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YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

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Four people in the Thunder Bay district have now died from COVID-19 /3



INFECTION SPREADS: Two residents at Southbridge Roseview have died from COVID-19 this past week, after an outbreak infected more than 50 residents and staff.

FILE

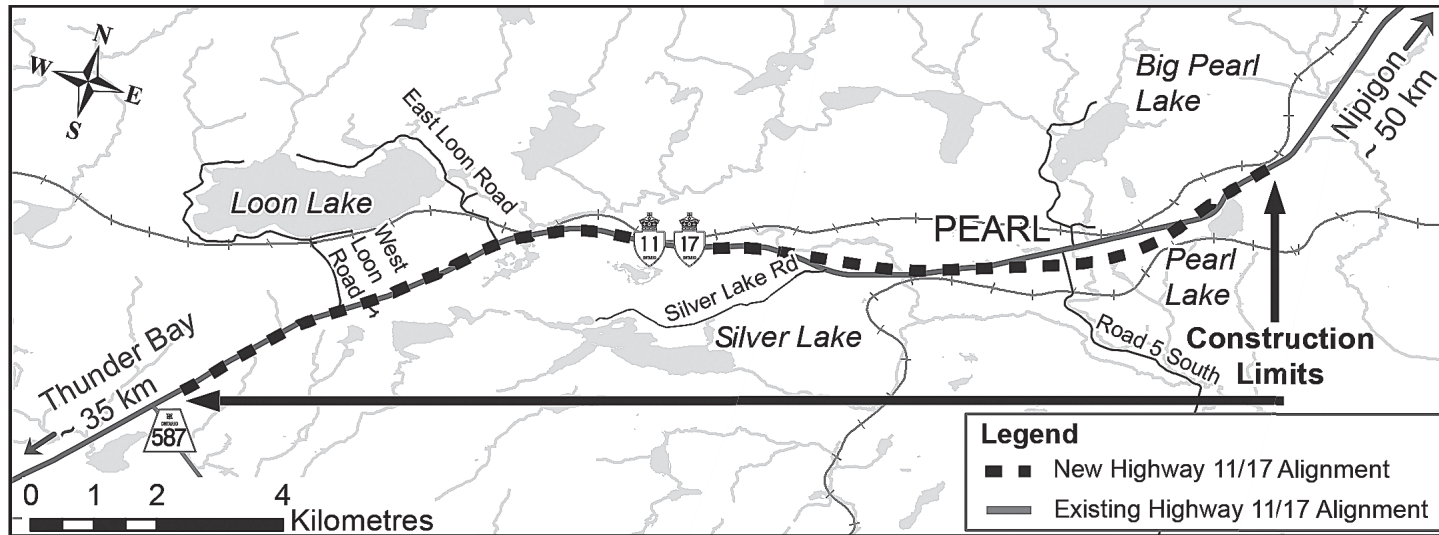
Notice of Online Public Information Centre #3

Detail Design and Class Environmental Assessment Study Highway 11/17 Four-Laning between Highway 587 and Pearl Lake, Municipality of Shuniah

The Ontario **Ministry of Transportation (MTO)** has retained **Dillon Consulting Limited** to complete the Detail Design and Class Environmental Assessment (EA) Study for the four-laning of Highway 11/17, from 0.3km east of Highway 587 easterly for 14.4 km, in the Municipality of Shuniah. Key features of the design include the following:

- Twinning of the highway to provide two lanes in each direction with a minimum right-of-way (ROW) of 110 m
- New alignment of Highway 11/17 south of the existing highway at Pearl to minimize impacts to the municipal road network
- New bridge crossing of Pearl River
- Entrance modifications to allow right-in and right-out movements

Additional field investigations have been completed and all property has been acquired. The highway design, including municipal road and entrance modifications, drainage improvements and environmental mitigation measures have been developed. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2021, subject to funding and approvals.



ONLINE PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE

Due to the ongoing global pandemic, Public Information Centre #3 (PIC#3) will be held virtually on the project website at www.hwy11-17pearl.ca. The purpose of this third PIC is to provide interested stakeholders, Indigenous Communities and the public an opportunity to review the Detail Design plan. The PIC materials will be posted to the project website for a two (2) week period beginning on **December 9, 2020**. Comments are requested by **December 23, 2020** via the online comment form that will be available on the website.

THE PROCESS

This study is being completed in accordance with the *Class Environmental Assessment for Provincial Transportation Facilities* (2000) as a Group 'B' project. The ESR Addendum was made available for a 30-day public review period ending in January 2016, after which the project received Environmental Clearance in May 2017. PIC#3 provides the opportunity to further engage with stakeholders on detail design refinements. Following PIC#3, and taking into account comments received, a Design and Construction Report (DCR) summarizing the Detail Design and EA will be available online for a 30-day public and agency comment period. The DCR is not eligible for a Part II Order (ie. "bump-up") under the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*. Notification of the DCR review period will be made available through a separate notice in this newspaper.

Persons requiring accommodation to review these materials are encouraged to contact the Project Managers below to discuss accessibility requirements. For further information, or to be added to the project mailing list, please contact:

Mr. Clarke Campbell, P.Eng., Project Manager

Dillon Consulting Limited
Box 426
London, ON N6A 4W7
tel: 1-888-345-5668, ext. 1359
e-mail: hwy11-17pearl@dillon.ca

Mr. Kevin Saunders, Sr. Project Manager

Ministry of Transportation – Program Delivery Section
615 James Street South
Thunder Bay, ON P7E 6P6
tel: 807-473-2109 or 1-800-465-5034
e-mail: kevin.saunders@ontario.ca

Information collected during the study will be used in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

LOCALNEWS



SAYING HI: Santa waves at passing cars.

Santa pays impromptu visit to city

THUNDER BAY

By Ian Kaufman – TB Source

The COVID-19 pandemic may have kept Santa Claus from visiting the Intercity mall this year, but he hasn't forgotten about Thunder Bay.

The iconic figure made an impromptu appearance in the John Street neighbourhood Saturday, where he was greeted with honks and smiles by local residents.

Claus told *Thunder Bay Source* he knew many in the city had gone through a tough year, and hoped the gesture would be one small way to lift people's spirits.

"A lot of people are waving, a lot of people are stopping to say Merry Christmas," he said. "I think it's brightening up their day. Everybody has problems, so seeing someone doing this... I'm just hoping to bring cheer."

Some passing motorists stopped to document the sighting with a picture – something Santa encouraged, with adequate physical distancing due to COVID-19.

Residents can expect some future appearances in the John Street/Red River Road area as Christmas approaches, he hinted.

"The kids are excited, and that's what makes me feel good," he said. "I'm loving it."

LOCAL NEWS



FILE

INVESTIGATION ONGOING: The health unit's Dr. Janet DeMille is looking into an outbreak at Southbridge Roseview.

Southbridge Roseview outbreak turns deadly

Two residents succumb to COVID-19 at LTC home

HEALTH
By Ian Kaufman – TB Source

Thunder Bay's medical officer of health is hopeful the worst is over when it comes to a major COVID-19 outbreak at Southbridge Roseview, a local long-term care home.

More than 50 residents and staff have tested positive since the outbreak was first announced on Nov. 18, with the majority of those cases reported over the past week.

Dr. Janet DeMille, who heads the Thunder Bay District Health Unit, expressed confidence in how Southbridge Care Homes was managing the outbreak on Monday.

All residents at the home, which has 157 beds, are set to be retested for the virus Tuesday.

DeMille said she'd be surprised if that results in another spike in cases like that seen Sunday, when Southbridge announced 27 new cases.

"I would hope to say that's behind us," DeMille said Monday. "I can't imagine that we'll see those sorts of numbers again. There are measures that have been put in place, and certainly a heightened level of vigilance. It wouldn't surprise me, though, if we did see more positive results."

Southbridge is working with the health unit, Ontario Health, and the provincial Ministry of Long-Term Care to contain the outbreak.

The company has brought in significant staffing reinforcements from outside the city, DeMille noted, including some with experience managing COVID-19 outbreaks (all had to be tested before entering the home).

"I think that's what it really takes to get through an outbreak like this... to ensure that they have the staff, the staff are supported, [and] there's strong surveillance," she said. "I really feel there's a lot of support

that's going to help get through this." The health unit has not yet determined how the virus was first introduced to the home. DeMille noted the outbreak did not necessarily originate with the staff member who first tested positive on Nov. 18.

"We're not convinced it was the first staff person who [tested] positive that actually introduced it to the home," she said. "We explored other potential avenues where there could have been exposure."

DeMille declined to comment further on those possibilities, saying it would amount to speculation.

The virus could have entered the home due to gaps in COVID-19 measures at the home, she later said, but did not cite any particular shortcomings in its policies or practices.

"It could spread because there are deficiencies with infection prevention and control measures – all the measures taken individually by staff who are interacting with the residents, and some of those other measures," she said. "That's how, in general, virus spreads."

The continuing uncertainty over what led to the city's largest outbreak so far speaks to the difficulties in preventing and containing the spread of the novel coronavirus, she said.

"There's a lot of measures [in place at long-term care homes], but this virus is really tricky – it can spread even when people don't have any symptoms," she said.

"It's always an opportunity to look back – spread happens, and then you have to detect that it's happening. [We're] looking at the testing and how quickly it was done, because that could have helped us perhaps identify it a little bit sooner."

DeMille said the health unit was not aware of COVID-19 cases in any other Thunder Bay long-term care homes as of Monday afternoon.

"I would hope to say that's behind us."
DR. JANET DEMILLE

Weather Forecast

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Sunny Probability of Precipitation: 10% HIGH 1 LOW -5	Cloudy with sunny breaks Probability of Precipitation: 40% HIGH 2 LOW -5	A mix of sun & clouds Probability of Precipitation: 30% HIGH 0 LOW -6
SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
A mix of sun & clouds Probability of Precipitation: 20% HIGH 1 LOW -5	Mainly sunny Probability of Precipitation: 20% HIGH -1 LOW -5	Mainly sunny Probability of Precipitation: 20% HIGH 2 LOW -3

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LOCAL NEWS

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Tbaytel matches donations

United Way fearful that they'll fall about \$300K short from lost campaigns

THUNDER BAY
By Leth Dunick - TB Source

United Way of Thunder Bay CEO Albert Brule says his organization is facing at least a \$300,000 shortfall in 2020.

Brule on Tuesday said the figure represents money the charity would normally take in from a variety of events, including workplace campaigns and dress-down days, that will likely fall by the wayside because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

It has him concerned about their ability to provide the needed funding so many local agencies depend on from the United Way each year.

He's hopeful the public will step up to minimize the fundraising shortage, making the plea on a Giving Tuesday that saw Tbaytel step up and promise to match up to \$10,000 in donations, part of the United Way's first Show Your Local Love Day.

"What's at stake is kind of like a double-whammy." **ALBERT BRULE**

looking for shelter at numbers that we've never seen before in our community," Brule said.

"So the need has risen, but the resources are down - not just with the United Way, but all of the agencies that we support, they also do fundraising



BIG GIVE: Tbaytel president and CEO Dan Topatigh (left) helps United Way of Thunder Bay CEO Albert Brule launch Show Your Local Love Day on Tuesday, pledging to match up to \$10,000 in donations made this week.

and they've had to cancel events. It's almost like a tsunami of increased need, reduced resources, so we're really going to have to come together."

Dan Topatigh, president and CEO of Tbaytel, said there's no better way to kick off the company's 12 Days of Christmas campaign with an effort to help the United Way reach their 2020 campaign goal.

"They've really been a pillar in this community for so long. We realize that the events of the

pandemic are going to be really challenging across the board, particularly for raising funds," Topatigh said. "Without question we wanted to be there to support them."

The 12 Days of Christmas is an employee-driven campaign that was started in 2015 as a way for staff to bring a little joy to others during the holiday season.

To donate to the United Way's Recover 2020 campaign, visit .

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LOCAL NEWS

Toys for Tots launches 2020 drive

THUNDER BAY
By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Paul Penna says every child deserves a present or two under the tree on Christmas morning.

Unfortunately, Santa Claus sometimes overlooks a home or two on his annual reindeer-fueled race around the globe each Christmas Eve.

For more than 70 years, the Thunder Bay Professional Firefighters and Toys for Tots have stepped in to fill the gap.

This year, the need may be even greater.

With COVID-19 sweeping the planet, closing businesses for extended periods of time in its early stages, many breadwinners were put out of work for periods of time this year. Others have seen hours cut or businesses simply not reopen.

Penna, who chairs the Toys for Tots campaign, said they're going to try to make the best of a bad situation, adding an online donation option to their usual

set-up near the Intercity Shopping Centre food court.

"Everything is uncertain. The mall being open, that's uncertain. How many people are going to come to the mall? That's uncertain. There's all kinds of uncertainties. We weren't sure how many people would have the need, but it's starting to look like more people than in the past," Penna said.

"So we've taken a few steps. Our guys are still going to be at the mall, but we've decided to revamp our website at www.tbaytoysfortots.ca. We've launched that this week and people are already starting to donate there, so we're really happy with that."

Toys for Tots does not set an official goal, but Penna in the past has said they usually aim for about \$150,000, with money collected one year used to cover the costs of buying the gifts the following year.

As a result, and with a donation of nearly \$38,000 from Tim Hortons Smile

Cookie campaign, Penna said his elves have already been out shopping and have started to stockpile gifts for children whose families are eligible for a Christmas Cheer hamper.

He's hopeful the public will be able to help make the holidays a little happier for some of the city's youngest residents.

"Christmas is a special time of year and really special especially as children. Nobody should be deprived of being happy and having a joyous Christmas season. For more than 70 years the Thunder Bay Firefighters have been doing this and making kids who are living in less fortunate circumstances, making their Christmases more happy," Penna.

"And really, this is probably our most important year yet."

To donate, visit the website, the booth at Intercity Shopping Centre, any TD Bank branch in the city or by texting CHEERFORTOTS to 20222 to give either \$10 or \$25.



GIVING BACK: Thunder Bay firefighters volunteer their time for Toys for Tots each year.

LEITH DUNICK

THUNDER BAY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
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Music Director

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Editorial

EDITORIAL

COVID-19 hits home

The reality of COVID-19 really hit home this past month.

To date, the Thunder Bay District has had slightly more than 300 cases of the virus.

Nearly two-thirds of those came in November alone, including, tragically, three of the four deaths attributed to COVID-19 in the area.

If that's not enough for everyone to start taking this thing seriously, we're not sure what will.

We're in the midst of a second wave, yet people are still traveling into and out of the region.

This has to stop.

Christmas won't be the same, but at this point, it shouldn't be. A one-year pause on bringing the family home is a far less expensive price to pay that having the virus continue to spread throughout the community.

There is a light at the end of the tunnel, with a vaccine likely to start to roll out within a matter of months, if not sooner.

While most of us have been listening to our public health officials, there are still some stragglers who believe their freedom is at stake.

It is, but not the way they think. If we don't get a handle on this, the lockdowns and restrictions are going to get worse before we get our hands on the vaccine.

This isn't long-term, but it could be longer than it needs to be. Stay vigilant.

CONTACT US:

87 North Hill Street,
Thunder Bay, Ontario P7A 5V6
Ph: 807-346-2600

Editor: Leith Dunick 346-2650
ldunick@dougallmedia.com

Reporter: Doug Diaczuk 346-2622
ddiaczuk@dougallmedia.com

Reporter: Ian Kaufman 346-3558
ikaufman@dougallmedia.com

Reporter: Karen Edwards 346-2591
kedwards@dougallmedia.com

Sales Manager:
Kathy Harris 346-2510
kharris@dougallmedia.com

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Council system flawed

To the editor:

Thunder Bay's democracy is flawed. It all starts with the make up of city council. Voters only get to vote for 6 out of 12 councilors. Many councilors elected in various wards only have a mandate from a minuscule of voters.

Apart from this flawed system, taxpayers' opinions even though sought after regularly by city hall for the most part have been disregarded and ignored by the majority of council.

Here are a few examples over the last dozen years or so.

- More than 7,500 signatures were obtained to have a plebiscite on whether the city should sell off prime public parkland at the waterfront to a private developer. Request denied.

- Thousands of taxpayers wanted a plebiscite on a proposed \$114-million event centre. Request denied.

- More than 5,000 signatures were obtained to keep Dease Pool open. Request denied.

- Many citizens including hundreds of seniors lobbied to keep Municipal Golf Course open. Request denied.

- City residents have been asking for a plebiscite on a new proposed indoor turf facility that could cost close to \$50 million dollars or more. Request denied.

- Residents with leaky pipes have been asking city hall to address this problem. Request denied. (The city has just been served with a \$350-million lawsuit by the Leaky Pipes group)

Here are some of the reasons the city used to deny a plebiscite on these projects.

They didn't know what question to ask; it would be too expensive; There wouldn't be enough time to get it on the ballot; the public wasn't capable of making an informed decision

This year the city conducted a survey regarding the proposed indoor soccer facility. The majority of taxpayers stated they were not in favor of moving forward with this facility.

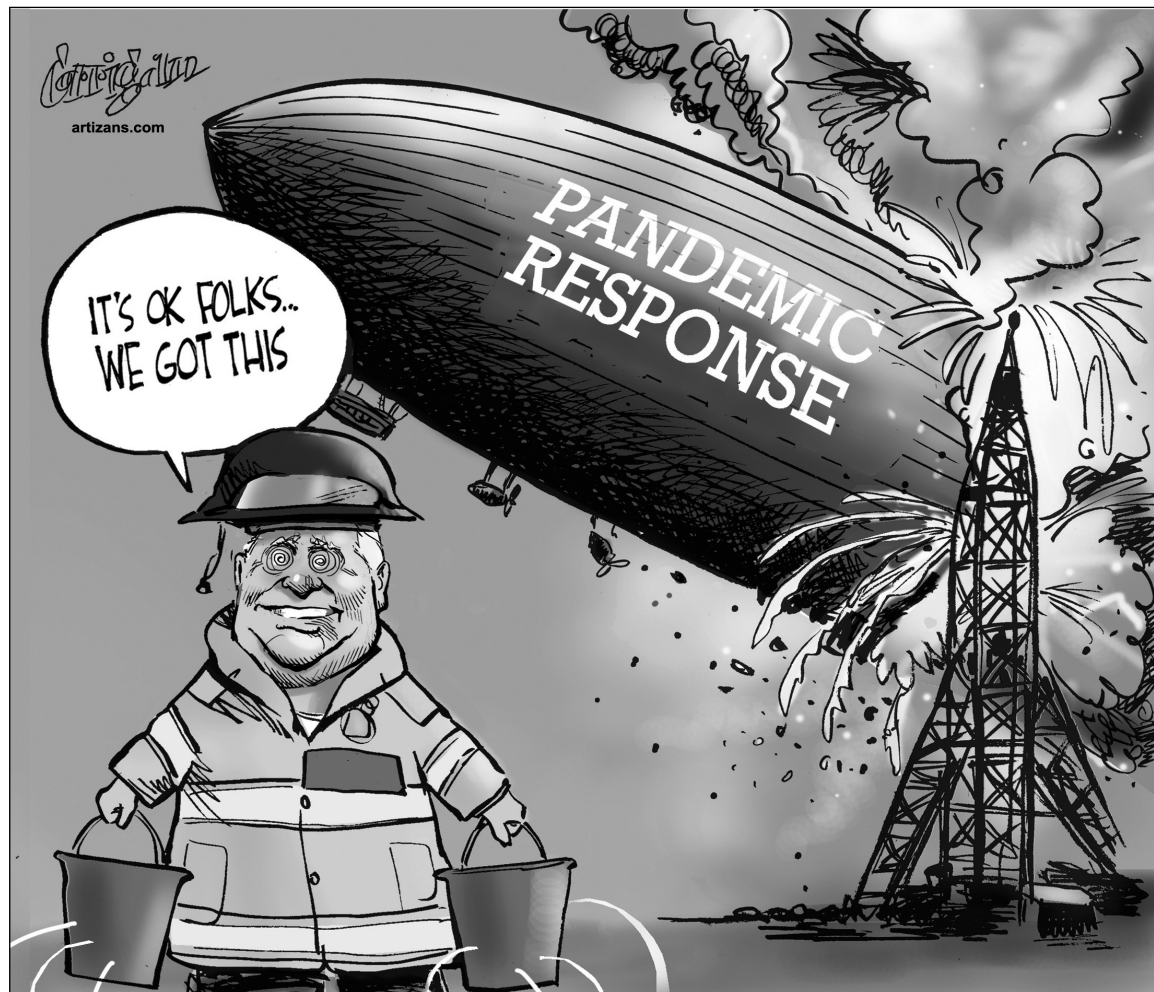
The results of this survey were ignored and led by Mayor Bill Mauro city council pushed ahead with their agenda.

More recently City manager Norm Gale recommended that any decision on a new soccer facility be postponed until next year.

Mayor Bill Mauro shut this notion down and along with just half the council would not even agree to a three-month delay as suggested by Mark Bentz because of his concern over the effects of COVID-19.

As it turned out councilor Bentz was right to have cause for concern over this virus and its effect on the public both financially and health wise. Today COVID-19 cases are skyrock-

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



eting and Thunder Bay just reported it's second death due to this deadly virus.

More lockdowns are a distinct possibility as this virus spreads and many citizens are struggling to stay safe and make ends meet.

With all this going on and the city moving to code yellow during the second phase of this pandemic city hall has stated that the public has two more opportunities to provide input for the 2021 budget.

It is quite clear that city taxpayers are stretched to the limit both emotionally and financially.

The last thing on their mind is pursuing a \$50 million dollar SoccerPlex that will put more pressure on the city to raise taxes and take money out of funds like the federal gas-tax fund, the Renew Thunder Bay fund and the accommodation tax fund and require a large debenture of at least \$15 million dollars.

Mauro has stated "we must do everything to protect and support the lives of the most vulnerable citizens in our community including seniors, people with compromised immune systems and respiratory ailments"

A good start would be for him to right the ship and take his No. 1 priority now, a \$50-million indoor soccer facility (same price as a new

police station) off the table as suggested by the overwhelming majority of city taxpayers.

Many of the city's most vulnerable citizens, some with serious health issues are seniors on fixed incomes with no one to help them and are now faced with additional expenses due to leaky pipes.

Higher taxes is not an option for many seniors and others as they are at the breaking point now.

Ray Smith,
Thunder Bay

Organ donors selfless

To the editor:

Once again the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre (TBRHSC) has received an award thanks in large part to the support of the donor patients.

I am in no way undermining the hard work of the organ transplant committee at the Regional, of which I am a volunteer member, for their efforts in promoting organ and tissue donation.

As reported recently, the Trillium Gift of Life Network, the provincial government department which promotes organ and tissue donation, awarded the Regional for going over

the target of a 63 per cent conversion rate set by the Trillium Gift of Life Network.

This award is because of the unselfish act of organ and tissue donation by persons who have actually followed through with their end of life decision.

As one who has received, not once but twice – in October 1996 and June 2010 – that gift of extended life, I know how those 32 recipients are feeling and how thankful they are to those donors they probably will never meet or know by name.

It is a fact that over 90 per cent of people questioned believe in organ and tissue donation, but just over 30 per cent actually follow through with the absolute gift.

I would like to extend my congratulations to all those professional members of the Regional's organ and tissue donation team that locally leads the effort to afford others the joy of an extended life.

To learn more about how we can increase the number of donors that will provide over 1,600 waiting on the transplant list for an opportunity at an extended life please visit BeADonor.ca

Gary Cooper,
Thunder Bay

Perspective

A year in words

2020 has added plenty of words and phrases to our lexicology

OPINION

By J.R. Shermack
Special to TB Source

In one word, how would you describe the turbulent events we have witnessed over the past several months?

Our world has been living through extraordinary times and even though this year is coming to an end the remarkable circumstances will continue for some time to come.

Many of us are seeing things we never thought we would see and doing things we never thought we would do, all while coping with circumstances beyond our control.

We are also saying things and using words and phrases that we have never heard or used before as we struggle to understand what is happening.

And we are troubled by the feelings of loneliness and fear brought on by the new COVID 19 dialogue that creeps into every conversation.

Language unto itself

The pandemic has a jargon all its own, a language of previously unknown scientific and medical terminology that we have been forced to learn and speak.

As we continue our fight against this virus many of us have grown battle weary and would rather not even speak about it anymore.

But if you could pick just one word to describe 2020 what word

or phrase comes to mind - can the harrowing events of the past year ever be expressed so simply?

The lexicographers at the Oxford English Dictionary annually pick a "word of the year", one that reflects the moods and behaviors of the previous twelve months.

This year was particularly challenging - 2020 revealed itself with a troubling vocabulary of buzz words like infection, isolation, distancing and mortality.

Oxford perused over 11 billion words from web-based news, blogs and other sources of text in search of the one word that says it all and they came to an extraordinary conclusion.

Professional wordsmiths decided that the tragic events that took control of our lives in 2020 cannot be described or explained with one simple word or phrase.

In response to "seismic shifts in language data and precipitous frequency rises in new coinage" Oxford announced its "words of an unprecedented year."

It will take more than one word to describe this scenario - it defies any brief definition or explanation and so, there are many words of the year this year.

Coronavirus, one of the well-used words for 2020, dates back to the 1960s and was previously used mainly by scientists.

But by March of this year it was one of the most frequently used words in the English language.

COVID 19 was first seen in a

report by the World Health Organization on Feb. 11 and then quickly surpassed coronavirus in frequency of use.

It is quite remarkable how we have all become armchair epidemiologists and how extensively scientific terminology dominates everyday discussion.

Following the science has increased in use by 1,000 per cent - usage is also up for the now familiar terms *lockdown*, *shelter-in-place*, *bubbles*, *face masks* and *key workers*.

It's everywhere

Not surprisingly, the word *pandemic* is being spoken and written about in every corner of the globe - a mind-boggling 57,000 per cent more often this past year.

To be fair and balanced, there were other words of the year used to describe some of the non-COVID events of 2020.

There was a huge upsurge in the use of *impeachment*, *mail-in* and *conspiracy theory* - as if we didn't already have enough words to worry about.

However, there is encouraging news about highly effective vaccines and even though we still have challenges to face there is talk about the *light at the end of the tunnel*.

In 2021 we will *flatten the curve*, *return to normal*, and ultimately *defeat the virus*.

In a word I would call that *hopeful*.

SHIPPING OUT



SHROUDED: Frigid temperatures on Tuesday morning brought a veil of fog to Lake Superior.

LEITH DUNICK

A look back in history: Victoria's Jubilee

Queen Victoria's diamond jubilee, celebrated empire-wide on June 22, 1897, resonated loudly in Thunder Bay. Everyone came out for a full day of parades and sports. Here Port Arthur men march past Crooks Drugs Store on South Cumberland Street.



HOW TO WRITE US:

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

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

Address them to:
Thunder Bay Source
87 North Hill Street,
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THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

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YES 89.78% NO 8.67% NO OPINION 1.56%

TB Life

people | health | home | food | leisure

Monetary donations for Christmas Cheer

THUNDER BAY
By Leith Dunick – TB Source

The chair of the Christmas Cheer campaign says 2020 has turned everything upside down – but they’re going to try to make the best of a bad situation.

Fearing a growing need because of the impacts of COVID-19, and restrictions put in place about indoor and outdoor gatherings, along with concerns about taking in donations of non-perishable goods during a pandemic, the organization has switched to a monetary-only donation plan this year.

Joleene Kemp on Friday said they’ve been working with public health officials for months to be able to pull it off in such uncertain times.

“We have a lot of faith and we believe in the generosity of people. We believe that the nickels and dimes and quarters and loonies and toonies are going to make a difference so we can in fact pay for the groceries,” Kemp said.

“We have some very generous businesses, including the one that stepped forward this morning. Their donation is outstanding and it really gives us a big kick start toward meeting our financial



LEITH DUNICK

FINGERS CROSSED: Christmas Cheer’s Joleene Kemp is hopeful they can meet demand.

obligations. You have to just trust that people will step forward, that those people who make donations of non-perishable food items, that they will take the money they would have spent and make a financial contribution.”

Kemp was referring to Ontario Power Generation, who presented a cheque for \$16,000 on Friday, a spokeswoman saying the company knew it had to step up in such challenging times.

For many families, Christmas Cheer is

the only reason they are able to have a traditional Christmas dinner.

In addition to the holiday meal, which includes a turkey and all the fixings, families get a week’s supply of groceries and, in conjunction with Toys for Tots, gifts for the children in their household.

“We’ve been asked to celebrate Christmas as a family within a household this year, so we want to make sure they can at least have a happy household and enjoy that particular day, because it’s what we’re all about. It’s about the goodness and the kindness of spirit that we have.”

Normally their Canadian Lakehead Exhibition headquarters, the Coliseum building, is a bustling place over the course of two days in mid-December.

This year will be a little different. They’ve pared down the number of volunteers who will be handling the food and will spread out hamper delivery over three days.

Because they’re buying all the food themselves, rather than relying on people dropping off donations of non-perishable

goods, Kemp said every household – and she expects the need to grow even more this year – will have the exact same items in their hamper.

Donations may be made online at www.thunderbaychristmascheer.com or at any branch of the Bank of Nova Scotia

in Thunder Bay. They can be mailed to P.O. Box 10297, Thunder Bay, Ont. P7B 6T7, or donors can text CHEER to 20222 to give \$10 or \$25 between now and Dec. 31. Schools are being encouraged to collect change to donate, and on Dec. 10 and Dec. 11 Acadia Broadcasting will host 36 Hours of Cheer with donations being collected at the CLE Coliseum from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

each day.

North ward pickups will take place on Dec. 14 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and on Dec. 15 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. South ward pickups will occur on Dec. 15 from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. and Dec. 16 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Last year’s campaign provided hampers to more than 8,000 people and raised \$134,000.

“We have lots of faith and we believe in the generosity of people.”
JOLEENE KEMP

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Take precautions before ice fishing



**KEITH
AILEY**

THE GOOD LIFE

I have been hearing reports over the past week about fishermen venturing onto the ice of recently frozen lakes in our region. While I am also anxious to hit the ice on a favourite little trout lake, I am a little worried about the number of warm days we have had recently and the effect they have had on the ice conditions.

So, I have decided to wait a few more weeks until we have at least one good stretch of prolonged cold temperatures. Consistent temperatures below the freezing point make for stronger and safer ice. Recent daytime highs above zero Celsius will have likely compromised the integrity of ice, leaving unsafe spots in both the center and along the shorelines of



SUBMITTED

BE CAREFUL: Wearing a flotation suit is a good idea when heading out to ice fish.

lakes. This is especially true on larger bodies of water.

Check The Ice

According to the Canadian Red Cross, it takes at least 15cm of clear, solid ice to be safe for walking on.

However, it is likely that you will be pulling a sled with an ice auger and gear and probably fishing with at least one other person, so 20 centimetres of good ice is required.

Before we bring the snowmobiles out

to reach those far-off fishing spots we will need at least 25cm of ice. Other authorities like the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and the Ontario Snowmobile Safety Committee suggest that slightly less ice might be required, but with our fluctuating temperatures and the rain that fell in November, it makes sense to follow the more conservative guidelines.

Even after we get a good cold snap, there are several things to look for before stepping onto the ice.

The colour of ice may be the best indication of its strength, with clear blue or black ice being strongest.

Grey, opaque white or snow ice should be avoided. Underwater springs or currents, especially where creeks or rivers enter or exit a waterbody are the most dangerous areas as they can remain open or covered by a thin layer of brittle ice even in the bitterly cold months of January and February.

Finally, we must be extra careful around logs, rocks and docks that protrude above the ice. They absorb heat

from the sun, which melts the surrounding ice that much faster, or causes it to form much more slowly.

Essential Safety Gear

When we finally believe there is enough solid ice to safely walk out onto the ice and start drilling holes, there are still some essential gear that will make our early season ice fishing much more safe and relaxing.

Carrying an ice spud with a chisel tip to check the thickness as you move along the ice is always a good idea. Wearing a floater suit like the Eskimo Keeper Jacket or Mustang Catalyst provides some extra assurance for both the angler and loved ones waiting at home.

While the jacket will keep you up on the surface, a pair of ice claws or safety picks will help you get back up on the ice in the event you do fall through.

No matter how excited we are to get out ice fishing, and no matter how great our secret winter lakes are, the risk is definitely not worth the reward when it comes to venturing out onto the ice too early.

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USE REUSABLE ITEMS WHEN ENTERTAINING

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Rural Christmas month and pandemic



FRED JONES
RURAL ROOTS

Well guess what? Here we are in December. How did that happen? According to my daughter and my son's girlfriend, December 1st is day one of the Christmas month. But this Christmas is going to be very different.

The beginning of December is traditionally when Christmas Teas and bazaars are held. In rural areas this is when your neighbours who you only see at the local dump or store come together and over tea or coffee, homemade sandwiches and wee cakes, catch up on what everyone has been doing. There is usually a raffle and door prizes. One year, my wife, Laura, and I won a beautiful hanging bird feeder that we are now using (and

A lot of holiday traditions will have to be skipped this year because of COVID-19

so are the birds). In my township we have a magnificent, old community hall where events like the Christmas Tea, monthly book swaps, the plays put on by a very talented bunch of neighbours who can act, and even the occasional wake for some dearly departed or a wedding reception.

Not this year.

The pandemic is the culprit (actually, the book swaps have resumed with masks, social distancing et al).

Nothing too regular

Rural neighbours, as I mentioned, don't necessarily get together on any consistent social basis.

Oh, we know our neighbours, but we don't tend to 'hang out' with them.

Over the past several years one neighbour has invited us and other rural rooters to a Christmas Eve carol sing.

A rum and eggnog or two help set the tone for a very cheerful and

usually laughter-filled evening.

Carol sheets are passed around and eventually we all clear our throats and belt out the favourites with our hosts providing the piano foundation. I love it when our host, Nigel, our neighbour Phil, and I try to recall exactly how Elvis's *Blue Christmas* was sung. We usually wind up in fits of laughter. Alas, most likely not this year thanks to the pandemic.

So, what kind of Christmas will we be having? This year we are celebrating Christmas a week early. Son Doug and his girlfriend are celebrating with her family on Christmas.

What the heck: with COVID-19 causing sensible folk to socially distance we thought we'd play it safe. No big deal. I'm sure that there will be the same amount of fuss getting the meal ready a week early as there would be on Christmas Day.

On Christmas Day we can relax, play with horses, go for a long walk

on our trails with the pooches. We will still make the phone calls to relatives who live in southern Ontario but any pressure regarding Christmas celebration will have already taken place.

Thus, this year, Christmas celebrations at Casa Jones will have to take a slight detour.

There are benefits

One of the offshoots of the pandemic is how resourceful people have become in communicating with family and friends. Of course, it all depends on whether or not you own a computer and if you are savvy enough to figure out how to do Zoom or Skype or some other method of seeing and talking to your near and dear.

I am a klutz when it comes to computers and cell phones. Fortunately, my children and my wife are not. So, it is not unreasonable that we could set up something visual

twixt family members who live in different communities and wish us all a Merry Christmas. Just a thought.

It is 'early days' in this Month of Christmas, this December.

We have located a perfect tree to cut and haul into our 'hoosie' to be decorated.

We went for a walk into a back field now overgrown with spruce, jack pine, and even some white pine. It is now a tradition to tromp there and locate a tree for the holiday celebrations.

But I want to wait for a couple of weeks before I make the trek to saw and secure the candidate to the cart and drive it back to the house. We fetched a tree early last year and a lot of the needles had fallen by the time Christmas Day rolled into view.

I want a fully-dressed tree and not a Charlie Brown specimen. We will festoon it with strings of lights and decorations to brighten our living room come The Day.



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Mank: Drama behind Citizen Kane script



**MARTY
MASCARINI**
MOVIE TALK



TOUGH TASK: Mank tells the of Herman J. Mankiewicz, hired by Orson Welles to write.

Mank (SilverCity, Netflix) is directed by David Fincher (“The Social Network”) based on a script by his long-deceased journalist father, Jack. The film is a warts-and-all look at a self-destructive talent raging against exploitive Old Hollywood between the 1920s and 1930s. “Mank,” though, is a mixed bag.

Mank is Herman J. Mankiewicz, (Gary Oldman) journalist, screenwriter and celebrated wit who gets hired by 24-year-old Orson Welles (Mark Burke) to work on the script for what will be heralded as the groundbreaking, *Citizen Kane*.

It’s 1940 when we come upon Herman set up in a little room in the desert recovering from a car accident while also

trying to dry out, assisted by a female transcriber. The movie proceeds to criss-cross between Herman’s struggles to meet his script deadline and incidents in his more recent past that help to illuminate his association with Hollywood.

Herman seizes this opportunity as a means to jump-start his career and job at

newspaper magnate William Randolph Hearst (Charles Dance) despite potentially grave consequences.

Observing Hearst and his MGM boss, Louis B. Mayer, generate ‘fake news’ to shoot down socialist Democratic candidate Upton Sinclair in a 1934 gubernatorial race, sets Herman off to

use the *Kane* script to fire back. Losing a significant and reckless bet on Sinclair is further incentive.

Oldman is quite convincing as the erudite, mouthy smartass lush who can’t resist shooting himself in the foot. Even though he’s older than the actual Herman at this point, Oldman credibly inhabits the character.

He has a particularly impactful scene where he arrives late at a hoity-toity Hearst dinner party attended by Mayer, stewed to the gills, choosing to mock Hollywood politics and business machinations. Herman concludes his tirade by vomiting, cheekily reporting, “It’s alright. The white wine came up with the fish.”

A Mixmaster of Golden Age Hollywood entities surface, more or less authentically presented, though the quick-silver editing makes it hard to grasp Irving Thalberg among others.

Burke as Welles stands out credibly, nailing Welles’ vocal tonality, though he’s given little screen time, presumably

supporting the debate that Herman deserved sole credit as screenwriter on *Kane*, despite Welles’ collective influence as director, producer and star.

Amanda Seyfried also registers as Hearst’s young wife Marion Davies, proving to be sharper than the Mrs. Kane character eventually drawn by Mankiewicz in Welles’ movie.

Beautifully shot in black and white, the film captures the period with some lavish production values.

Crucially distracting are the odd shooting angles and incessant cutaways intended to pay homage to *Kane*’s innovative camera work. As a consequence, characters and dialogue barely connect within the same scene.

Salvaging the proceedings is the film’s closing sequence, addressing the controversy surrounding the script’s authorship, delivering the delicious ironic ending.

Ultimately, *Mank* emerges as an interesting but diffuse portrait of a brilliant dare-devil talent, awash in the twisty world of Old Hollywood.

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IN THE BAY

Saved by the Bell gets modern take

When NBC launched *Saved By the Bell* back in 1993, it was Saturday morning comedic fare for kids. It followed the lives of a group of high school friends and their principal in the world's cleanest school.

Occasionally, it touched on social issues such as alcohol and drug use, the environment, and homelessness to give it a sense of educational value.

It also launched the career of Mark-Paul Gosselaar who went on to star on *NYPD Blue* and other ground-breaking comedies and dramas. Former Kelly Kapowski, Tiffani-Amber Thiessen easily transitioned to *Beverly Hills, 90210* and *White Collar*. Mario Lopez moved onto stage and radio fame, while Elizabeth Berkley had an unfortunate meeting with a stripper pole until she settled into guest-starring roles.

So it's no surprise that despite its questionable educational rating, *SBTB* has



always had loyal followers. And it's even less of a surprise that, with the popularity of television reboots, the show is back with a new group of kids.

However, unlike *Saved By the Bell: The New Class* which ran of seven years immediately after Zach and the gang graduated, this new incarnate isn't necessarily Saturday morning fare. Streaming on Peacock, it's currently popping up in



REBOOT: Saved by the Bell's new cast.

NBC's primetime line-up.

Jessie and Slater (Berkley and Lopez) are back as questionably mature faculty at Bayside High. Kelly and Zach (with the yellowest hair you've ever seen) are dropping in occasionally as their teenage

son is a student there and Zach's the governor whose budget cuts moved students from poorer schools into Bayside.

The real stars are, as was the case in the original, the students.

But unlike the original, they don't fit the classic TV mold. The jock quarterback is a girl.

The big African-American boy would rather sing than tackle. The pretty, superficial, popular chick is actually transgender. And it's possible the Zach-prototype lead male (who's actually his son, Mac) will eventually end up with the smart one, and not the Kelly Kapowski cheerleader.

As someone who saw the original – although, I swear I wasn't a fangirl – I like where the writers are heading with the new storylines.

The young cast is quite good with the standout performances by transgender

actor and comedic powerhouse, Josie Totah.

And they've dropped the Screech – the stereotypical character who served as little more than the cast's punching bag.

Yet, I wonder who the new show will ultimately appeal to. Beyond initial curiosity, fans of the original are too old to be interested in the trials of teenagers.

Younger audiences won't get the inside jokes or appreciate the more subtle comedic jabs.

And already, writers have had to apologize to Selena Gomez fans for invoking her sacred name and her donated kidney after they both popped up as an ongoing joke in Episode 6.

As silly as it was, the original *Bell* served a Saturday morning purpose to a specific audience.

I hope 2020's *Bell* does the same. Because those kids, like today's teens, have the potential to change the world.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 1 Women's Army Aux. Corps (abbr.)
- 5 Bother
- 8 Heddles of a loom
- 12 Reading desk
- 13 Craze
- 14 Engage
- 15 Gad
- 16 Federal Bureau of Investigation (abbr.)
- 17 Scientific name (suf.)
- 18 Medlar
- 20 Of sound
- 22 Yale student
- 23 Poly. beefwood
- 24 Error
- 28 Follow
- 32 Amateur Boxing Assn. (abbr.)
- 33 Detective
- 35 Bureau of Indian Affairs (abbr.)

DOWN

- 1 Heat
- 2 Mine (Fr. 2 words)
- 3 Down with (Fr., 2 words)
- 4 Make

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

REV	MASA	CAAM
EYE	SPAM	OAHE
ERR	SOURGRASS	
FAST	DRAIN	SEW
AAL	SEWAN	
LITTORAL	LADE	
ABI	XERIC	RAM
CALF	HABANERA	
KNEEL	BAH	
NOMAD	SOAK	
ORANGE	OIL	UBI
DAME	DUMAS	SAC
APOC	ITER	ESK

- 5 Pain
- 6 Flat fish
- 7 Poet
- 8 Oriental plane tree
- 9 Love of Radames
- 10 Galway Bay isles
- 11 Run into
- 19 Guido's note (2 words)
- 21 Out (Scot.)
- 24 Rom. religious law
- 25 Television channel
- 26 Indo-Chin. people
- 27 Favorable vote
- 29 Amer. Broadcasting Corp. (abbr.)
- 30 102 (Rom. numeral)
- 31 Corrode
- 34 Vie
- 37 Hungarian dog
- 38 Teacher of Samuel
- 40 Meadow
- 41 Sp. peninsula
- 43 Legislate
- 45 Hall (Ger.)
- 46 Hair (pref.)
- 47 Malay law
- 49 Salt
- 50 Yahi tribe survivor
- 51 Extinct Indo-Chin. language
- 54 Sheep's cry

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14		
15				16				17		
18				19			20	21		
22							23			
24	25	26				27	28	29	30	31
32				33			34		35	
36			37	38		39		40	41	
42				43			44			
45	46	47				48		49	50	51
52				53	54			55		
56				57				58		
59				60				61		

WORD SEARCH

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

Aback	Eases	Input	Portal
Agility	Edger	Itchy	Pronounc
Allots	Egging	Kissed	Raced
Ashcan	Eject	Least	Raises
Bailed	Entrails	Lower	Rebate
Darns	Extraction	Lullaby	Salts
Dimly	Fetter	Memos	Sidled
Dishes	Glutton	Miring	Skims
Draped	Growl	Ninny	Stowed
Drawn	Hurling	Normally	Transform

Sudoku

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

			7	5	2	9	3	
3			2		6			
			6	9				8
			3		5			
9			5					6
			9			2	7	
			5			9		
6	7			4		8		

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YAJR JRN WAIWBAP SUD JRAPCAPK."
- BQVNDJ IZRYNAJLND

PREVIOUS SOLUTION: "Everyone has a fair turn to be as great as he pleases."
- Jeremy Collier

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LEITH DUNICK

OWNING THE POND: Thunder Bay's Michael Stubbs (left) and Kam River's Even Enegren tangle last Saturday night.

Walleye undefeated

Expansion Kam River sweeps North Stars to start SIJHL journey

SIJHL
By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Wayne Gretzky is famous for saying you miss 100 per cent of the shots you don't take.

The adage has been proven true time and time again over the decades. The latest proof positive came on Saturday night.

With the Norwest Arena clock ticking rapidly toward a five-minute overtime, Kam River Fighting Walleye forward Talon Thomas unleashed a blast from just inside the blue-line. The puck, fired into a crowd in front of Thunder Bay North Stars goaltender Seth McKay, careened off the torso of Fighting Walleye forward Carson Gorst and into the net.

The goal proved to be the game-winner in Kam River's 4-3 triumph, a second straight win to start their Superior International Junior Hockey League journey.

"It was a really good effort for our entire team. We all banded together and kind of showed what Walleye hockey is all about, the rough-and-tumble as opposed to a skill game," said Gorst, a Calgary native in his first SIJHL campaign.

"That's pretty apparent with the last goal there. It wasn't a one-man show, it was a hard forecheck with a shot to a tip in front of the net. I think it's just goes to show it was a really big team win tonight. It went in off my body, just getting in front of the goalie's eyes."

The two teams were playing for the sixth straight time and it was pretty obvious to see there's no love lost between the two sides – a good sign for the budding rivalry they hope to build.

The Stars took the four pre-season meetings, but the Fighting Walleye took the first two that counted in the standings.

The two wins are icing on the cake, said Kam River coach Matt Valley, who at times in exhibition play expressed frustrations at his team not adhering to hockey fundamentals.

"I'm very happy and proud of our young group here. They battle hard for sure, but there's still lots of room to grow, for sure," Valley said.

The Stars and Fighting Walleye spent most of the first scoreless, but the Fighting Walleye broke through late in the period, Ethan Lang and Even Enegren scoring 63 seconds apart in the final two minutes before the break.

Nikolas Campbell, who scored both Thunder Bay goals on Friday night, connected again, rifling a high wrist shot past Austin Madge on the power play 3:22 into the second. The Fighting Walleye re-established a two-goal lead midway through the period when Joe McCollum converted a Caleb Resch pass.

The Stars cut the lead to one again when Jacob Anttonen pounced on a rebound with four-and-a-half to go in the middle frame, and tied it up 69 seconds into the third, Campbell picking the pocket of Kam River defender Brad Fortier.

Thunder Bay coach Rob DeGagne said perhaps the two-time defending champion North Stars took their first-year opponent for granted.

"We weren't good enough. They outworked us last night for sure. Tonight I thought they had a very good first period. I thought the second period and third period we outplayed them. Their goaltender played great," DeGagne said. "He probably won them the hockey game, but goaltenders, that's what they're supposed to do."

Fish fodder: The Stars were playing without goaltender Jordan Smith, expected back next weekend as he recovers from a foot injury ... North Stars defender Rajvir Sangha was tossed in the second for an intentional hit.

**"It was a really good effort for our entire team."
CARSON GORST**



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Johnston, McCarville triumph

Scotties vet wins a draw to the button to improve to 5-1

CURLING
By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Sometimes you have to be lucky to be good.

Krista McCarville was the first to admit that on Wednesday night, overcoming a bit of a shaky performance to edge Team Jonathon Vellinga 7-6, despite coming up short on a tie-breaking draw to the button that in 2020 has taken the place of extra ends.

The veteran skip's shot just bit the front 12-foot, leaving opposing skip Miles Harding, who was subbing for an absent Vellinga, an open draw to the circle for the win.

But his shot was long and sailed through the house, dropping Team Vellinga back to .500 at 3-3, while

McCarville (5-1) grabbed a share of top spot with Dylan Johnston, who knocked off Frank Morissette's team 7-5.

"Sometimes in curling you need a little bit of luck to win and I feel like this year we've had a little bit of luck on our side, but hey, I'll take it," McCarville said.

Playing shorthanded, minus regular lead Sarah Potts, McCarville, Ashley Sippala and Jordan Potts led or tied most of the way, but found trouble in the seventh end.

With Harding lying three, McCarville tried a hit-and-roll to minimize the damage, but her stone didn't cooperate.

"I didn't throw it the nicest and it really backed up and I picked our own stone out, which was devastating. But even if he made his last shot in the seventh, we knew we were only down two and anything can happen," McCarville said.

"We weren't going to give up. Being

only down one is not a bad position to be in."

Lady Luck made her first appearance of the night on Harding's final stone. Looking at a hit-and-stick for four and a 7-5 lead, he instead hit and rolled out and settled for three, taking a 6-5 lead into the eighth.

McCarville had a shot to claim victory in the final end, but was little heavy and could only manage one, her final stone nudging past Harding's rock at the back four-foot, leading to the tiebreaking, winner-take-all skip shots.

Johnston, on the other hand, appeared to be well on his way to victory early in his match against Morissette, who entered play at the Port Arthur Curling Club in a three-way tie with Johnston and McCarville at 4-1.

Johnston drew to the four-foot in the first to force Morissette into a tricky draw of his own. The veteran Morissette (4-2) came up short, ceding

a steal of three. Johnston stole another in the second to lead 4-0, but things came crashing down in the third.

"We weren't in that much trouble, but a couple of misses and on my last one we were trying to hit and roll and rolled the wrong way and gave them an easy shot for four," Johnston said.

"Even after that end, they had us in trouble again right after and we had a draw for one. We just had to go back to our own game and make some shots."

Johnston took the lead for good in the sixth and Morissette was short again on his draw in the seventh, giving up a single with the hammer, and was run out of rocks in the eighth.

In other Tbaytel Major League of Curling action, Mike Desilets (3-3) scored four in the first, stole three in the second and only needed four ends to put away Britney Malette's squad, downing his opponent 8-1. Mike Pozihum (3-3) evened his record with a second straight triumph, fending off Dylan Burgess (0-6), winning 7-2.



KRISTA MCCARVILLE

NHLer Nistico dies at age 67

OBITUARY
By TB Source staff

Former NHLer forward Lou Nistico has died at 67.

The Thunder Bay-born Nistico played three games for the Colorado Rockies in 1977-78, collecting six penalty minutes in his brief stint in the big leagues.

A seventh-round pick of the Minnesota North Stars in 1973, Nistico enjoyed more success in the former World Hockey Association, where he scored 44 goals and added 72 assists in 186 games spread over four seasons with the Toronto Toros and Birmingham Bulls.

He most recently served as assistant general manager of the CCHL's Hawkesbury Hawks.



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18. Storage/Space
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64. Craft & Flea Markets
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66. Cards of Thanks
67. In Memoriam
68. Death/Funerals

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Thunder Bay's Source reserves the right to revise, edit, classify or reject any advertisement and to retain any answers directed to the Box Reply Service, and to repay the Customer the sum paid for the advertisement and box rental.

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767-3818

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51. LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS
In the Estate of
Susan Mary Kowalchuk

All Persons having claims against the Estate of Susan Mary Kowalchuk, late of Thunder Bay, ON, deceased, who died on or about October 9, 2020, are hereby notified to send particulars of the same to the undersigned on or before December 17, 2020, after which date the estate will be distributed, with regard only to the claims of which the undersigned shall then have notice and the undersigned will not then be liable to any person of whose claims they shall not then have notice.
Dated at Thunder Bay, Ontario on the 18th day of November, 2020.

ERICKSONS LLP
ATTN: RYAN VENN
Barristers and Solicitors
291 South Court Street
Thunder Bay, ON P7B 2Y1



51. LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS
In the Estate of
Christopher Grant Towegishig

Anyone having a claim against the Estate of Christopher Grant Towegishig, late of the City of Thunder Bay, District of Thunder Bay who died on the 19th day of August, 2019, is required on or before the 4th day of January, 2021, to file with the undersigned solicitors particulars of their claim duly verified, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to those claims of which Notice shall then have been given.
DATED: December 3, 2020

Victoria Methot
CARREL+Partners LLP
Barristers & Solicitors
1100 Roland Street, Suite 1
THUNDER BAY, Ontario
P7B 5M4

CARREL+PARTNERS LLP
LAW FIRM

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Thunder Bay Source

71. HERE'S MY CARD

72. PUZZLE ANSWERS

ANSWERS TO THIS WEEK'S PUZZLES

W	A	A	C	A	D	O	C	A	A	M
A	M	B	O	F	A	D	H	I	R	E
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72. PUZZLE ANSWERS

ANSWERS TO THIS WEEK'S PUZZLES

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9	2	7	3	8	6	1	4	5
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7	9	6	2	3	8	5	1	4
2	8	3	5	1	4	9	7	6
4	3	9	8	5	2	7	6	1
8	1	5	7	6	9	4	3	2
6	7	2	1	4	3	8	5	9

PREVIOUS SOLUTION:
"The spirit of the age is filled with the thinking."
- Albert Schweitzer



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