 with Intercity, and one of the great frustrations with some of our people is they can't buy these tickets or they're not comfortable with e-commerce," Craig said. "So they wanted us out in the community, so when we sat down we said what better place than to come back to the Intercity mall?"

Tickets for the December draw went on sale at www.thunderbay5050.ca and at the pop-up.

There will be 17 early-bird prizes, including a \$25,000 draw on Dec. 28.



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Homicide police release images

By Gary Rinne - TB Source

The Thunder Bay Police Service has released images of three males believed to be persons of interest to investigators probing a recent homicide.

Corey Glen Ashley Belesky, 31, was found dead shortly after 1 a.m. on Nov. 1, 2022 at a residence on Brent Street

Three days later, police said they had determined his death was a homicide.

On Monday, the Major Crimes Unit released still images taken from surveillance video.

Police are asking to hear from anyone who may have observed or interacted with three individuals in the River Street/High Street area between 9 p.m. on Oct. 31 and 2 a.m. on Nov. 1.

"We are requesting assistance



Police would like to know the movements of these three men on Oct. 31 and Nov. 1.

from the public in our ongoing investigation into the homicide of Cory Belesky. That investigation commenced on Nov. 1 of this year and at this time we're releasing some surveillance footage of three persons of interest and we're

hoping the public can assist us with tracking the movements of those individuals and perhaps provide any information on any interaction they may have had with those three in the time period of 9 p.m. on the 31st of October to 2 a.m. on the 1st

of November," said Det.-Insp. Jeremy Pearson in an appeal to the public.

Pearson said a person of interest is someone police are interested in speaking to about the incident, and stopped short of calling the people in the video suspects.

Police are asking anyone who lives in this area at the above-mentioned time, and have home surveillance or dash-camera footage, to please review and contact police if you believe they have anything that could be helpful.

"We have canvassed extensively in the area, but there's always a chance that we've missed someone who may have home surveillance video they can share or possibly more likely, someone who was driving in the area who has dash-cam footage that could be of

assistance," Pearson said.

Police are not yet able to publicly announce why they are interested in speaking to the three individuals.

"I don't wish to delve too deeply into the exact nature of police interest in these individuals and to the exact involvement these individuals may or may not have had in this incident. I don't want to colour the perception of the public. We're simply asking for anyone with recollection or video of having interacted with these individuals to come forward and speak with our investigators."

TBPS may be contacted at 684-1200.

Callers are asked to refer to incident number TB22064074.

Tips may also be submitted anonymously through Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477, or online at www.p3tips.com.

ANNOUNCEMENT



DR. HEALEY MALVINA GARDINER PhD, Clinical Psychology

Family, friends and co-workers are thrilled to announce that Miss Healey Malvina Gardiner received her Doctorate Degree in Clinical Psychology from the University of Windsor, at the fall convocation ceremonies held October 14th, 2022 in Windsor.

Doctor Healey Gardiner, PhD, was born and raised in Thunder Bay, attending Sir John A. MacDonald Elementary and Hammarskjold High Schools. She then began her secondary education at Lakehead University before attending University of Windsor for her Masters' and Doctorate degrees.

She has served placements at St. Joseph's Care Group in Thunder Bay, and the Centre for Psychology & Emotional Regulation in Midland Ontario, and she interned at the Ottawa Hospital.

Always wanting to return to Thunder Bay, we are proud that she has been able to do just that. Dr. Healey Gardiner is working as a Clinical Psychologist supervised by Dr. Anita Federici (the Center for Psychology and Emotion Regulation) and Dr. Jasmine Mahdy (Sick Kids, The Clinic on Dupont). She is presently pursuing her supervised practice for registration with the College of Psychologists of Ontario as a clinical and health psychologist with adults and adolescent populations.

Dr. Gardiner is thrilled to provide virtual services while living in the Northwestern Ontario city that she calls home with the ultimate goal to serve her hometown in private practice. When not working, she can usually be found spending time outside in nature, usually accompanied by her dog.

Congratulations Doctor Healey with love from all of us!

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Firefighters will volunteer their time this month at Intercity Shopping Centre.

Toys for Tots back at mall

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Every child should get to open at least one present on Christmas morning.

That's the philosophy of the Thunder Bay Professional Firefighters, who for decades have been operating the annual Toys for Tots campaign in the city, providing gifts to up to 4,000 children in need through the Christmas Cheer program.

They say Toys for Tots is needed in the city now more than ever.

"People have fallen on hard times. For us, that's why we do it. Firefighters, when they get called out, they're almost always trying to help somebody. So Toys for Tots is us getting into the community even more, volunteering our own time and taking care of families who have fallen on hard times," said firefighter Paul Penna.

"It's hard to put in words how important it is, but we do it because we love to do it."

Money for this year's effort was collected last year and Penna says they're hoping to collect at least \$150,000 to help cover the costs of next year's gift giveaway.

A collection of volunteer buyers use the money to purchase toys and other gifts for the recipients, whose age and gender have been provided.

"When we buy toys for them, we know we're giving specifically to someone. There's nothing complicated about Toys for Tots. We put in our month-and-a-bit, the guys volunteer hundreds and hundreds of hours at the mall and it's become a tradition for lots of families to come down, visit the firefighters, write a cheque or drop in a 20 or a 50," Penna said.

"Some children even bring their coins in that they've been saving all year. It's pretty neat."

Firefighters will be on hand at their traditional firehouse, set up just outside the food court area at Intercity Shopping Centre.

Donations of any size are welcome.

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Raffle**

**WIN 50% of the Jackpot &
Help Save Our Cathedral Roof!**

Saint Patrick's Cathedral has undertaken a project to replace the 60 year old roof on the Cathedral. The roof has suffered the ravages of our NW Ontario weather and is deteriorating rapidly. The replacement cost is 2.4 million dollars which we are committed to raising over the next 3-5 years. The completion of the roof campaign will ensure that this iconic structure survives and continues to serve the community for the next 100 years.

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EDITORIAL

City spending

Mayor Ken Boshcoff isn't mincing words when he talks about the task facing city council over the next four years.

Boshcoff on Monday night promised to limit tax hikes while also tamping down the size of municipal government in Thunder Bay – all the while continuing to deliver the services that residents expect.

That's a tall order.

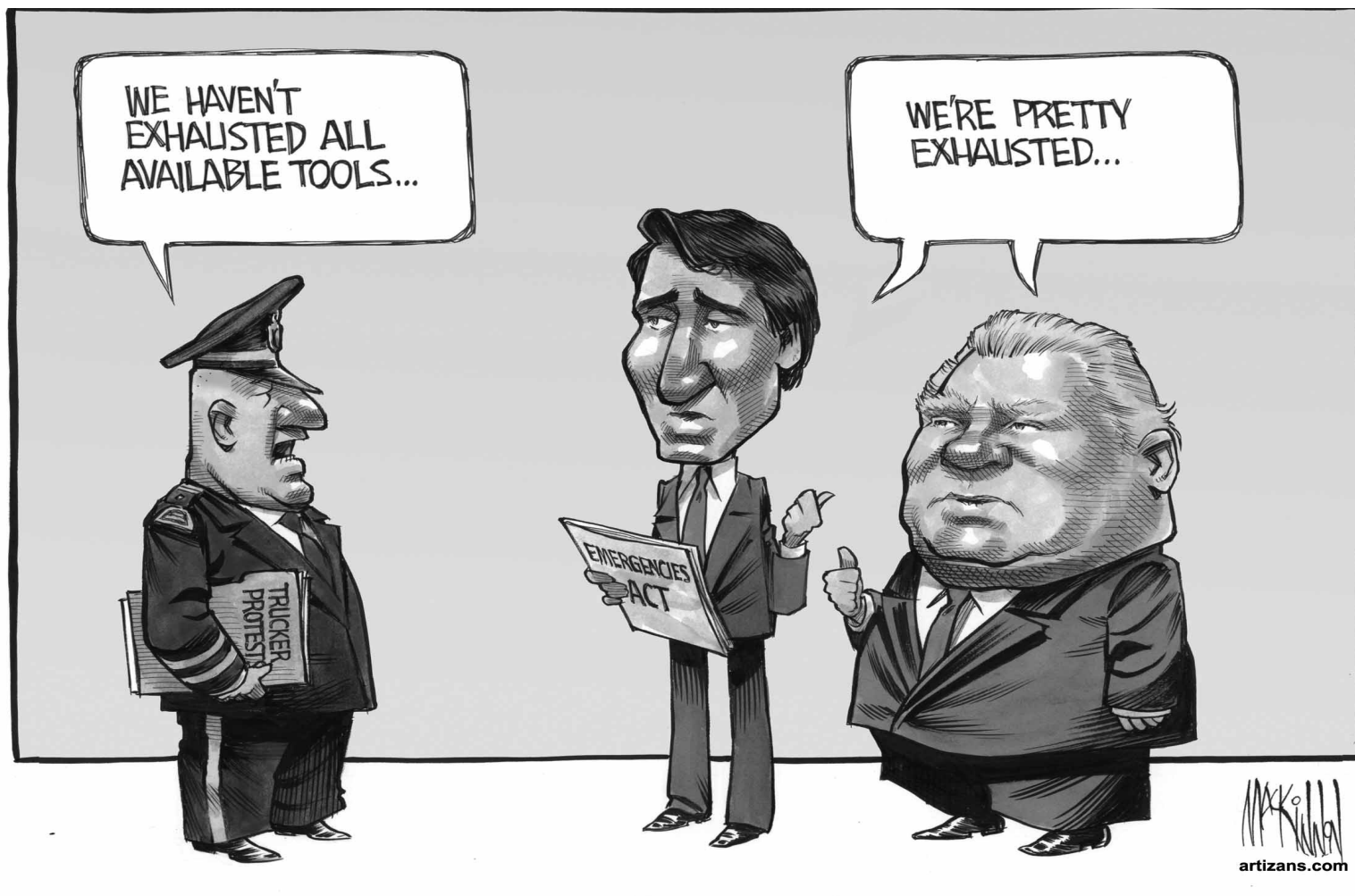
If Boshcoff and council want to save money, cutting salaries is a great place to start.

In previous councils, the decision was made to punt infrastructure work to keep tax hikes minimal, which has led to a \$20-million infrastructure deficit.

Taxpayers can't afford to continually be faced with over-the-top tax hikes, especially with costs going up in every other facet of bill-paying life.

At some point, the money has to come from somewhere to pay for special projects, including the still-proposed indoor turf facility, the potential for a \$56-million police station and our ever-deteriorating roads.

A 10 per cent reduction in city staff might go a long way to addressing the infrastructure gap, while protecting the taxpayer's thinning wallet.



Colombian family looks back on turbulent times

Retrospective by Juan Gabriel Vasquez is the remarkable story of a Colombian family, the Cabreras, who live through the turbulent events of the 20th century.

In October 2016 the real life Colombian film director Sergio Cabrera is attending a retrospective of his films in Barcelona.

It's a difficult time: his father has just died, his marriage is in crisis and his country has rejected peace agreements that might have ended more than 50 years of war.

In the course of a few intense days, Sergio will recall events that marked the family's life, and especially his mother's and father's, his sister Marianella's and his own.

From the Spanish Civil War to the

exile of Cabrera's Republican family in Latin America, and from the Cultural Revolution in China to the guerilla movements of late 1960s Latin America, not only do we discover a series of adventures extraordinary by any standards, but a fascinating portrait of the forces that, for more than half a century, turned the world upside down and created the one we now inhabit.

The 20th century was dominated by the clash of Ideologies between Capitalism and Communism. This battle manifested itself in the brutal Spanish

Civil War in which the democratically elected Republican government was overthrown by Franco's Fascist forces.

That is where this story begins, with the Cabrera family fighting for Communism and being forced into exile in the Dominican Republic, Cuba and Columbia, where they eventually settled. Following the triumph of the Cuban Revolution in 1959, the Cabreras moved to China, joined the Party and joined in the effort to build Socialism.

Much of the book is set during the

years of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution which Chairman Mao launched in order to ensure that China did not follow the same path to revisionism that the leaders of the Soviet Union took after the death of Stalin.

Sergio and Marianella Cabrera throw themselves - body, heart and soul - into the Cultural Revolution and use it as a training ground for their eventual return to Colombia.

The final part of the book follows them back to their homeland where they join the guerilla army that is fighting in the mountains to win the support of the peasants.

Here they are able to use the tactics that were deployed by Castro in the Sierra Maestra and

Mao on his Long Trek to defeat a militarily superior enemy.

The aim is to avoid open warfare in set battles and, instead, wear the enemy down by keeping constantly on the move and launching lightning strikes against their military bases. The guerillas then disappear into the hills, armed with new weapons that they use to train the latest peasant recruits.

But, whereas these tactics had secured a relatively swift victory in China and Cuba, the guerilla war in Colombia became protracted and increasingly bitter.

Colombian society was traumatised to the extent that, when they were offered the chance for peace, they were too damaged to take it.



John Pateman
BOOK BANTER

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Black Friday has football roots

By JR Shermack

Every year about this time, on the Friday after American Thanksgiving, a curious social phenomenon occurs in the States and several countries worldwide.

It is revered by some, reviled by others and it has a troubled past.

In the 1950s, the Philadelphia Police had to deal with hordes of tourists who invaded their city every year for the annual Army-Navy football game.

The game was played on the Saturday after Thanksgiving but on Friday the police were kept busy with the increased traffic, crowd control and bedlam in retail stores.

They began calling it “Black Friday” and the name caught on – city merchants tried to change it to “Big Friday” to reflect a more positive image but the original label stuck.

The term wasn’t used nationwide until the late 1980s when retailers found a way to resurrect and reinvent Black Friday, turning it into the shopping extravaganza we all know.

Black Friday took on a new meaning, described as the day of the year when retailers’ books finally moved out of the red and into the black.

What began as Black Friday has been extended by days, even weeks as retailers use that same rallying cry and strategy as an enticement to attract consumers and their money year round.

It has spawned ‘Cyber Monday’ and now uses the vast outreach of social media to lure the internet crowd into the clutches of on line retailers, often extending the sales for weeks.

Black Friday has become a rallying cry for bargain hunters and shopaholics and is the unofficial starting point for the holiday shopping frenzy.

The unruly antics of some Black Friday shoppers has been compared to an “acquisitive mob”, a large group of people fighting over limited resources.

Shoppers are a little skittish this year for a number of reasons including rising prices due to inflation and a trend toward on line



The Black Friday tradition began in the 1950s in Philadelphia, and quickly spread.

shopping and curbside pickup, a legacy of the pandemic.

Merchants are feeling the pressure – changing consumer buying habits have left retailers with warehouses overstocked with inventory and store shelves full of unsold merchandise.

However Black Friday is a U.S. tradition and in spite of economic difficulties and changing times American shoppers still couldn’t

resist the lure of a bargain.

There was still mayhem in some retail outlets as the acquisitive mob of in store consumers shopped with all the decorum of a pack of jackals fighting over a carcass.

Meanwhile, back in cyber space American consumers dropped a record \$9 billion for on line purchases, which may be an indication of how Black Friday is evolving.

Canadians also partake in this

frenzied Friday of consuming and enthusiastically embrace black bargains with almost as much gusto as our southern neighbours.

This year however, Canadians on the hunt for in-store Black Friday discounts did not have to endure the long lines and crowded aisles of past years.

Two years of restricted in-person shopping plus decades-high inflation rates forced Canadian consumers to rein in their spending and cherry-pick only the best deals.

Besides, Black Friday isn’t just one day any more – sale prices last for weeks and may even drop further as retailers get nervous about still being in the red.

With a little patience shoppers can wait for even deeper discounts to come to them, either in-store or on line.

As for me, I don’t participate in Black Friday shopping activities but I have to admit I am always amused by the security footage showing the antics of frenzied shoppers.

And if their enthusiasm puts a few local businesses back in the black, that will be a good thing too.

what's happening
in and around...

The Bay

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Please include details about the event, including any cost

December 2-3 Christmas Craft Sale

West Thunder Community Centre's Annual Christmas Craft sale is fast approaching.

They will have more than 40 tables of great crafts, food, and even a visit from Santa on Saturday afternoon.

Admission is by cash donation, or a non-perishable food item in support of the Thunder Bay Food Bank.

Come join them for a great day and find something for that special someone in your life.

Doors are open from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Friday and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday.

December 2 Christmas Concert

Family-friendly Christmas concert, fundraiser for Urban Abbey's Emergency Shelter for Women & Canada-Ukraine Foundation.

The show takes place on Friday at 7 p.m. at Urban Abbey

It will be an interactive concert, with performances by TBay Trad, Zhuravli Ukrainian Folk Ensemble, Chaban Ukrainian Dance Group, Dave Jonasson and Bohdan Tkaczyk, and Connor Loughlin.

Tickets are \$20 in advance, or by e-transfer at the door.

December 2-18 Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol

Chained and shackled, Marley is condemned to a hellish eternity. He's even given his own private tormentor: a malicious little hell-sprite who thoroughly enjoys his work.

Desperate, Marley accepts his one chance to free himself: To escape his own chains, he must first redeem Scrooge.

So begins a journey of laughter and terror, redemption and renewal, during which Scrooge's heart, indeed, is opened; but not before Marley—in

this irreverent, funny and deeply moving story—discovers his own.

A different take on the Dickens classic, the show takes place ahead of the holiday season at Magnus Theatre.

Tickets are available online or at the box office.

December 3 Madison Violet concert

Influenced by their maritime heritage, the East Coast musicians Madison Violet began creating music together that had roots firmly planted in their past, but with contemporary and modern elements generously overlaid.

Categorizing Madison Violet's music is an impossible task, with elements of folk, singer-songwriter, pop, indie, bluegrass, and country flawlessly interwoven throughout.

The concert takes place at 8 p.m. on Saturday at the Port Arthur Polish Hall. Tickets are \$30 at eventbrite.ca.

HOW TO WRITE TO US:

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

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

Address them to: **THUNDER BAY SOURCE**
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THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Will you donate to a Christmas charity this year?

TOTAL VOTES: 1,578

YES 60.46% NO 31.37% DON'T KNOW 8.17%

Christmas Cheer need grows

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Christmas Cheer is the gift that keeps on giving – unfortunately to more and more people every year.

The holiday hamper program is expected to provide a week's worth of groceries to as many as 8,000 people in 2022, which comes with about a \$200,000 price tag.

The costs keep rising, said co-chair Joleene Kemp.

“We know the cost of everything is up, so we want to do a good job for families. So many of these families already go to a food bank and pick up a hamper once a month to help them get through to the end,” Kemp said.

“What we’re giving to them is truly a gift because it doesn’t take away from them accessing their food bank in December. Rather it gives them a week’s worth of groceries when the children are home from school, so they’re probably eating more, and it



Amanda Nistico volunteers last year handing out hampers at Christmas Cheer. (FILE)

gives them everything for a Christmas dinner, including the turkey.”

The hampers, which are given out to families with children only, also include fresh produce, as well as a

toy for each child, which comes from the Thunder Bay Professional Firefighters’ annual Toys for Tots drive.

“We’re doing our part, we’re asking for people to be as generous as they can be. We recognize there are all kinds of charities out there, but we feel because we give everything back to the community that people will respond with kindness to us,” Kemp said.

“We know when they come to the CLE Heritage building to pick up their hamper, the volunteers are always happy. They greet every family with the utmost respect, and the families themselves are very grateful.”

The annual fundraising drive kicks off on Monday and on Dec. 8 and Dec. 9, 36 Hours of Cheer will air on Acadia Broadcasting radio stations, the goal to collect as much money as possible for next year’s Christmas Cheer fund. Money collected last

year is being used to pay for this year’s hamper giveaway.

It’s their main fundraiser, Kemp said.

Donations can also be made at any local Scotiabank location in Thunder Bay, online at thunderbaychristmascheer.com or by texting CHEER to 344-1053 or 344-8229.

Hamper pick-ups are scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 13 (north ward) and Wednesday, Dec. 14 (south ward) at the CLE Heritage. Kemp said they will hand out hampers to people residing on either side of town on both days, for the sake of recipients being able to get to the CLE.

Registration for the program, through the Thunder Bay District Social Service Administration Board or ODSB caseworkers, must be completed by Dec. 9 at 4 p.m. Families with needs not already registered through these two organizations can phone 622-2286 for more information.

Great Gift & Stocking Stuffer Ideas!

What's In Santa's Stocking This Week?

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Chef school was a full out blast

In school I always gravitated toward the “old school” instructors.

This usually would mean that unlike most early 20s guys in college would be spending their time. I would be hanging out drinking coffee with old European men, usually in their early 50s. Many of these elder instructors had experiences that I wouldn't even be able to fathom.

Cooking in the Swiss Army, being a background chef in a DeNiro movie, cooking for film crews in the Antarctic. This is just to name a few. I joke a lot about my early years in cooking, some days weren't easy, however I will tell you that the best part about

being a chef is learning how to become one. This is closely seconded by someone earnestly coming up to you and thanking you for an incredible meal – and then handing you a bunch of hot, sweaty \$20 bills.

While most of us that pursue cooking as a career are often doing it because at our core, we love cooking and we love food, a major disconnect can sometimes be that while you can love it, its not called the restaurant lovefest, it's the restaurant business.

We all are in it to support our families or just ourselves and we need to get paid. When we are the owner or the boss, we have to make sure the money keeps

coming in so our people can support themselves.

That pressure to perform because people outside your family depend on you, should inspire you to work hard and make sure that all the ducks line up the way you need. This is what separates some restaurateurs and bosses from others, I imagine.

The difference at school is, none of those pressures exist yet. The pressure to perform is there sure, but chef school is pure, unadulterated love of food. The energy around a newly crowned class of culinary students is palpable some days. Their fresh unsullied whites, and smiling faces, neckerchiefs tied up tight. It's been a long time since I've been around a class of noobs but it's a feeling you don't often forget.

Maybe because I haven't been

around it much lately, so it still affects me. Learning new skills for a new chef is like adding another tool to your tool chest. Its like a shiny new knife that you can take out, but more than that, its almost like a transformer that you can keep building on to create other cool things to get a bunch of new tools.

I guess that's why they say to never stop learning, you can keep growing as a chef to well into your golden years and still be an effective cook and leader. We should all be so lucky.

Derek Lankinen is an award-winning chef, author, and restaurateur. 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.




Derek Lankinen


Here's Cooking at You Kid




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<p>CENTENNIAL FAMILY FOODS 146 CENTENNIAL SQUARE MON-FRI: 8:30AM-8PM SAT/SUN 9AM-6PM</p>	<p>HOME GROW 112 MAY ST. N. OPEN TUES-FRI: 9AM-5PM, SAT & SUN: 10AM-4PM</p>	<p>SWEET CHERRY SPA 703 E. VICTORIA AVE. OPEN TUES-SAT: 10AM-4PM</p>
<p>COLLINS FAMILY THRIFT STORE 505/5 E. VICTORIA AVE. OPEN TUES-SAT: 11AM-4PM</p>	<p>HOME SWEET HOME CAFÉ 516 A E. VICTORIA AVE. OPEN MON-FRI: 7AM-7PM, SAT & SUN: 8AM-4PM</p>	<p>SWITZER FLORAL DESIGN 803 E. VICTORIA AVE. OPEN TUES-FRI: 9:30AM-5PM SATURDAYS: 10AM-3PM</p>

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Tracks in the snow lead into December

First of all: Mea culpa, Mea culpa! The last sentence of last week's column should have read: "...People just want light and JOY, not darkness. Me too."

Anyway, welcome to December, the Christmas Month.

So, we got snow and then we got heat; and a lot of the snow had gone. Evaporation, I guess. Not to worry, we will get more of the white stuff.

Meanwhile, I go for walks with my pooches on our trails. Last week each time I ventured forth the going seemed to get easier. The first day I slogged through snow deep enough to warrant snowshoes. But as the week progressed, increasingly, I had to slog less. Good thing that I didn't strap on the snowshoes as the snow had become heavy and

wet, not conducive to snowshoe tromping.

But we've had heat and then cold resulting in very slippery walking conditions. Sunday, I headed across the yard to the barn and quickly realized that I could easily slip and fall. I could almost (but not quite) slide to the barn. I had to fire up my ancient tractor, Big Red and grab gravel with the bucket to make a path safe enough for horses so that they didn't slip, fall, and break any legs.

When we do receive snow that elects to stay on the ground, I enjoy looking for animal tracks.

Of course, my pooches tend to go on ahead of me and therefore their tracks are evident.

But I've also seen the tracks of bunny rabbits (hares in this part of

the world) and those of ruffed grouse with their distinct snowshoe pattern. What I haven't seen are those of foxes. We know that we have a fox on the property; but we aren't certain that Reynard is inhabiting the same den she dug into the side of Mt. Crumpet, our twenty-year old manure pile that has evolved into incredibly rich soil for gardens.

Poor Mrs. Fox was constantly having to deal with our obstreperous dog, Lily who has some terrier in her breed makeup. Last year sadly I saw Lily with a dead fox kit in her jaws. I was very upset but what can you do? The terrier part was just doing what came naturally. So, perhaps Madame Fox has sought other 'digs' where she can raise her brood.

Sometimes it is difficult to tell if the tracks I see belong to the fox or to Lilly. Their paw sizes are the same. I look carefully because foxes

always walk in a straight line with one paw print directly in front of the other. Not so much with Lily. I think that I saw evidence of fox prints crossing behind the house last week.

Almost every morning these past couple of weeks I have been greeted by our raven perched on our front door stoop waiting for a handout. I oblige, taking the food (usually leftovers or something forgotten at the back of the fridge).

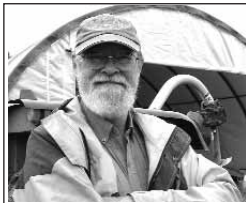
First, I make fast the door to prevent Lily and Sophie from tearing out the door to scare off "Lenore" (as my daughter, Beth, has named her).

Then I open the front door and greet my feathered friend who has become quite used to me. Slowly I descend the stairs as Lenore hops onto the ground and then, as I pass her to empty the container on a high perch that the dogs can't access, she

flies up to the perch while her husband, "Edgar" who has remained on top of the yard light pole, flies down to join his mate in enjoying the victuals that I left. What I especially love to see are the raven tracks in the snow in front of our 'hoosie', those triangular impressions from their claws.

But it is early days yet in this winter. Here we are entering December, the Christmas Month. We tend to wait until we are well into the month before getting a Christmas tree. I love Scotch pine for its smell that brings back fond childhood memories.

But if I can't find anyone selling them then we have spruce and balsam growing in our back field, the "back 40" as I like to call it. On one of our trail walks this past autumn, Son, Doug, spotted a likely candidate, a spruce, to harvest for the decorating festival. After all, it's free.



Fred Jones
RURAL ROOTS

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MARTEN FALLS - ALL SEASON COMMUNITY ACCESS ROAD

Join us for the Marten Falls First Nation (MFFN) All-Season Community Access Road Public Information Centre: Effects Assessment Methods Milestone (Public Information Centre #4)

Join us to learn about and provide feedback on:

- The Environmental Assessment / Impact Assessment process;
- Updates since Public Information Centre #3, including what we've heard and how feedback is being considered;
- How route alternatives will be assessed, recommended and a preferred route chosen;
- Preliminary results of 2022 field studies and upcoming field studies;
- Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests;
- The Indigenous Knowledge Program; and
- Next steps and future opportunities to get involved.

Importantly, it's also an opportunity to share your feedback, ideas and values related to the proposed all-season access road.

About the Project

MFFN is a remote First Nation community in northern Ontario, located at the junction of the Albany and Ogoki rivers, approximately 170 km northeast of Nakina, Ontario.

MFFN has a winter access road but it is not reliable and makes transportation of goods and people difficult. All season road access connecting MFFN to the existing provincial highway network is needed to improve the well-being of the community. The Environmental Assessment / Impact Assessment will assess the potential impacts and benefits related to the proposed Community Access Road.

What is the Process

MFFN is preparing an Individual Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement for the proposed Community Access Road. On October 8, 2021, the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) approved the Terms of Reference (ToR) with amendments, and MFFN published a Notice of Commencement of the Environmental Assessment on October 29, 2021. The federal Government published a Notice of Commencement of the Impact Assessment on February 24, 2020 and the Project is now in the Impact Statement phase. This is the fourth Public Information Centre held to support the Effects Assessment phase of the environmental assessment processes.

Contact

For information on the Environmental Assessment / Impact Assessment process and progress related to this Project, please visit www.martenfallsaccessroad.ca

If you are unable to attend the event, or have any comments or questions regarding the Project, you are welcome to contact the Project Team at any time during the process at 1-800-764-9114 or info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca

Thank you for your participation

Personal information submitted (e.g., name, address and phone number) is collected, maintained and disclosed under the authority of the *Environmental Assessment Act* and the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* for transparency and consultation purposes. Personal information you submit will become part of a public record that is available to the general public, unless you request your personal information remain confidential.

When and Where?

Wednesday, December 7, 2022

Best Western Plus Nor'Wester Hotel & Conference Centre
2080 Hwy 61, 2nd Floor (Room: Pointe Du Meuron), Thunder Bay, Ontario
5:00* – 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 8, 2022

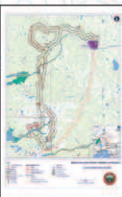
Geraldton Community Centre
200 Wardrope Avenue, Geraldton, Ontario
4:00* – 7:00 p.m.

*The first hour of each meeting is reserved for Indigenous community members only. The public, including Indigenous communities, are invited to join beginning one hour following the reserved time.

Light refreshments will be served.

Information panels will be available for review, along with maps, fact sheets and feedback forms. Project Team members will be available to answer questions and receive comments.

If you cannot make the in-person session, you can find the information posted on our website (www.martenfallsaccessroad.ca). Public Information Centres are wheelchair accessible; contact us if you require other accessibility accommodations.





Check ice depth before going out for a skate this winter. (Sue Hamel)

Enjoying winter ice

Our winters are long, so hardy Canadians have embraced the necessity of spending time out in the cold by inventing or adopting plenty of fun activities.

Here in Northwestern Ontario, we live in an outdoor paradise that provides us with many opportunities for outdoor adventures in each of the four seasons. In winter, the activities are especially cool as our lakes and rivers will freeze solid and provide us with several unique ways to enjoy them in the coldest months. What follows is a list of some of the most popular ideas for having fun on the ice this winter.

Play some hockey or enjoy a skate on the natural ice. This is an early-season favourite as winds will often keep the ice clear into December on many of our lakes. Strap on a pair of skates and glide across the lake with ease or play a game of classic pickup hockey with friends.

Snowmobiling is a wild ride.

Snowmobiles offer us quick transportation to the cabin or our favourite fishing lakes. Touring, especially with friends, is also extremely popular up here. Once the ice is thick enough to be safe, our frozen waterways link up the broad network of rural trails, camp roads and bush roads to provide us with endless routes to explore.



Keith Ailey
the GOOD LIFE

Try ice fishing. To enjoy fishing through the ice, you will need an ice auger, a scoop to clear the slush and some patience.

While a snowmobile makes access quick and easy, more casual anglers can walk, snowshoe or ski anywhere they want to fish on a lake without the need for a major investment.

Who says cycling season is over? Thanks to fat-tire bikes, we now enjoy riding year-round.

The combination of wide tires, low air pressures and carbide-studs make these machines right at home on the ice whether it is bare or covered with firm

snowpack.

In addition, there are more extreme ice activities like kite-surfing, dogsledding and ski-joring that will all ramp up the fun-factor of your winter leisure time. Regardless of what you choose to do, always make sure safety is a top priority on the ice.

The Canadian Red Cross says it takes 15 centimetres of solid ice to be safe for walking or skating. Other authorities suggest that slightly less will be fine, but it never hurts to follow the more conservative guidelines. To support a snowmobile, we will need to wait for 25cm of good ice.

Of course, quality is just as important as quantity and clear blue ice is ideal.

Grey or white ice should be avoided, as should areas with underwater springs and currents. These dangerous areas can remain open or be disguised with a thin layer of brittle ice and snow. Wearing a floater coat or PFD will provide some extra assurance, and, in the event of a break-through, a pair of ice claws or safety picks will help you get back up on top of the ice.

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Satire and death on The Menu

The Menu (SilverCity) serves helpings of gastronomic satire and mayhem in equal measure. We first meet Nicholas Hoult and Anya Taylor-Joy as a couple journeying to an island by boat to savour the rarified cuisine served at an exclusive restaurant presided over by celebrated chef Julian Slowik (Ralph Fiennes).

They join a coterie of hoity-toity patrons who are also eager for a sublime culinary experience, at \$1250 per head.

"What are we eating, a Rolex?" asks Taylor-Joy cynically of her date. They may get more than they bargained for.

Taylor-Joy is skeptical of Hoult's know-it-all foodie obsessive and the rest of the smug clientele who are

generally quite full of themselves. (Pardon the pun.)

Patrons include a faded B-movie star (John Leguizamo) and his beleaguered assistant; a pretentious restaurant critic and her obsequious editor, an unhappy rich couple, and a trio of hot-shot finance studs.

Director Mark Mylod sets up satire on two fronts, tweaking the foibles of the cosseted rich as well as pretentious restaurant culinarians. The group is ripe for the pickings, awash in their self-absorption while Fiennes' outfit takes food prep to cultish extremes.

The script by Seth Reiss and Will Tracy weaves in humorous barbs, puncturing the collective snobbery,

stuffiness, shallowness.

Fiennes introduces each serving, at once Zen-like and fascistic, promising a gastronomic adventure. The rifle-clap of his hands snaps his co-ed platoon of stoic chefs into action, meticulously churning out each exotic serving, responding in chilling unison, "Yes, Chef!"

But something's amiss. An early serving literally illustrates some patrons' guilty secrets, prompting requisite unease. What gives?

Obviously, an agenda's afoot. The mood morphs from light satire into something dark and grisly. Fiennes and company continue presenting dishes matter-of-factly, blithely indifferent to the patrons' increasing alarm in response to horrific goings-on. On-screen serving cards offer an amusing underscore to the growing mayhem.

Mystery deepens as Fiennes fixates



Anya Taylor-Joy stars in *The Menu*.

on Taylor-Joy, questioning her presence. He senses that she's an "outsider."

However, the so-called "meat" of the story (sorry!) proves to be as slight as the meager-sized servings. The comeuppance angle doesn't quite live up to the build up. The motivation is more dubious than

darkly humorous and credible, the insane, diabolical plan is sketchily rendered, prompting more questions than answers. Finally, the fanaticism goes over the top.

Do the patrons really deserve a dire fate simply because they are blind to Fienne's artistic concept of food preparation and consumption with status and entitlement or clinical, show-offy analysis?

Why are the patrons so passive in response to the condescension and horror dished out by Fiennes and his maitre d' (Hong Chau)? Why does the staff follow the path of their nihilistic boss?

Feisty Taylor-Joy proves a worthy adversary to psychotic Fiennes, and the production values, especially the cinematography, are impressive. Yet, one still feels a wee bit undernourished by the end of *The Menu*.



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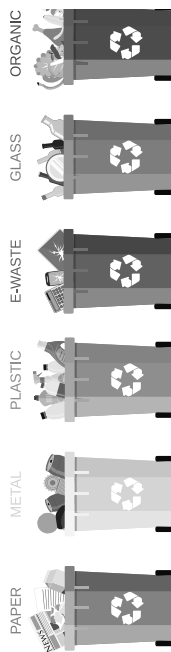
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Saints roll to big Central Bowl triumph

Lots to like on the high school sports scene this past week.

On Monday, the St. Patrick Saints, who captured their first senior football championship in 21 years early last month, knocked off St. Roch 24-13 in the Central Bowl, continuing a nice run for Thunder Bay teams against southern Ontario competition in recent years.

Over the weekend the Hammarskjold Vikings girls basketball team made it to the bronze-medal game at the OFSAA 'AA' championship in Stratford, Ont.

A terrible third quarter, which saw them outscored 25-5 by Arnprior in the period, proved to be their downfall, but a fourth-place finish is more than respectable and a sign that basketball has made great

strides in Thunder Bay. The Vikings missed a title shot by two points, losing 52-50 in the semifinal game.

The Westgate Tigers also had a pretty good showing at the 'AA' boys volleyball tournament, going 2-2, losing to Adam Scott in the quarterfinals.



Leith Dunick
SPORTS SHORTS

It was good to see the Lakehead men's basketball team bounce back on Saturday night, after losing to McMaster a night earlier.

The T-Wolves put up 107 points in the rematch and were clearly not happy with their result the night before, an 81-71 loss that saw them outscored 30-16 in the opening quarter.

The women were not so fortunate, losing both games against the visiting Marauders and sit at 0-8 -

though they almost pulled one out on Friday night, losing 68-67.

They're starting to get healthy and I expect they'll find the win column in the second half.

Of note, Eva Guilera, the team's Spanish centre, made her debut on Friday and put up eight points on Saturday. She'll help spell Lily Gruber-Schulz, who's had to play in the paint and run the ball up the floor, the latter not necessarily her strong point.

Congrats to Longlac's Tyler Tucker, who recently made his NHL debut with the St. Louis Blues, filling in for the injured Robert Bortuzzo of Thunder Bay. Tucker played four games before being sent back to the American Hockey League, getting into a fight with Anaheim's Sam Carrick.

He held his own, landing a couple of big right-hand blows against the

Ducks journeyman.

Like millions of other Canadians, I've caught the World Cup bug, at least when Canada's playing.

Despite the two losses, I have to say I'm so proud of this team. Seeing Alphonso Davies head home the country's first World Cup goal was something I'll never forget.

Speaking of unforgettable, hockey lost one of its finest last week, with the passing of former Leafs great Borje Salming.

I was lucky to see him play live once, a 1986 game at the old Coliseum in Quebec. He picked up an assist in that one, a 5-2 win for the Nordiques. Dale Hunter had a pair in that one. We were on a high school trip to Quebec, no chaperones. Let's just say our high school was not welcome back at the hotel ever again.

Salming was one of the finest to ever lace them up, but had the misfortune of arriving in the NHL, a Swedish pioneer, in the Bobby Orr era, competing with Brad Park, Larry Robinson, Denis Potvin, and later, Paul Coffey and Ray Bourque.

He and Park may be the best defencemen never to win the Norris.

Is there a better NFL running back right now than Las Vegas' Josh Jacobs. He reeled off an 86-yard touchdown run in overtime on Sunday to beat the Seahawks and set a new Raiders single-game record for yards from scrimmage.

Also in the NFL, have we seen the last of Aaron Rodgers? The Green Bay Packers quarterback was already nursing a broken thumb when he went down with an oblique injury. Replacement Jordan Love then hit Christian Walker for a 63-yard score. Hall-of-famer, for sure.



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New leaders

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Coming off winning the Canadian Masters Curling Championship, there was always the danger that Al Hackner's squad might be in for a letdown.

Given that the former two-time world champion is getting set to vie for the Canadian Senior Men's Curling Championship in Yarmouth, N.S. next month, it really shouldn't have been more than a passing thought.

Hackner's foursome didn't skip a beat on Wednesday night, scoring early and often against the up-and-coming Dallas Burgess squad, putting away an 8-3 win with three in the fifth to take a 6-3 lead at the time.

Steals of one in the sixth and seventh put it out of reach for good and earned Hackner a share of top spot in the Tbaytel Major League of Curling standings with Brian Adams Jr., both teams with identical 6-0-1-0 record.

Hackner and Adams leapfrogged Trevor Bonot's team, who were missing in action in Week 7, headed to Quebec for a bonspiel in La Belle Province.

"Coming off a big win like that, I think what helps is the fact that we're quite a bit older, so we just go out and play the next game like clockwork," Hackner said.

"The good part is we're throwing good, so we just have to go out there and keep throwing good and maintain that."

Hackner went 9-1 at the Canadian Masters, beating Saskatchewan in the final.

"It was a continuation of the good play we had in Winnipeg. Frank (Morrisette) and I both threw it pretty good (tonight), so obviously that was part of it. You're never going to get anywhere near up for that game as we did the other ones, but as long as we're maintaining the good throws, we should get some success."

Coming around

At the other end of the standings, Ron Rosengren was looking to keep his playoff hopes alive and moved into a tie for the seventh and final playoff spot with Krista McCarville, who lost 6-1 to Dylan Johnston, the two-time defending Major League of Curling champion.

Rosengren put up a five-spot in the fourth end against Jodi Judd and cruised to a 9-2 win, improving to 3-0-4-0.

"I made a nice shot for the four. We played on the weekend in the Grey Cup



Al Hackner recently won the Canadian Masters Curling Championship and is headed to senior nationals.

spiel and we've been practicing and stuff, we're feeling a little better about our game right now," said Rosengren, whose team includes Gary Maunula, Dale Wiersema and Dave Sholtz.

"We lost our lead right at the start of the year, so we've had a spare ever since and that threw us off a little bit. But it's starting to feel better now. We just want to make the playoffs. That's the main thing and then you never know.

Needed a win

Johnston's in a similar boat with just two wins in six outings heading into Week 7. They took an early lead against McCarville, then stole a pair in the second and another two in the third, the two teams shaking hands after the fourth.

"We got our two and put some pressure on them," Johnston said. "It was tricky ice, very slow to start with and we took advantage of that."

In other action, Adams continued his strong play with a 6-4 win over Denis Malette, Gary Weiss knocked off Paul Carr's foursome, subbing for Ben Mikkelsen this week, Bryan Burgess scored four in the eighth to double up Bonot's replacement team 8-4 and Kory Carr sent his overtime shot to the button to edge Nicole Westlund-Stewart 7-6.

Hackner and Adams Jr. have 18 points, with Weiss in third at 17 points and Bonot slipped to fourth with 16.

LU bears down to win

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

The teddy bears were tossed and with them came a much-needed momentum shift for the Lakehead Thunderwolves.

Greg Smith lit the lamp for the home side with about half a minute to play in the first, launching a cascade of stuffed animals that bombarded the ice, the OUA men's hockey team holding its annual Teddy Bear Toss game on Saturday night in support of children in need.

At the time, the Thunderwolves were down 3-0, on their second goaltender of the night and looking lost on the Fort William Gardens ice, playing in front of a season-high 2,903 fans.

Though it would take a second multiple-goal comeback, thanks to a three-goal third, the Wolves (7-5-2) finally managed to outlast the last-place Waterloo Warriors, edging them 7-5 to pick up two key points in what should prove to be a tight playoff battle in the OUA West standings.

Tyler Ho, with his second of the night and fourth on the season, scored the winner on a spectacular feed from Olivier Pouliot, slamming the puck past Waterloo goaltender Dan Murphy seven minutes into the third.

"We stuck to it. Obviously we didn't have the start we wanted, but after about 10 minutes we started picking it up and started playing our game. We got into some penalty trouble, but we stuck with it and came out with the win," said Ho, a sophomore with the Thunderwolves.

Any penalty proved to be trouble against the Warriors, who scored three power-play goals in their first three power-play chances. Dan Walker, Brendan Bowie and Tate Popple, with a sharp-angled shot from the red-line, were the first to beat LU starting netminder Max Wright, who was



Lakehead forward Tyler Ho scored twice on Waterloo goaltender Dan Murphy last Saturday. (Leith Dunick) chased after the third goal, replaced by Christian Cicogoi.

Down 3-1 after one, captain Tyler Jette ripped a high wrist shot over Murphy's glove into the top corner of the Waterloo net, cutting the Warriors lead to 3-2, the power-play goal coming at the 4:49 mark of the second. Stephen Fox, who has a knack for scoring big goals for Lakehead, did it again at 11:02 of the middle stanza, taking a pass from defenceman Kyle Auger and burying it off the post to even the game 3-3.

The Warriors retook the lead 81 seconds later, Tyler Rose making a brilliant glove-hand snatch of Greg Smith's clearing attempt to keep the play and seconds later Bowie deposited the puck behind Cicogoi. Rose struck himself two

minutes later on a shot from just above the circle, and the Warriors jumped in front 5-3.

Ho cut the lead to one before the period closed, taking a feed from Keighan Gerrie behind the Waterloo net, then just 79 seconds into the third, Smith set up the equalizer, firing a pass to Pouliot on a 2-on-1.

Pouliot was also in on the game winner, another odd-man rush

"I heard (the coach) scream 2-on-1," Pouliot said. "As soon as he yelled that I knew I had to pass it to him. I knew he was going to score because he's really good at it.

"Obviously it's a team we're probably going to have to battle to get a spot in playoffs, at least for right now."

ENIGMA™ Enigma cryptograms are created from quotations and proverbs from around the world. Each letter stands for another letter. *Hint: "K" = "A"*
CRYPTOGRAM
 "BTZ UMQQZUUMN EKYYVAY VU BTZ
 KOZYKFZ DKJ, EVBT NKUZY-NVCZ
 IAQMU."
 - SYMQZ NZZ

	6	8						
4				1				5
2					9			6 7
			9					7 1
	2	5						9 6
	9		7		2			
	1				7	8		
6					8			
	8							4 9

ACROSS

- Reserve Officer's Training Corps (abbr.)
- Blood disease (suf.)
- Federal Reserve Board (abbr.)
- Beige shade
- 52 (Rom. numeral)
- Boat
- Sicilian volcano
- Television channel
- Horn
- Imp
- Medical probe
- Freedom, briefly
- Ancient Italian
- Satan
- Mulberry of India
- Nourished
- Ear (pref.)
- Bishop
- Famous violin
- Ancient (abbr.)
- Dor
- Ankles
- Light
- Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation (abbr.)
- Sheep's cry
- Land opposite Jericho
- Improve
- Energy unit
- Desire
- Son of Rebecca
- Nat'l Endowment for the Arts (abbr.)
- Short takeoff and landing (abbr.)
- Grape disease

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FESS CAAM LAC
 LETT ANBA ABT
 OKRA PIERIDES
 ABIE L REED
 SAILOR COR
 TINEA RAN AMP
 EDE JAB LAI
 MAD COB GUIDE
 FAG VENEER
 BARB GAMIN
 DISORDER TANG
 ANA EINE ETRE
 BOP TALC DEAD

DOWN

- Thing (Lat.)
- Exclamation
- Three-wheeled vehicle
- Rounded roof
- Occurrence
- Curassow
- John, Gaelic
- King of the Visigoths
- Weaken
- Red pine
- Blue-green
- Kidney (pref.)
- Kimono sash
- Bath cake
- Russ, despot
- Son of Shem
- Shelter
- Stronghold
- And other: abbr. (2 words) (Lat.)
- Drove
- Federal Trade Commission (abbr.)
- Article (Fr.)
- Enmity
- His (Fr.)
- Laughter sound
- Confusion
- Treasury agents
- Berne's river
- Indian music
- Lake (Ital.)
- Leftover table scrap
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 09. Out of Town
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Dated at Thunder Bay, Ontario on the 24th day of November, 2022.

KATHLEEN JOSEPHSON
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SHIP	ETNA	AMC	2	5	1	4	8	9	3	6	7
	CORNU	ROGUE	8	3	6	9	5	4	2	7	1
STYLET	LIB		7	2	5	8	3	1	4	9	6
OSCAN	LUCIFER		1	9	4	7	6	2	5	8	3
AAL	FED	OTO	5	1	9	6	4	7	8	3	2
PRELATE	STRAD		6	4	2	3	9	8	7	1	5
	ANC	BEEBLE	3	8	7	1	2	5	6	4	9
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