

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

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INSIDE THIS WEEK COVID CASES



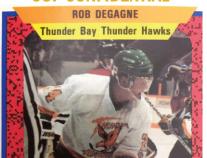
Thunder Bay Regional dealing with an outbreak on its oncology ward /2

NORTHERN DELIVERIES



Military to bring presents to isolated communities in Canada /5

CUP CONFIDENTIAL



Local filmmakers tell the tale of the Thunder Bay Thunder Hawks / 11

SIJHL ADDS GUEST CLUBS



Junior A circuit bring Thistles, Kings on board to help balance schedule /13



Thunder Bay District status is RESTRICT

Case count soaring

Thunder Bay District moves into Orange zone after number keep rising /3



JOLLY TIME: Santa Claus paid a socially distanced visit on Sunday at a park near Boulevard Lake, passing out presents to Lakehead Public Schools education workers' kids.

LOCALNEWS



PRECAUTIONS: Dr. Stewart Kennedy says seven close contacts of positive cases were sent home.

Outbreak occurs in oncology unit

Two Thunder Bay Regional staff test positive

"...we don't

have an

unlimited

supply of

staff."

Dr. Stewart

KENNEDY

HEALTH By Leith Dunick - TB Source

While Dr. Stewart Kennedy says he's certain there has been no spread of COVID-19 following a declared outbreak at Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre, he is concerned about the impact on

In addition to the two staff members who last week tested positive for the virus, seven additional employees considered close contacts of the two cases have also been sent home to self-isolate as a precaution.

The hospital on Friday posted a notice to its website announcing two separate cases, neither of which administration and public health could definitively says weren't contracted at Thunder Bay Regional, at unit 1A in the hospital's oncology unit.

Outbreak defined

By definition, two cases with uncertain origins at the hospital requires an outbreak to be declared.

Kennedy on Monday said the hospital has closed off the unit in question, but is still treating patients who would normally be seen in the oncology department.

"We've tested all the patients on the 1A oncology unit and they are all negative at this point in time.

They will be tested over the next several days again," Kennedy said. "We're still taking admissions for oncology patients, but they will not be going to the 1A unit. The 1A unit is now closed. It's closed to all essential care partners, except for end-of-

New admissions are being housed in other areas of the hospital and staff in the unit is not moving back and forth between other

departments, again as a precaution. "The hospital is safe and it's safe for all of our patients coming here for outside diagnostics and also for admissions," Kennedy

Kennedy said there should be no interruption to treatment for oncology patients, saying the only specialized equipment on the unit is for chemotherapy treatment for day patients and it's been moved to the cancer clinic for the time being.

"We're segregating that population," Kennedy said. "We move patients around all the time, but because our bed capacity is about 90 per cent, we have the ability to move patients in the appropriate places as best we can."

Happened before

Kennedy said it's not the first time staff has been found positive, noting it happened before in the intensive care unit and another time in the cardi-

> ology unit. "Those contacts were, for the most part, outside of the hospital. But I'm really concerned when our staff is becoming infected because we don't have an unlimited supply of staff. I do respect what our staff is doing. They're doing a great job keeping their PPE on, they're doing a great job washing their hands and keeping their distance," Kennedy said.

"But in an environment like this, breakage is going to occur from time to time with the PPE. And you can't eat with a mask on. You can't drink with a mask on."

The hospital is reviewing its policies to determine if there is a safer way for staff to interact in lunchrooms and meetings, which Kennedy said are the two most worrisome danger points in the facility.

There are a total of four COVID-19 patients in the hospital, including one in the ICU.

This holiday season needs to be different.

The safest way to celebrate indoors is only with the people who live in your home. People who live alone can get together only with one other home.

Gatherings with friends and extended family can carry an increased risk of getting and spreading **COVID-19. Consider celebrating outdoors or** virtually with others that are not part of your household.

Know the gathering limits in your area before you choose to entertain with family and friends indoors. Indoor gatherings are not permitted in regions in Grey - Lockdown.

For all gatherings with anyone you do not live with:

- maintain 2 metres physical distance
- wear a face covering
- avoid potlucks or shared utensils
- ensure everyone washes hands regularly, including before and after meals

Self-isolate if you are sick, even if your symptoms are mild and ask guests to stay home if they feel unwell.

Follow provincial and local public health advice to keep you and your loved ones safe this holiday.

Stopping the spread, starts with you.

Visit ontario.ca/celebratesafely to learn more.

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LOCALNEWS



RIGHT DECISION: Mayor Bill Mauro said he supports the move to Orange, which he hopes will open everyone's eyes.

Restrictions upped

"It's not a

surprise. It's

prescriptive."

BILL MAURO

HEALTH By Doug Diaczuk - TB Source

ast week the province announced the Thunder Bay District will be moving into the orange or restrict classification in its COVID-19 response framework, with the new restrictions taking effect at midnight, Dec. 7.

As of Monday there are 110 active cases of COVID-19 in the Thunder Bay District, three in hospital, one individual in the intensive care unit, and there have been five deaths since the start of the pandemic.

The new restrictions under the orange classification will see limits on the size of social gatherings, hour reductions for restaurants and bars, and changes to sporting venues.

Thunder Bay Mayor Bill Mauro said he hopes the move catches the public's attention.

"It's not a surprise. It's prescriptive," he said. "The numbers from the province indicate when you reach a certain threshold you move into a different colour range. We have achieved unfortunately those numbers and we move into orange and the prescriptions get a little more significant under that colour coding," Mauro

"Will this get people's attention more than when we were in yellow or green? You would hope so. You would hope there is some measure of seriousness that people weren't picking up

Smaller crowds

In terms of social gatherings, functions, parties, dinners, gatherings, barbeques or wedding receptions held in private residences, backyards, or parks should be limited to 10 people indoors and 25 people outdoors.

Public events and gatherings in staffed businesses and facilities should be limited to 50 people indoors and 100 people outdoors, while religious ceremonies such as weddings or funerals should have 30 per cent capacity indoors and limited to 100 people outdoors.

Restaurants and bars must limit the number of people seated indoors to 50 or under and can only seat four to a table. The sale of liquor is only permitted between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. and establishments must close by 10 p.m.

Spectators are no longer allowed at sporting events, with the exception of parents or guardians supervising a child. In physical fitness locations, a maximum of 50 people are permitted in areas with weights and exercise machines, while a maximum of 10 people are permitted per room indoors and 25 outdoors for exercise classes.

Personal care services requiring face coverings to be removed are prohibited, as well as oxygen bars, saunas, bathhouses, and other adult venues.

Casinos and other gaming establishments and cinemas are limited to 50 people indoors and the sale of liquor must end at 9 p.m.

Performing arts facilities are also limited to 50 people indoors, while 100 people can gather at outdoor venues.

Screening required

All businesses, including retail, restaurants, gaming establishments, health and fitness facilities, cinemas, and performing arts facilities are also required to screen all patrons and customers as well as collect contact information for contact tracing purposes.

People are reminded to wear a face covering when in public spaces and to continue to follow all public health guidelines to slow the spread of COVID-19.

Moving into the orange classification should not have a significant impact on city-

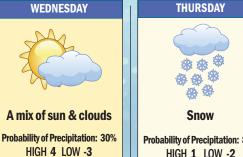
run facilities, but Mauro said there are always considerations for potential closures if cases continue

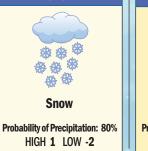
"We are not there yet," he said. "The orange piece is not too impactful on the facilities that are open that are city run. If we continue to progress through the colour coding we would probably find ourselves having to make decisions on city run facilities."

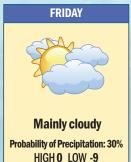
"We are considering it all the time. You could make the argument if you waited until you are forced you waited too long. Nothing is forcing our hand, we are still able to maintain and meet the prescriptions of the province and the health unit."

More information on restrictions can be found at the Ontario COVID-19 Response Framework website.

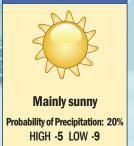
Weather Forecast











SUNDAY





LOCALNEWS

Council studying free transit by 2023

Plan would see fares reduced by a dollar a year for three years

CITY HALL By Ian Kaufman - TB Source

The City of Thunder Bay will examine the possibility of offering free public transit, following a request backed by a collection of local organizations.

Advocacy group Poverty Free Thunder Bay presented a proposal to phase out fares over three years to city council Monday night, citing a range of social, environmental, and economic benefits.

The group suggested reducing the city's \$3 bus fare by a dollar a year, making transit free by 2023.

As part of the transition, they also called for free fares on the fourth Friday of every month in 2021, with every Friday fare-free in 2022.

The city collects about \$7 million a



LOST REVENUE: Removing fares from Thunder Bay transit would cost at least \$7 million.

year in fares and other user fees, though several factors make the actual financial impact of eliminating fares uncertain. Several councillors expressed support for the idea in principle, but remained skeptical the city could achieve that goal

LOOKING

so quickly, or on its own.

Several argued the provincial and federal governments should pick up the tab for such a policy, noting no other Canadian city had yet taken the step.

"It's a great idea," said Coun. Aldo Ruberto. "In discussions with organizations I've been dealing with, this has come up over and over again... but [your proposal] might be too accelerated."

Ruberto suggested the city could instead sell the idea as a pilot project to upper levels of government, or begin by making transit free for certain groups, such as children under 12 or seniors.

Still, council voted unanimously to at least study going fare free, directing city administration to report back on the implications of implementing the Poverty Free plan by early February, in time for consideration for the 2021 budget.

Poverty Free spokespeople Paul Berger, Tracey McKinnon, and Jules Tupker pointed to the results of a survey they conducted to gauge how the city's

BE THEIR

elimination of fares due to COVID-19 concerns from March to July impacted residents.

"Respondents noted they had more money for rent, laundry, groceries and prescription drugs, better access to work and medical appointments, and were less stressed about whether they had tickets or exact change for bus fare," their report noted.

The group argued the move would also reduce local greenhouse gas emissions and bring economic benefits, by putting money into the hands of low-income people, who they said are more likely to inject those dollars back into the local economy.

Their recommendations were supported by a number of local advocacy groups and organizations such as the Thunder Bay Public Library.

The city would need to add new bus routes and increase frequency of service on existing ones to make the policy effective in luring car commuters onto buses, Berger acknowledged.

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Toys for the North carries on in COVID

THUNDER BAY
By Doug Diaczuk - TB Source

Sometimes even Santa needs a little help when his sleigh is full and in this case, it is from a Royal Canadian Air Force C-130J Hercules and a cargo fleet from North Star Air.

Last Friday, a load of toys and winter clothing was dropped off by the RCAF at the Thunder Bay International Airport to be delivered to First Nations communities in Northwestern Ontario and while the celebrations will be a little quieter this year, there is no less joy being shared this holiday season.

"It's just amazing," said Normand Roy, a retired Staff Sgt. with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. "This year, the only challenge is normally we travel to the communities to deliver the toys. This year we are not travelling. But it's still heartwarming having it done."

For the past 10 years, the RCMP have been collecting and distributing toys to

remote communities through its Toys for the North campaign.

North Star Air has been partnering on the project for the last six years and will be delivering the toys to four communities this year including Pikangikum First Nation, Muskrat Dam First Nation, Bearskin Lake First Nation, and North Spirit Lake First Nation.

"We make it our mission to make sure these toys get delivered to northern communities," said Karen Matson, director of marketing and community relations at North Star Air.

The toys are collected by the RCMP in Southern Ontario and were delivered to Thunder Bay by a C-130J Hercules courtesy of the RCAF.

Once on the tarmac, the toys were loaded into a Gardewine truck where they will be sorted in a warehouse before being transported by North Star Air to Red Lake and Pickle Lake and then flown into the four communities.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19



DONATIONS: Toys are unloaded from an RCAF Hercules for Toys for the North campaign.

pandemic, things will be a little different this year, Matson said.

"We did everything so safely and we will continue to and that means going

into the community," she said. "Normally in the past when we bring the toys into the community it's a big celebration, we are partying and having a

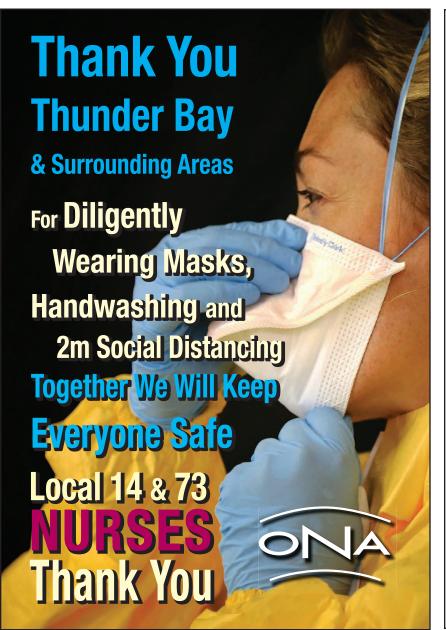
community feast. We always bring Santa with us. This year will be different. We do plan a small contingent travelling with the group."

There were concerns that the delivery would even happen this year due to COVID-19 restrictions, but the call went out, and the people delivered.

"When this all first started for this season, we didn't know if this would happen," Matson said. "The RCMP put the call out for the donations and we collected double the donations this year. So we do have a lot of toys and that is why this year we've chosen four communities to visit and disperse the toys and put a smile on the kids faces."

More deliveries are also being made to communities in Labrador.

"It's been great having the opportunity to bring joy to these communities," Roy said. "Especially with this year and the COVID environment. There are a lot of kids who are locked down and can't travel."



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100% of all donations go to children in need in Thunder Bay
Christmas wishes can come true... thanks to you.

Editorial

EDITORIAL

Please get vaccinated

inally, some good news on the COVID-19 front.

Last month it was announced multiple companies were ready to start manufacturing and rolling out a

Two of the vaccines, created in record time, have proven to be 90 per cent and 95 per cent effective.

But vaccines are only as good as the number of people willing to take them.

Former U.S. presidents George W. Bush, Bill Clinton and Barack Obama last week went on record saying they'd be willing to take the vaccine with cameras rolling, to prove their willingness to be vaccinated against COVID-19.

Hopefully their actions along with those of leaders north of the border, will be enough to drown out the antivaccine crowd.

Already this month we've seen billboard from anti-vaxxers go up on Highway 61.

The key is getting the public to buy in to the vaccine. The more people that take it, the quicker we'll develop herd immunity and the quicker our lives can go back to some semblance of normalcy.

Most of you likely won't have to make a decision for several months, but the right one is to say yes and do your part to help the recovery.

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Holidays don't have to be costly



always find it difficult over the holidays to keep the costs down and because of COVID this year both my husband and I have had to live on the CERB benefit and are still finding it hard. Have you got any tips for making it through Christmas without spending too much? Thanks,

Great question Lilly! Everyone feels the financial pinch over the holiday season and this year many are feeling it even more! Most tend to buy on credit and then try to deal with the bills in January. I know it can be extremely hard to stick to a budget over the holidays, so here are some money saving tips to keep in mind

this Christmas season!

It is best to make a list, determine a budget for each gift and stick to it. If you can't find a gift for your price point – then opt for gift cards so that they can be used after Christmas in all the retail sales events, in stores or on-

Why not consider "teaming-up" and go in on gifts with others to limit costs and maintain your budget.

Set expectations with family so that everyone plans to spend specific amounts on gift giving.

You could also choose to have an adult name picking or secret Santa. Consider buying everything on-line this year, especially through your local businesses who really need our support.

Take advantage of Black Friday sales and have it delivered right to your home - or better yet to the home of the person you are buying it for. It's like your own little valet service.

Also, don't forget the Dollar Store, they are great for Christmas stocking stuffers, wrappings, cards, and deco-

Who says you have to spend a lot to get into the holiday spirit?

Many might be limiting the big family meals and parties this year and opting for a small gathering of close

Make sure you delegate the dishes or opt for a potluck dinner to reduce the cost of the meal.

Everyone has a specialty that they could bring if asked and it is up to the Hostess to coordinate the meal and tell people what to bring.

Don't forget to tell your guests to also bring their own alcohol.

If you are hosting an event at your home, minding the new COVID restrictions, you still shouldn't be expected to foot the bill for all the drinks.

Instead have a Christmas punch and let everyone BYOB.

It really is not hard to be gracious this season. A thoughtful Christmas message in a hand-made card, or a letter of devotion and love, can be cherished more than any store-bought

Be kind to one another especially after the year that we have all been through, watch your manners, forget the grudges and enjoy your family.

Remember, happiness isn't defined by how much you spend, it is what you do, how much you love, how caring and supportive you are, and above all your true compassion for others.

Merry Christmas to everyone.

Good luck and best wishes, Money Lady

Written by Christine Ibbotson, Author of the best-selling book "How to Retire Debt Free & Wealthy" and a new book Don't Panic - How to **Manage your Finances and Financial Anxieties During and After the** Coronavirus" available at all bookstores across Canada. If you have a money question, please email on website: www.askthemoneylady.ca

Smells evoke reaction

Odours immediately send impulse signals to our brains

OPINIONBy J.R. Shermack
Special to TB Source

Did you ever smell something that makes you go, "Mmmmmm?"

For many people the holiday season is an emotional ride full of nostalgia and fond memories of all the good times they've known.

It might be the sound of festive music or the sight of brightly lit decorations or even the feel of the north wind on our faces that takes us back and stirs our emotions.

But the most powerful memory joggers, without question, are those wonderful scents, aromas and smells that we instantly recognize from past positive encounters with pleasant odors.

Whether it is freshly baked cookies, the cold, winter air outside or smoke from a wood fire, when we smell our favorite things we often recall our favorite memories.

Senses spark emotions

An experience like that can stop you in your tracks and leave you speechless - of all five human senses, the sense of smell is the strongest and most powerful.

When it comes to resurrecting positive emotions and pleasurable experiences form the past, the nose knows exactly what to do

Whenever our nose detects an odour it immediately sends an impulse directly to the structures in our brain that control mood, memory, behavior and emotion.

This direct connection to the brain is what separates smell from our other senses and gives us instantaneous recall of people, places and things.

In fact, some of our past memories and emotions can only be triggered and activated when we detect the scents and odors associated with a particular event.

Olfactory memory is a term that refers to the recognition of odors from the past which often trigger a crystal clear recollection of important events and powerful emotions.

"Smell is the

most over-

looked (and

primitive)

human

sense...."

We may not remember all the specific details but the emotional memories of those imprinted olfactory moments stay with us forever.

They might bring back positive feelings of pleasure and happiness but beware, they can sometimes haunt you with unwelcome twinges of fear, anger or regret.

Smell is the most overlooked (and primitive) human sense and here are some other interesting facts to consider.

Humans have five to six million odour-detecting cells compared to rabbits (100 million) and dogs (220 million) – our scent cells are renewed and we get a new "nose" every 28 days.

Smell is the first sense we develop and it is fully formed and functioning before we are even born.

The human nose can detect at least

1 trillion different odors and we associate many of them with positive feelings.

The smell of new leather seems to make everyone happy – 85 per cent of adults re-live their carefree childhood schooldays whenever they detect the smell of Crayola crayons.

Research has shown that the smell of lavender improves mood, soothes anxiety, increases relaxation and it can even ease physical pain.

A single whiff of vanilla has been found to elevate feelings of joy and relaxation.

Pause button

When you are asleep your sense of smell shuts down—you really do have to wake up to smell the coffee and when that aroma reaches your nose your day is off to a good start.

We can detect ten basic odors which are fragrant, woody, fruity, chemical, minty, sweet, popcorn, lemon, pungent and decay (yuck).

Pleasant smells trigger happy emotions and memories and if you follow your nose through the holidays you will enjoy an uplifting trip down memory lane.

This is the time of year when every aroma and scent your nose encounters, (fresh baking, roast turkey, Christmas trees, mulled apple cider)) brings a smile to your face.

Take comfort in all the good smells and fond memories in the days ahead.



EMOTIONAL RESCUE: Christmas baking often sparks pleasurable memories in many.

Wartime salvage The need for metal and other material during the Second World War, along with the government's desire to provide citizens with the means to contribute to the war effort, led to the creation of local salvage operations across the country. Here three Lakehead women pitch in.

HOW TO WRITE US:

etters 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, Thunder Bay, ON P7A 5V6

Email: ldunick@dougallmedia.com Visit our website: www.tbnewswatch.com

THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Your VOICE

Will you stay home more of the time now that the city has moved to Orange-Restrict? VOICE YOUR OPINION ABOUT THINGS THAT MATTER MOST.

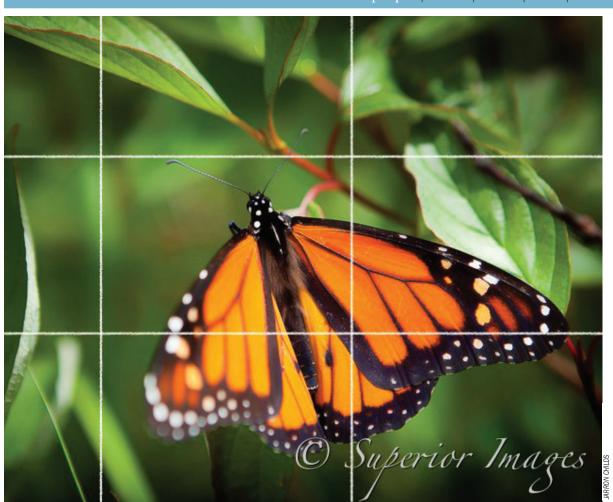
VISIT www.tbnewswatch.com

TO SHARE YOUR IDEAS AND VIEWS ABOUT OUR WEEKLY POLL QUESTION.

TOTAL VOTES: 1,234

YES NO DON'T KNOW 70.10% 26.26% 3.65%

people | health | home | food | leisure



DIVIDE AND CONQUER: Splitting your frame into equal one-third grids will help you balance the image and provide a better finished shot.

Camera tips



hunder Bay is characterized by people who love to be outside pursuing adventures, encountering wildlife and seeking fulfillment in the amazing landscape that surrounds us in Northwestern Ontario.

The ability to capture the best moments of each day with a photograph allows us to preserve special moments, to inspire people, and to share the wonder of our lifestyle with friends and family close to home and all over the world.

With the goal of taking better photos for the readers of this column, I reached out to professional photographer Jarron Childs.

A local high school teacher at Superior Collegiate, it is in his nature to help others and Jarron graciously shared some tips.

The advice was so good that it would be selfish to keep it all to myself so I have decided to share it with The Good Life readers.

The suggestions are quite thorough so I will share a couple here and the others next week. Lets begin with Jarron's advice on the most important aspects of a good photo: composition and light.

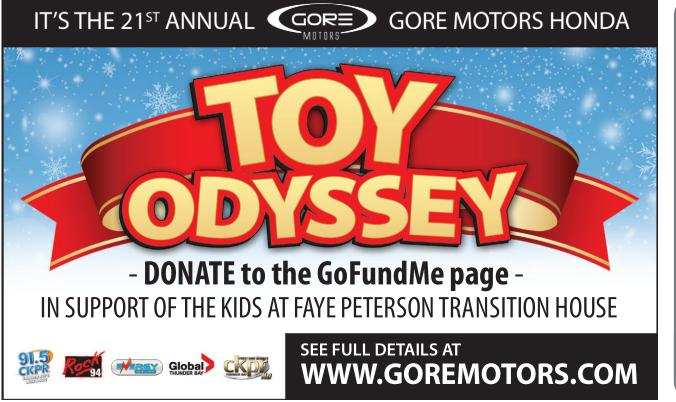
Composition is crucial.

Whether you use a true camera, or a device like a smartphone, composition is probably the most impactful, and easiest way to improve your photos. There are no "rules" in photography, it's an art form after all, but there are certain "guides" that will create images that appeal to a wider audience.

If you visually chop your viewfinder up into thirds both vertically and horizontally, you will create four locations where those lines cross. Putting your subject on one of those third intersections will give it more weight within the frame

Try it for yourself, take a photo of someone in the exact middle of the frame, and then take one on a third intersection.

Do the same for other things like flowers, trees, rocks, etc. The "unused" two-thirds will help tell the story of the "used" one third, but don't take my word, try it for yourself.





Putting up Christmas lights annual fun



hen we realized that we needed a new roof i.e. our twenty-year old roof reshingled, we decided that I should remove the string of Christmas lights I laboriously installed about twenty years ago.

If we were going to enjoy lights on the outside of Casa Jones, that meant installing new ones which we did this past weekend.

You drive to or come home from town when it is dark and you see sudden splashes of twinkling lights hanging from eaves troughs, from bushes, or on a lone tree in the front yard. Driving through Stanley you come across several such displays that are beautiful.

Closer to home where dwellings are more spaced out, a roof, a tree, sometimes, as in the case of a near neighbour on our road, I counted six different festive arrangements.

Of course, it is a 'must' at this time of year to cruise the streets of town. There are simple light presentations all the way to a full circus where you almost need tickets to line up in your vehicle to



COLOURFUL TRADITION: Putting up Christmas lights is an annual tradition for many.

watch.

Our Christmas lights ran the entire length of the roof rising up and down the two peaks before turning the corner and running along the eave of the screen porch.

It took me an entire afternoon to shove in the clips and attach the lights. I had to move the big extension ladder a couple of times to reach the peaks and then get up on the roof to complete the task.

I was younger then and actually had some sense of balance. Not now.

About a week before the roofing chaps showed up, I ripped the lights off of the roof, pulling on the cords until they all released and came crashing to the ground. A bit of glass clean-up was necessary.

When we turned on the switch to light

up the outside of the house, it was magnificent.

And since the installation was so arduous, I left the lights up permanently.

Well, over time the colours of the bulbs

switch, most of the lights were white.

That meant heading to a hardware store, buying new bulbs, moving the heavy ladder and replacing. Not fun.

faded until one year when I flipped the

But with the new shingles going on the roof and looking smart too, my wife,

Laura, wanted new lights at least along the main part of the roof. I wasn't keen on scaling the heights and reassembling the string of lights on the peak although t'was very pretty when lit up on a dark night.

Laura certainly didn't want me clambering on the parts of the roof where it would be easy to lose one's footing and come crashing to the ground.

The lights she chose were newimproved LED lights that would require a fraction of the electricity to fire away. But the clamps would not fit under the roof the way the old ones did.

We learned that the only way to secure them was to attach them to the eaves trough.

Since there are no eaves troughs running up and down the peaks, the straight line was where the lights were fastened. Ah, but when was this task to be performed?

The big ladder has become very heavy for me now. In addition, I broke one of the feet one winter trying to wrestle it out of the snow that, in fact, was covering ice in which the foot was imbedded.

So, not only is the big extension ladder heavy, but you have to place a piece of wood under the busted foot and hope the ground is level. Just so happens we have a smaller extension ladder Laura used to scrape off the snow from our solar panels on the horse barn.

It is light, almost too light although it just stretched up to the eaves in order for the Stringer-of-Lights to perform the task. Enter son, Doug.

Doug now lives in the city working at a co-op job for this year before he returns to the university to complete his engineering degree. So, we see him on the weekend if he isn't busy. He arrived Saturday afternoon to be greeted with "Hi son, I need your help installing the outside Christmas lights," I announced. "Mum already told me," he answered. Eventually, we brought the flimsy ladder from the barn, set it up against the roof of our 'hoosie', and while I held the ladder, Doug installed the lights. However, we had a couple of short strands left. So Doug plugged them in and draped them over hooks that I had screwed into the support posts. Then we switched on the lights.

"Not bad," I said although not as magnificent as the previous ones." Doug agreed. So did Laura.

Will these lights be temporary or will I figure a more permanent assembly that includes the peaks? Probably not. I was walking from the barn back to the house after giving the horses late-night hay and checking their water pails.

The lights looked pretty good. Festive colours bringing cheer in the dark of



IN THE Da arts entertainment culture



NEW EXHIBIT: Reconcile What contains at least a couple of centuries of conversations.

www.legacygivingthunderbay.com

Student art on display

By Linda Maehans - TB Source

Year by year this city's award-winning artists' collective showcases the work of Lakehead University's Visual Arts graduates.

After four years of experimentation driven by dedication to creativity, they've earned more than gown-andcap. In the real universe of visual arts perhaps a gallery as leading-edge as Definitely Superior in Thunder Bay will suffice. For now.

For the past two years that didn't happen: last year a move, this year Covid's unexpected arrival.

Now at last the LU Visual Arts grads of 2019 and 2020 have their day. Beyond academia and into a gallery where people are coming to look at your work as a professional, no longer as a student of art-school.

First thing to note, walking into LU Retrograduate X2, are the cinemahigh ceilings, the airy space. Nice new digs, that's for sure. And good, because this show gives us a lot to think about. It's packed with social commentary. It's personal. Straight from the artist to you, the viewer.

Thunder Bay

Family histories; some local architecture; childhood memories, not all of which appear to have been happy. There's a definite bite to much of what we are looking at. Feeling as little teeth around the ankles, a shiver up the arms. OK. There are some whimsical pieces: more sculptures, works in three-dimensions rather than paintings. Yet even the paintings seem lurid. Bright curves, strange choices of colour.

Our mood alternates from amazement to chagrin to downright consternation. Yet even the darker works are clever enough, aren't they? As said, a lot to think about. Definitely these former visual arts grads have something to say about the world in which we now live and how we, all of us, got here.

"Nice to see such diversity in the presentation this time," remarks DefSup director David Karasiewicz. "Three or multi-media-dimensional, personal commentary about how life is affecting these artists. Vital to them, but can have a powerful impact on others too. It's the bigger picture, this social commentary about life on our planet. And especially now." Have to

I'll mention some stunning sketches, charcoal & graphite on paper, easily taller than a man, perhaps close to the actual size of the horse we encounter in The Beginning of the Trail. A fiveby-seven. That's in feet.

Lose yourself in those armchairs where The Thinkers are perusing their tomes. Or how about those sly looks on the faces of those political figures, the "puppeteers" we instantly recognise as smoothly as we do their none-too-innocent smiles. Reconcile What? contains a couple of centuries of conversation, at the least, I'd say. With every nuance of shading and texture and tone, this artist. What do you think?

Couple of panels, Untitled (knife series no.2) took this viewer's imagination to a darker side. Household items with points; sharp edges; worntorn clothing; a small blackboard with something counted off in chalk strokes. Burnt-reddish hue. Rev? Again, what do you think? Or feel?

LU Retrograduate X2 up until Jan.9. Gallery hours Tues.-Sat. 12-6. All Covid protocols in place. Go give your eyes and mind some scenery.







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Cup Confidential: Hawks remembered



In light of the omniscient restrictions imposed by COVID-19, it is heartening to see that local filmmakers are still finding creative outlets.

Such is *Cup Confidential*, an entertaining 43-minute documentary by director Ryan La Via and co-writer Kris Ketonen, which focuses on the birth of the Colonial Hockey League and the Thunder Hawks team in the early 1990s.

This is an enjoyable, nostalgic glimpse into local sports history, recalling the team's inaugural storybook season in '91-'92, overcoming a sputtering start to ascendancy into the tension-filled championship final to ultimately winning the Cup in a nail-

biting Game 7 in overtime.

The filmmakers unfurl an ambitious battery of interviews with coaches, players, media, and fans who recall the wild and woolly days of Thunder Bay hockey, which in some respects recalls the Paul Newman film, *Slap Shot*.

Select individuals include Coach Bill McDonald, left winger Tom Warden, Executive Director of the Northwestern Ontario's Sports Hall of Fame Diane Imrie, and media personalities including John Nagy, Bryan Wyatt, Johann Vass and Bryan Graham.

Interview snippets illuminate the film's various sub-topics, including the Hawks' reputation for truculence, the team's fine-tuning by GM Gary Cook and Coach McDonald, the endless championship celebrations, the cup's knockabout caretaking post-win, the premature folding of the league, and the state of local hockey today.

It's the team's proclivity for toughness that provides the most amusing anecdotes early on. So intimidating were the Hawks---the line-up featured several capable pugilists compared to the lone designated 'specialist' on most teams--that visiting players notoriously came down with the "Thunder Bay Flu" just before game time.

It wasn't just the roughhousing. The Gardens' famously unyielding boards would make a player pay dearly for a missed body check. Then there were the rabid fans.

It is the timing of the film---where a packed arena is currently just a fanciful wish---that provides an appreciation of hockey at its height in Thunder Bay.

These memories are recalled with bemusement and fondness by the wellchosen interviewees who are collectively engaging and enthusiastic, their disparate experiences and roles combine to paint a vivid portrait of the team and the local hockey scene.

Among the coach and players, mutual respect and affection shines through.

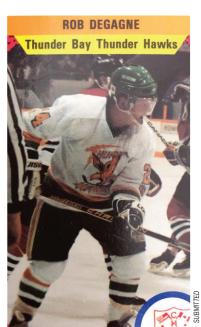
Having collected more than 20 hours of in-person interviews, phone-ins, and

other footage, the filmmakers have capably whittled down the material into a cohesive, compact story.

Augmenting the piece are numerous scenes of Thunder Bay's urban and natural landscape, footage of the team's more tempestuous on-ice episodes and a concluding roll-call of everyone associated with the team, complemented by Michael Kondakow's effective musical soundtrack.

The interviews occurred prepandemic and hence there is a pronounced absence of masks. Upon the pandemic alert, the filmmakers discontinued pursuit of other desired inperson interviews while going into post-production.

For a pleasurable recollection of a colourful chapter in Thunder Bay's sports history, it is well worth checking out *Cup Confidential*. Blu-rays are on sale, and rental streaming is available commencing Dec. 11 via the film's new website: www.cupconfidential. com/buy/now.



STUCK AROUND: Rob DeGagne has coached the Thunder Bay Kings and North Stars.



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thunderbay.ca/christmas

Holiday specials and films not always PC

One of the best things about this time of year is re-living a little of my childhood, often through holiday television specials and classic movies. There's a purity in their seasonal magic. I remember the first time I saw them or the warm traditions they inspired with family and friends around the TV set every year.

So I was appalled to discover after 45 years of turkeys that A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving Special was, in fact, racist. Sure, this holiday classic about a blockhead and his stalker eating dinner with friends, his dog and a cannibalistic bird had some inherent problems.

But this year, social media lit up like a Christmas tree, complaining that the Black kid was forced to sit on his own in a lawn chair. Some even demanded it be re-drawn.

Apparently, they didn't notice all the mismatched chairs. According to the



written story, Chuck's dog pulled out "lawn chairs, beach chairs, rocking chairs" to seat everyone.

And Franklin, the target of this unwanted online tirade, wasn't the only one sitting alone. Linus and Marcie also sat solo.

Meanwhile, Charlie Brown had his little sister beside him, a fawning Peppermint Patty on his other side and his dog at the end. But each one had a

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

F B I

FALLACY TRACE

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IDAE

SONANT



CONTROVERSY: Franklin is seated alone.

reason to be closest to him. And sitting there also meant they faced the readers and viewers.

But if social media is so focused on

the seating arrangements, they certainly aren't listening to the moral which, frankly, a child could understand. Nope, people are too interested in being morally superior to a cartoonist who fought his editor to include a black child in the Peanuts world at a time when segregation was still commonplace.

And now I fear they won't stop there. How many other childhood Christmas classics will fall? Will Rudolph be verboten as an example of child/deer labour and endangerment? Will the Grinch's behaviour with his tiny pup be considered animal abuse?

Is it possible that Frosty the Snowman encourages children to run away from home on a train? Or that The Santa Clause will inspire others to plot St. Nick's murder on the off chance they could take over the job?

Since its debut in 1983, A Christmas Story has been a holiday staple and was named "culturally, historically, or aesthetically significant" by the Library of Congress.

But with so many gun-related deaths and mass shootings this year, will someone demand that Ralphie's Red Ryder Carbine Action 200-shot Range Model air rifle be edited out?

And what about my beloved It's a Wonderful Life? Once thought romantic, George Bailey's rough treatment of Mary right before he proclaimed his love could rile up the #MeToo movement. And what will mental health experts say about Clarence's attempted suicide to help George?

Some of the magic of the classics is in the time - the context - in which they were created. Perhaps it's time to consider our history before we attack a classic. There's modern-day value even in an old "racist" cartoon. This column previously ran in 2018.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

A M B O

ROAM

MISPEL

ACROSS

1 70 (Rom. numeral) 4 Flower holder 8 Jack-in-thepulpit 12 Office of Economic

Development (abbr.) 13 Axillary 14 Son of Loki 15 Male friend (Fr.)

16 Leash for a hawk 17 Acarid 18 Jaw 20 Scope

21 Expanse 22 Indian sailor 25 Series of tones 28 Goddess (Lat.) 29 Laconian clan group 30 Priest's

garment 31 Stripling

32 Paraaminobenzoic acid 33 Cheer 35 Preclude 36 Remit 38 Joke

39 Flap 40 Leaf-cutting ant 44 Synagogue 46 Horseshoe

gripper 47 Altar constellation 48 Spinal membrane 49 Pointed arch 50 Mountain on

51 Buddhist sacred

mountain 52 Slender 53 Cup to hold a

16

DOWN Loess Gull

99 (Rom. numeral)

Crooner Bastard wing

AIIDA ABE

> Galilee town Poetic contraction Before (Sp.) Mack

10 Quadrant 11 Ten (pref.) 19 Ait 20 "The Jungle

Book" python 22 Pioneered 23 Fr. priest 24 Breed 25 Old English

poet 26 Afr. tree 27 Gan 28 Flounder

31 Swed. county 32 Sucker fish 34 Sailor 35 Become dim

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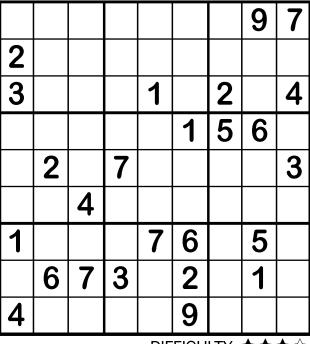
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CRYPTOGRAM

Undue

TM Enigma cryptograms are created from quotations and proverbs from around the world. Each letter stands for another letter. Hint: "N" = "A

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ENDZNBNUJEN GNRN

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

SIJHL adds Kings, Thistles

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Sports leagues have gotten creative to survive the pandemic.

The NHL and NBA chose bubble life.

Professional golfers played the Masters in November and baseball adopted the universal designated hitter and started a runner on second in extra innings.

The Superior International Junior Hockey League is no exception. Faced with an odd number of teams and a required 14-day reset period to switch opponents that would leave one team out of competition for at least 30 days, commissioner Darrin Nicholas says he thinks they've come up with a solution that will work not only for the SIJHL, but local midget

The league last Saturday announced it is bringing aboard the Kenora Thistles U18 and Thunder Bay Kings U18 teams, who will rotate in and out of the schedule to provide an even number of teams to allow for a universal two-week reset period.

An eighth team, the Thunder Bay Kings U16 squad, will take on whichever of the midget teams isn't in the current SIJHL cohort.

Works for both teams

It's a win-win for everyone, said Nicholas, who was facing the possibility of a five-team circuit in 2020-21 that threatened to leave the Fort Frances Lakers on the outside looking in with no way to effectively work them into the schedule.

The two American teams, the Wisconsin Lumberjacks and Thief River Falls Norskies, remain in limbo with the Canadian border closed until at least Dec. 21 – and not expected to open before the new

There's nothing wrong with a little outside-of-thebox thinking, Nicholas said.

"I know there was talk about incorporating U18 teams in the Quebec Tier II junior hockey league, but as far as I am aware ours might be the only league acting upon it." Nicholas said. "As we were searching for a solution, we wanted to see if it could be as inclusive as possible. We really view our league as stewards of elite hockey in Northwestern Ontario.



CLOSE CONTACT: Thunder Bay's Michael Vecchio (left) and Kam River's David Chisholm tangle last Saturday night.

"Both the Thistles and Kings programs are crucial programs to our league, and to allow them each an opportunity to participate and develop is frankly in our own best interests as well. It would have been an unenviable position to have to choose one over the other.'

Games against the two midget teams will not count in the standings, nor will statistics from games against U18 competition be factored into any season-long awards, like the scoring title.

For the Thistles and Kings, it's a chance to play some competitive hockey against next-level oppo-

The Kings were slated to play in the Greater Toronto Hockey League, but with case counts rising in southern Ontario, league officials pulled the plug on the 2020-21 campaign.

"It's an honour and a privilege to be invited to participate in the SIJHL schedule. Our U18s will benefit from a high level of competition at the Junior A level and our U16's will only improve as a result of their game competition against the Kenora Thistle U18AAA's and the Kings' own U18 team," said Kings president Michael Power.

Regional approach

The Thistles will play against the three western teams this season, a group that also includes the Dryden Ice Dogs and Red Lake Miners.

"With the impact of COVID-19 affecting so many, we are happy to be able to play against SIJHL competition this season. It's an opportunity to further develop players and ultimately give the kids a chance to see where they stand against older Junior A competition," said Thistles president Andrew Koch.

The Kings will take on the Thunder Bay North Stars and expansion Kam River Fighting Walleye.

Gardens games deliver excitement as promised

was back at Fort William Gardens over the weekend for the first time in nine months, and boy, it was great to be back.

It helped the hockey was pretty exciting, especially on Saturday

The Thunder Bay North Stars found themselves down 5-2 in the third, but Michael Stubbs scored twice and Leeam Tivers added a third in a 25-second span

and tied things up. That reminds me of the Bill eight games played between the two teams this

while skating for the Chicago Blackhawks.

It got even better. The Stars and Kam River Fighting Walleye took the game to overtime, and

while the host team had a number of chances, it was Fighting Walleye defenceman Joe McCollum who ended it, with a whopping 1.2 seconds left on the clock.

The North Stars captured the Teleco Cup, winning five of the

Mosienko's famous 21-second hat trick in 1952 season. But it's the Fighting Walleye that picked

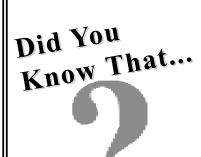
SPORTS SHORTS

up six points in four regular-season outings.

They've put together a pretty scrappy little team and will definitely be in the playoff hunt this season. Four of the five teams will make the post-

On a downside, fans won't be allowd to watch at Fort William Gardens or the Norwest Arena when play resumes in January, unless the province scales the Thunder Bay District back to Yellow or Green in its COVID-19 framework, currently in Orange.

Thankfully league officials said teams weren't really counting on gate receipts to cover their costs in 2020-21.



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City to host post-bubble Scotties in 2022

CURLINGBy Leith Dunick – TB Source

The Scotties Tournament of Hearts will be held in Thunder Bay a year later than originally planned. Curling Canada, which stages the women's national curling championship, on Tuesday announced the 2021 edition will be played inside a Calgary bubble to keep athletes and others associated with the event safe from COVID-19.

The Scotties was originally scheduled to be contested at the Fort William Gardens, returning to Thunder Bay for the first time in 25 years. Instead Thunder Bay will wait a 26th year and host the Scotties in 2022, a late January start to accommodate the Olympic Games.

"We're very pleased that they'll be coming back to Thunder Bay in 2022 with the Scotties. So really, it's only 14 months from now, from Jan. 28 to Feb. 6, a little bit earlier date, at the Fort William Gardens," said organizer Rick Lang.

Though disappointed at the one-year delay, Lang said it was the best decision for everyone involved. Organizers locally didn't want to host an event without fans in the stands, given the 1,600 ticket packages that had already been sold.

"We really said right from the beginning we want



TOP NOTCH TEAM: Krista McCarville has skipped eight different teams into the Scottels Tournament of Hearts.

a full event here. We don't want a partial event with partial crowds and they understood that because we had great ticket sales, initially," Lang said.

"They said if we come back, all of the partners have to be there, so we're really happy the Community Economic Development Commission, city council, the three curling clubs and Fort William Gardens all came aboard right away and said sure, let's do it next year if we can get it. There's a lot of enthusiasm in the community.

The CEDC used funds from the municipal accommodations tax to help cover the \$400,000 guarantee needed to secure the Scotties, and in September CEO Eric Zakrewski told city council they had

agreed to continue to support the event should it have to be moved out of COVID-19 concerns.

Curling Canada officials said they remained committed to holding the Scotties on the shores of Lake Superior.

"These are unprecedented times, as we all know, and while we had to make some tough decisions for this season's events, it was gratifying to see the understanding and support from the scheduled host communities," said Mitch Minken, chair of Curling Canada's board of governors.

"It's wonderful to see that Thunder Bay will get its chance to host the country's most prestigious women's curling championship and see Canada's best curlers compete in the world-renowned Scotties Tournament of Hearts."

Lang said the delay just helps build the excitement and anticipation even more.

"I think the community is going to be really happy to have it back here, even though it's a year later."

Current ticketholders will start to be contacted on Wednesday and presented with a pair of options. They can either get a full refund, no questions asked, or they can hold onto their tickets and they'll be honoured at the 2022 event.

Tickets for the 2022 Scotties will go on sale in February, during the 2021 event.

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Standings tightening in Major League of Curling

CURLING

By Leith Dunick -TB Source

One night a week, Trevor Bonot and Al Hackner are teammates.

Last Wednesday wasn't that night.

Instead they were on opposite sides, battling it out for position in the Tbaytel Major League of Curling standings at the Kakabeka Curling Club.

Not surprisingly, it proved to be the match of the night, not decided until the second-to-last shot.

Hackner, the former two-time world champion, had a touch to much weight on his final stone and left Bonot, a former Canadian mixed champion, in shot position, not needing to fire his final rock to eke out a 4-3 triumph.

The win upped Bonot's record to 4-3, vaulting him into a four-way tie for fourth spot in the standings, two games behind front-runner Dylan Johnston.

"The focus for us was to just keep it close.

You never want to give Al too much of a lead.
So the goal was to keep it close and then make it happen," Bonot said. "It's evident in the score line. We had a lot of singles and some steals in there wand that's just the kind of game we played."

Bonot struck first, picking up one in the first, but Hackner struck with with a deuce in the second to take a 2-1 lead. Bonot drew to the button to even the match in the third, then stole singles in the fourth and fifth to take the lead for good.

It was all about making the most of his chances.

"We had the opportunity to get some nice draws in there. I finally found my weight for draw weight this

season and the ice was actually consistent for the speed,"

Bonot said. "We had some tricky spots with some spots that were picking, but we knew the weight and I felt comfortable with some draws and we got fortunate."

Hackner picked up one in the sixth to pull to within one, but the two sides blanked the seventh and Bonot closed it out with hammer in the eighth.

One sheet over, Ben Mikkelsen captured a second straight contest, scoring three in the fifth to pull away from Team Jonathan Vellinga foursome, skipped on Wednesday night by Myles Harding.

Mikkelsen, the 2014 Major League of Curling

champion who won his first two games before dropping three in a row, also joined the 4-3 logjam with his latest win, a 6-4 triumph.

"It's good because this league is full of a lot of good curlers who can bring it to the end every single game," Mikkelsen said.

"We've been fortunate the last few years to start off well in the league. This year we're starting off a little bit slower, but as long as we keep going in the right direction that we want to go, making the playoffs is always the first step."

The top seven teams in the 14-team circuit will advance to the championship round, top spot earning a bye into the semifinal.

Dylan Johnston took another step in that direction, finishing off Mike Desilets rink in five ends, scoring three in the fourth and stealing one more in the fifth to earn a 7-1 victory. Johnston's win edged him half a game in front of Krista McCarville at 6-1.

In the only other game of the night, Mike Pozihun captured his third straight, downing Mike McCarville 7-2. Pozihun improved to 4-3, while McCarville slipped to 2-5.

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RENOVATIONS: We're Carpenters and Renovators! Kitchens, baths, basements, etc... Call 252-9114

60. HEALTH CARE

BASIC, ADVANCED AND DIABETIC MO-BILE NURSING FOOT CARE. Call Steve 355-3595 to schedule an in-home apwww.stevesfootcare.com

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

67. IN MEMORIAN

CARREL-PARTNERSLLP

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

> 1IIII ericksons



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68. DEATH/FUNERALS



www.siftb.net/memorial



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Dad, C. W.(Bill) KING October 30, 1914

- December 10, 1985 Dad: Wherever

you are I hope the sun is warm, the sky

is blue, and Mom is holding your hand.

Love Bill. Charlie. Ti

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ANSWERS TO THIS **WEEK'S PUZZLES**

For more info, call **346-2600**.

Ask for your Account Executive

Thunder Bay Source

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PREVIOUS SOLUTION: "Never do anything in haste that can never be undone."

- Yajnavalkya Dasa



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