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Thunder Bay

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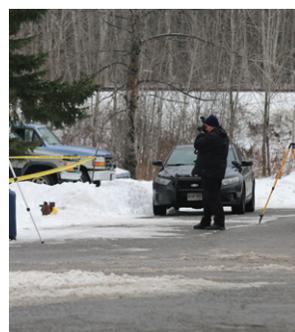
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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2016

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Canadian Publications Agreement No. 0662445 Vol.13 No. 46

INSIDE OPP SHOOTING



SIU invokes mandate after man shot in Nipigon /3

MAN DIES IN FIRE



Body found after blaze rips through residence /4

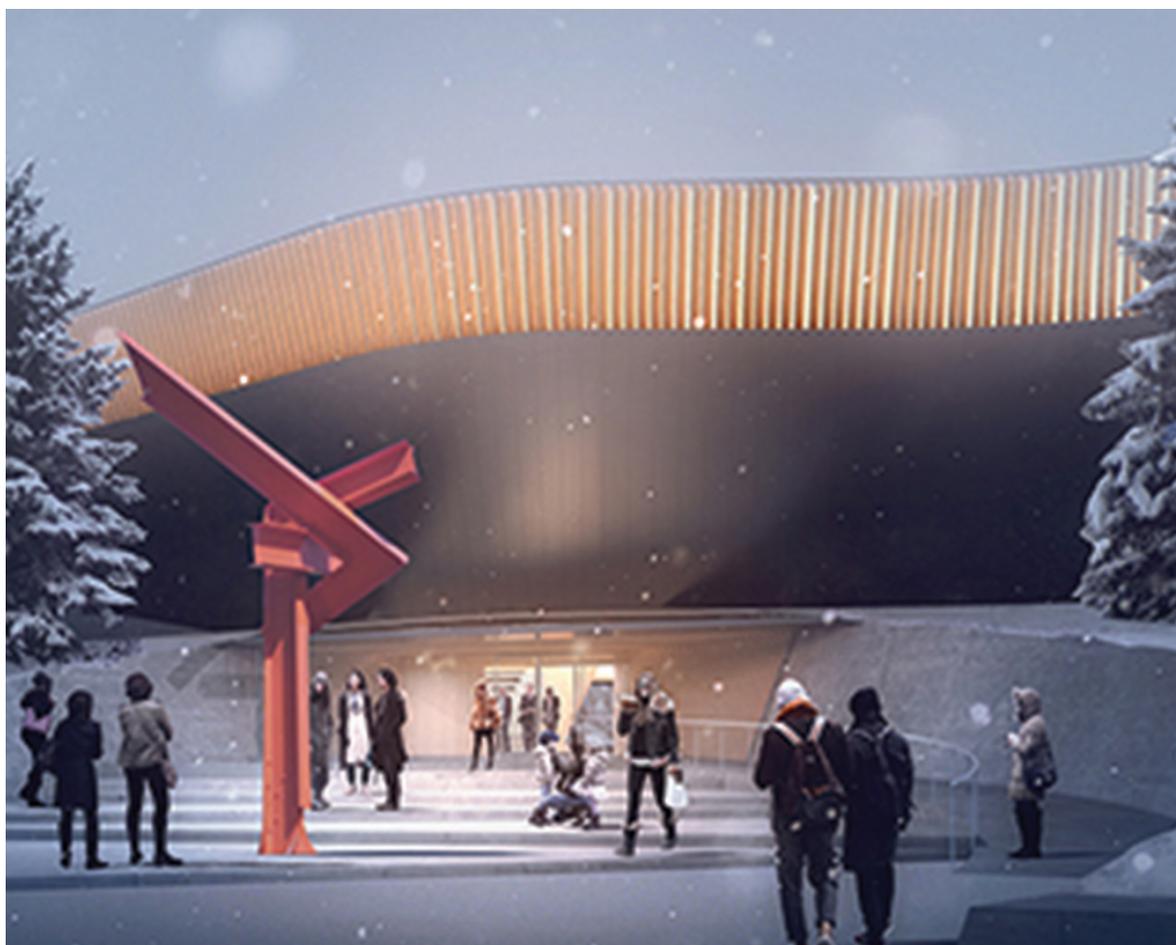
LAWYER CHARGED



Sandy Zaitzeff accused of sexual assault /8

Gallery dream

Report coming on feasibility of \$5M ask to build new waterfront art gallery /12



NEXT STEPS: Proponents of moving the Thunder Bay Art Gallery from Confederation College to the waterfront were at council on Monday.

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LOCAL NEWS

OPP shoot, kill Nipigon man



Weather Forecast

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SATURDAY	SUNDAY
<p>A few flurries Probability of Precipitation: 40% HIGH 0 LOW -3</p>	<p>A few flurries Probability of Precipitation: 60% HIGH 0 LOW -4</p>
MONDAY	TUESDAY
<p>A few flurries Probability of Precipitation: 40% HIGH -1 LOW -5</p>	<p>A few flurries Probability of Precipitation: 60% HIGH -1 LOW -6</p>

POLICE
By Leith Dunick & Doug Diaczuk - TB Source

The province's Special Investigations Unit has invoked its mandate and will look into a fatal shooting in Nipigon involving an Ontario Provincial Police officer.

In a release issued late on Saturday night, the SIU said OPP were called to a home on Park Road at about 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, where they encountered a man and there was an interaction. An officer discharged his firearm, striking the man.

The 45-year-old victim was taken to Nipigon District Memorial Hospital, where he was later pronounced dead.

According to SIU officials, investigators have designated one subject officer and eight witness officers involved in the incident.

Loud noise

Neighbours in the area were shaken by the event, saying that things like this just don't happen in Nipigon. Judith McCullough, who lives two doors down from the scene, described hearing the incident unfold.

"I was in my bedroom and I heard a big shot," she said. "It sounded like it was right from my bedroom. It was around seven o'clock. Then I came out here and I heard the ambulance. The ambulance was buzzing, all the lights."

McCullough said a mother, daughter, and two granddaughters live in the Park Road residence and the victim of the shooting did not. She added that the granddaughters were not home at the time of the shooting.

"I know the man was shot in the



DEADLY INTERACTION: The province's Special Investigations Unit on Sunday looks into a shooting of a man by an OPP officer.

doorway of that house," she said. "It was a terrible thing. I feel sorry for that policeman. That's a bad thing to have to live with."

"We don't have this happen around town, somebody getting shot," McCullough added.

Four investigators and three forensic

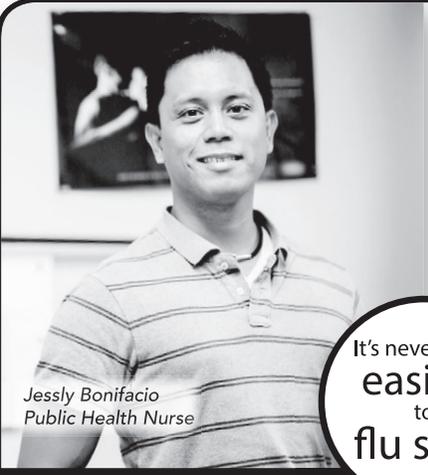
investigators have been assigned to look into the incident and were on the scene Sunday afternoon. The SIU urges anyone with information to contact the lead investigator at 1-800-787-8529 at extension 2314.

The SIU is called in to investigate cases when there has been a death,

serious injury or allegations of sexual assault involving a police officer.

Police have not released any further details about the shooting or said why they used deadly force in the incident. The OPP was contacted for comment, but declined at this time, saying inquiries must go through the SIU.

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Jessly Bonifacio
Public Health Nurse

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Need more information? Call the flu line at 624-9082 or visit thunderbayflu.ca



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Second Floor Gallery
 425 Donald St. E.



Don Rusnak, MP
Thunder Bay-Rainy River
don.rusnak@parl.gc.ca



Bill Mauro, MPP
Thunder Bay-Atikokan
bmauro.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org

LOCAL NEWS

Trailer park fire claims life

Fire marshal looking into death after body recovered in weekend East Gorham fire

EAST GORHAM
By Doug Diaczuk - TB Source

A fire in East Gorham has claimed the life of one resident.

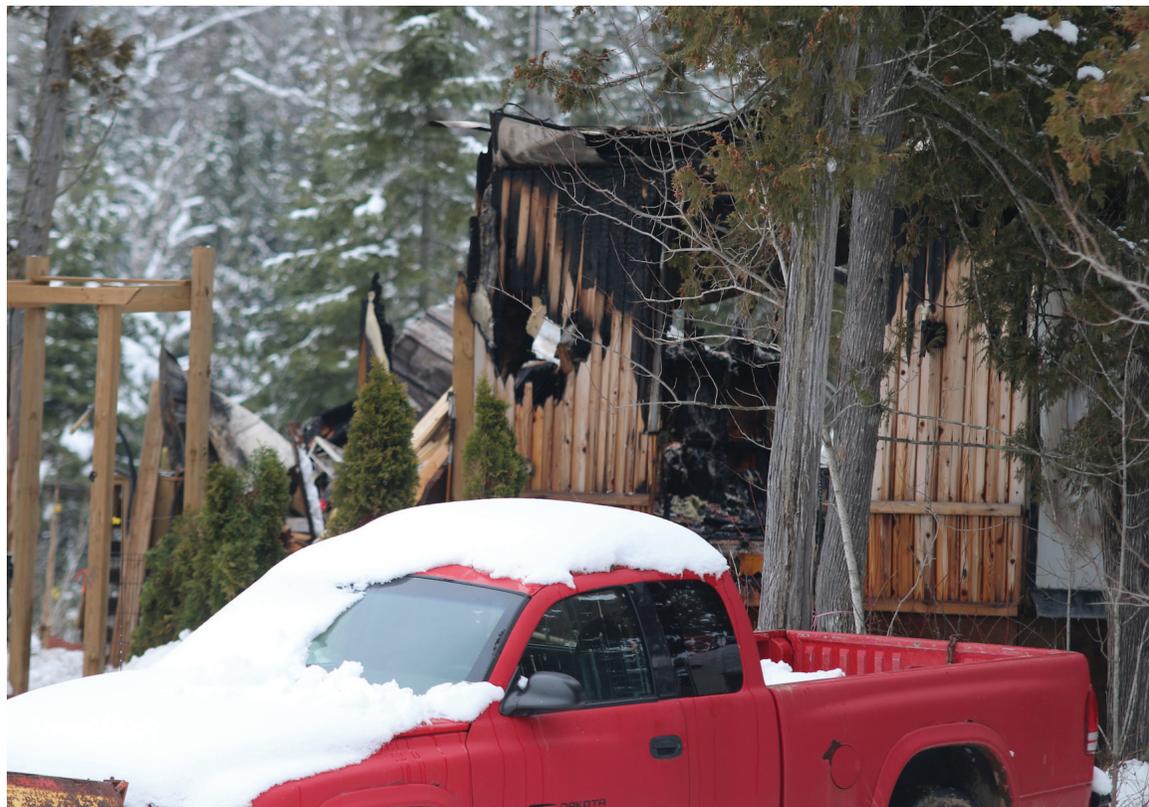
Fire crews from Shuniah Fire and Emergency Services and the East Gorham Fire Department and Ontario Provincial Police officers responded to a fire on Wild Rose Road just after mid-day on Saturday.

A single structure near Ravenwood Estates was completely destroyed and claimed the life of one man.

The Office of the Fire Marshal was called to the scene to conduct an investigation. Timothy Irish, fire investigator with the office of the Fire Marshall Emergency Management posted in Thunder Bay, said the investigation is still in its preliminary stage and few details are available at this time.

“Unfortunately in this particular matter, there has been a fatality,” he said. “That type of incident is what will generate our attendance. Having said that, we are here and we are in our preliminary stages of the investigation and at this time it is too early to comment as to cause or any other details with regards to what happened.”

Irish added that there are a number of stages to an investigation like this, including examining the structure, property, and victim, identified on Monday as 58-year-old Hartwig Otholt.



MAN DIES: Hartwig Otholt was identified as the man killed in a fire that razed a structure at an East Gorham trailer park.

DOUG DIACZUK

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LOCAL NEWS

King re-elected in Gull Bay

Incumbent chief will serve a four-year term winning after landslide victory

GULL BAY FIRST NATION
By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Wilfred King will remain chief of Gull Bay First Nation after winning a landslide re-election bid.

King beat former chief Miles Nowegijick 332 to 163, band officials announced on Sunday.

King said winning the vote – along with all 10 council candidates he endorsed – means he’s got a four-year mandate to move the community forward.

“I am excited for the opportunity to have a term in office in which council can finally make serious headway against challenges we currently face,” King said in a release issued by the band.

“A two-year term doesn’t provide enough time to advocate or offer enough security to funders to initiate the types of infrastructure projects that our Nation so desperately needs - let alone actually see it through development and completion.”

The new four-year terms were introduced with the transition to the First Nations Elections Act, doubling the previous term length.

King called the old term length limits a tool used by the federal government to foster an environment that prevents First Nations communities from prospering.

“Even if a Nation has internal capacity, in so far as having qualified and/or experienced staff amongst their membership to move critical business forward, a shortened mandate is prohibitive to successfully conducting all of the requirements



EASY VICTORY: Wilfred King won a second straight term as Gull Bay First Nation Chief, beating former chief Miles Nowegijick.

associated with managing the bureaucracy and obtaining the necessary approvals,” King said.

“It is only righteous and just that First Nations be permitted to operate in the same fashion as their municipal, provincial and federal counterparts.”

King said his goal over the next four years will be to ensure the Crown consults with his community and doesn’t issue land-use permits to individual or corporate interests without

getting the go-ahead from Gull Bay First Nation.

“We will commence an aggressive pursuit towards the creation of an Impact Benefit Agreement with Lac des Iles Mines, stemming from the previous Letter of Mutual Respect and Understanding that was struck between Gull Bay First Nation and North American Palladium which previously covered the areas of employment/training and mentoring; environmental monitoring and protec-

tion; economic development opportunities with Gull Bay First Nation joint venture partners; and resource revenue sharing,” said King.

Under his leadership, Gull Bay First Nation reached an \$8-million agreement with the federal government on specific timber royalties and also reached a deal with Ontario Power Generation on flooding.

Nowegijick was chief of the community from December 2010 to January 2013.

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Editorial

EDITORIAL

Warmed-up winter time

Welcome to springtime in Thunder Bay.

Well, at least it felt that way this week.

A day or two of rain was all it took to all but erase the snow from the city, leaving a real possibility of a green Christmas in three week's time.

Odds are the snow will return between now and then, but it's a stark reminder of the effects of global warming.

This is the latest yet the Lakehead Region Conservation Agency has issued a flood outlook statement. It's also the latest the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway has begun diverting water.

The city and surrounding communities received up to 84 millimetres of rain on Monday into Tuesday.

Environment Canada on Monday reported November in Thunder Bay has been one of the warmest yet on record, with average daily highs between five and eight degrees more than is typical for this time of year.

No, weather is not climate. But our summers seem to have been creeping further and further into fall in recent years.

And yet U.S. president-elect Donald Trump has appointed an anti-climate change czar to head the Environmental Protection Agency and is threatening to tear up his country's participation in the Paris climate accord. Thankfully Canada won't follow his lead.

Unfortunately, without U.S. involvement, it may be a pointless deal.

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Police are doing fine

To the editor:

The police are doing a great job. It seems the investigative wings of the department, according to the *Fifth Estate* report, shows that the police chief is not being properly informed by those who work in the department.

I have seldom seen any problems with the front-line police workers, who given the many problems in health care, ie addictions, lack of doctors, etc, sees the police force burdened with a tremendous amount of calls.

Caesar J.B. Squitti,
Thunder Bay
Via Facebook

CBC hit job on cops

To the editor:

Thunder Bay's finest has enough to deal with in this armpit of a city. The last thing they need is negative publicity from left-wing halo wearers know as the CBC. Let those broadcasters spend a year here and see what really goes on.

Bruce Pappas,
Thunder Bay
Via Facebook

Art Gallery not needed

To the editor:

This is making me sick. The Salvation Army wants to build a new local shelter because their current building is literally falling apart. The new building in its entirety is around \$5 million.

The Salvation Army asks the city for \$500,000 and could possibly be turned down or the donation reduced. Does the city not have its priorities straight? What a shame.

Claudio Monteleone,
Thunder Bay
Via Facebook

Nice, but not needed

To the editor:

A new art gallery is nice to have, but how can people not understand that our infrastructure is crumbling around us, but they still ask for money for things we can't afford at this time.

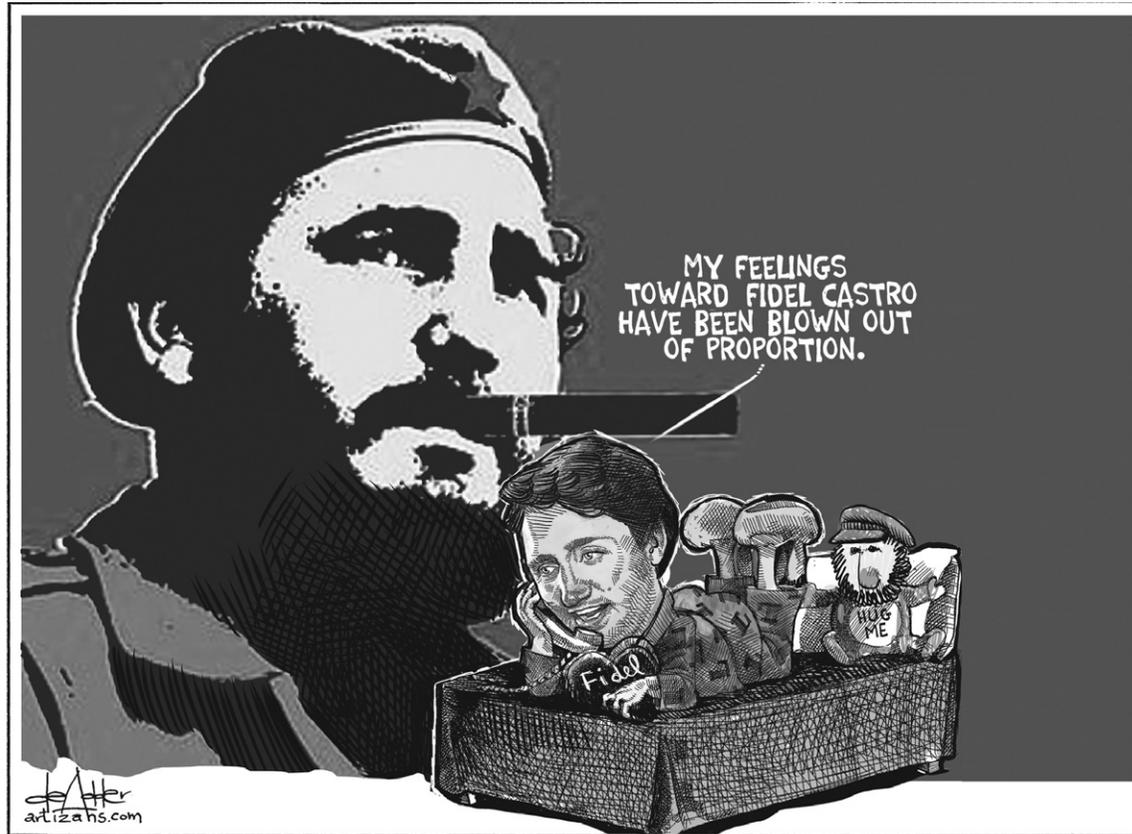
Ken Baker,
Thunder Bay
Via Facebook

Sports facility required

To the editor:

Instead of a new art gallery, how about spending a couple of million dollars for a sports complex for all the

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



tens of thousands of kids and adults that are out in the cold with no facility now that the Sports Dome is down.

More people are affected by sports than the arts community who still have a perfectly good venue.

Laura Morine,
Thunder Bay
Via Facebook

Private, not public funds

To the editor:

The city must be careful as to what it subsidizes, if anything.

The proposed \$33M facility looks impressive, but it should be driven by the private sector.

There is too much expectation and reliance on the public sector to subsidize or chip in. First the event centre and now the new Thunder Bay Art Gallery.

Ken Cyrette,
Thunder Bay
Via Facebook

No more public smoking

To the editor:

Why should smokers have a right to smoke in public?

Smoke in your home or car. If smokers weren't their own worst enemies, perhaps it wouldn't be as much of a problem.

Examples are emptying their ashtray in a public parking lot or throwing butts out the window or being too lazy

to move the proper distance from an entrance forcing people to walk through the stench.

Also, where in Thunder Bay are people smoking hookahs in public places. We don't have a hookah bar that I know of.

Scott Knudsen,
Thunder Bay
Via Facebook

Hotels are full in town

To the editor:

Work in a hotel and you'd be surprised how many people are traveling through Thunder Bay going east or west.

Every night in summer it's a full house. Not including evacuees. Small town travellers around Thunder Bay, from Terrace Bay, Longlac, Dryden etc.

People are coming here to do some shopping or visit friends or family and there's the travelling tourist.

At this rate we need a few more hotels.

Lisa Peterson,
Thunder Bay
Via Facebook

New drug solution

To the editor:

Clearly prohibition has never worked, and we should seriously look at the model Portugal is using today.

All drugs have been legalized and the crimes rates have dropped, drug use has dropped, and jail sentences have dropped. It has turned out to be a huge savings for the government.

Treatment is the answer for the problem instead of being locked away in a cell.

Tim Robinson,
Thunder Bay
Via Facebook

School plan senseless

To the editor:

Why are they closing schools on the south side when the budget deficit on the north side is almost double?

Dave Kushnier,
Thunder Bay
Via Facebook

Keep Churchill open

To the editor:

Sir Winston Churchill should stay open, permanently.

Having one high school on the south side sure doesn't give a child a choice as to which school they can go to get away from bullies.

I'm glad my children are finished high school

Glynis Betts,
Thunder Bay
Via Facebook

Perspective

Intergalactic intervention on way?

A group of scientists are trying to contact alien life and believe it could happen within 20 years

OPINION
By J.R. Shermack
Special to TB Source

Things would be a whole lot better for everybody if we could all just get along.

The history of human civilization is a sad tale of man's inhumanity to man and recent world events confirm this disgraceful saga.

The foundations of western democracy have been severely shaken and some are fearful of what might happen next.

You can't help but wonder what it would take to get us on the right track and give our planet a more optimistic future.

Some look to the heavens for divine guidance while others plan to resist with protest and civil disobedience.

Many have thrown up their arms in frustration, thinking they have no defense against the power of human stupidity.

But fear not fellow humans – a dedicated group of professionals will soon be calling for help from the only ones who can save us now.

METI International is a non-profit organization whose primary mission is to contact and communicate with alien life forms.

Messaging Extra Terrestrial Intelligence (METI) is exactly what this diverse group of scientists and scholars is planning to do.

That may seem like a tall order, but METI president, Douglas Vakoch, optimistically predicts first contact within 20 years.



DEEP THOUGHTS: The recent Hollywood blockbuster *Arrival* has re-awakened the idea of intelligent life existing elsewhere in the universe.

He is confident that advances in technology and computing power will enable us to scan the cosmos for signals from intelligent life.

Based on the math and something called the Drake Equation, it seems certain that life abounds in the universe.

If the mission is successful, perhaps we can persuade ET to visit Earth for the first ever inter-galactic intervention.

Maybe our alien friends will sit us down, tell us they've always admired Earthlings and that the entire galaxy is worried about us.

Something like that could really be a game-changer for Earth – I hope our alien overlords make contact before it's too late.

This scenario is being discussed freely these days after the release of

Arrival, a movie in which aliens have already landed here.

The question arises, how do you communicate with an advanced alien civilization and what information should the message contain.

All we know about extra-terrestrials, we learned at the movies – "ET phone home," or "Take me to your leader" are not good discussion starters.

Human languages all have fundamental similarities but we have no understanding of alien concepts or perceptions.

The problem METI faces is how to communicate with a non-human, alien life form effectively and without causing an inter-galactic incident.

And once contact is finally made, say in 2035, who has the authority to speak for the Earth?

This really is the stuff of science fiction and it is tempting to dismiss METI altogether as a spoof or a hoax.

But this is a serious scientific quest by Vakoch based on mathematical calculations of the number of potential advanced civilizations.

That number is growing and METI hopes to have a message ready for transmission by 2018.

But don't get too excited – even at the speed of light this is a multi-generational mission.

We already have the technology to send the message, but do we have the patience to wait tens or hundreds or even thousands of years for an answer?

Astrophysicist David Brin warns us to be very cautious letting alien worlds know that Earth is open for business.

He thinks it is better to keep our planet on the QT rather than risk a hostile invasion by the mother ship.

Stephen Hawking agrees although truthfully, humankind may already contain the seeds of its own demise.

In the meantime, whatever happens, the search for intelligent life continues right here on the home planet.

This week in history:

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THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

your VOICE

Should Prime Minister Justin Trudeau have followed the lead of U.S president-elect Donald Trump and been critical of Cuban dictator Fidel Castro's regime following his death?

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TOTAL VOTES: 529

YES
39.51%

NO
60.49%

LOCALNEWS



Good Reasons to Recycle

Recycling saves energy **Recycling uses less space in landfills** Recycling saves trees **Recycling helps climate change** Recycling reduces pollution **Recycling saves money** Recycling creates jobs.



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TRANSIT



WELL-KNOWN: Lawyer Sandy Zaitzeff most recently made headlines in a class-action lawsuit filed against the RCMP.

Sex assault charges laid against lawyer

Sandy Zaitzeff will appear again in court on Dec. 9

CRIME
 By TB Source staff

A local lawyer faces a number of charges, including one sexual offence involving a minor. Well-known lawyer Alexander (Sandy) Zaitzeff, who recently

made headlines for his work locally in a class-action lawsuit against the RCMP, faces nine charges. The charges include one count sexual assault, one count sexual interference, one invitation to sexual touching under 16, five counts of assault and mischief under \$5,000.

The charges were brought to court Monday following a weekend arrest by the Thunder Bay Police Service. He has since been released from custody and is expected to appear in court on Dec. 9. None of the charges he faces have been proven in court.

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LOCAL NEWS

Churchill students thrilled at reprieve

EDUCATION

By Nicole Dixon - TB Source

Some Churchill students say they're happy they'll avoid having to move to another high school at least another year.

Last Tuesday, the Lakehead District School Board voted to extend its south side renewal plan timeline. The plan would have seen the closure of Sir Winston Churchill Collegiate and Vocational Institute at the end of this school year. Students would then have transferred to nearby Westgate Collegiate and Vocational Institute in September 2017.

The revised timeline will push the move back to the following September.

Grade 11 student Nick Zappitelli wants to stay at Churchill because it feels like home.

"I'm super excited that I get to graduate as a Trojan," Zappitelli said. "I've been here for three years, because of the hub, and it just feels right that we are graduating as Trojans."

Zappitelli said he wouldn't want to make the move to Westgate



EXTRA YEAR: Students learned last week Sir Winston Churchill Collegiate and Vocational Institute will remain open until June 2018.

Collegiate because it would feel like starting in Grade 9 once again.

He added making the move

wouldn't feel quite right.

Zappitelli wasn't the only student who was excited to hear about the

extension.

Grade 10 student Tristan Basalyga said he didn't believe the news when

he first heard it from a friend.

"I'm really excited because of the football here," Basalyga said. "I'm really glad to be part of the senior team, because if it had closed before next year I would have had to go and play senior for Westgate."

"Playing as part of the senior Trojan football is going to be awesome."

For Basalyga, Churchill is his first high school and it's the only high school he has ever been, so to be able to stay another year is a wonderful opportunity.

"I respect the school, I respect the teams, I respect the sports associations and the coaches who go there," Basalyga said.

"I just want to stay here as long as I can and not have to transfer to a different school."

For Grade 12 student Darren Schelhaas he is just happy for the Grade 11 students.

"It gives them a chance to graduate at this awesome school," Schelhaas said.

"It just makes me happy because all the boys now get to graduate here too, so another year of football."

For Thunder Bay: Improved access to mental health services

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LOCALNEWS

Bad police reputation undeserved: mayor

Cops in national media cross-hairs, says Hobbs

CITY HALL

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Focus on the positive. That's the message delivered Monday night by crime prevention council co-ordinator Lee-Ann Chevrette when asked by Mayor Keith Hobbs how to counter the city police's reputation across the country.

Hobbs, a former police officer, had suggested it was unfair treatment.

"How do we support police when the national media has them in their cross-hairs?" the mayor asked during a presentation Chevrette and crime

prevention council chair Jeff Upton were making during the weekly committee of the whole meeting at city hall.

"How do we get that message out to the nation?"

Chevrette's immediate response was she didn't have the answer, acknowledging it's a difficult situation.

Thunder Bay police have come under fire on a number of occasions in recent years, accused of treating Aboriginal people unfairly and not investigating crimes involving them as thoroughly as crimes involving non-Aboriginals.

Earlier this month CBC's *Fifth Estate* put police Chief J.P. Levesque on the hot seat, questioning his department's investigation into the Oct. 18, 2015 death of Stacy DeBungee, whose

body was found submerged in the McIntyre River.

The broadcaster alleged police ruled the death non-suspicious too quickly, without making proper effort to interview witnesses, two of whom the CBC spoke to for the story and who said there was more to DeBungee's death than first met the eye.

Chevrette said it's clear a lot of work needs to be done to establish trust again.

"There are some situations that have happened in the community that have drawn a lot of negative attention," Chevrette said.

"We have to focus on the positive."

Hobbs said he's not sure the message will have an impact.

"They just don't want to hear it," Hobbs said.



NOT HAPPY: Mayor Keith Hobbs spoke out Monday about negative police attention.

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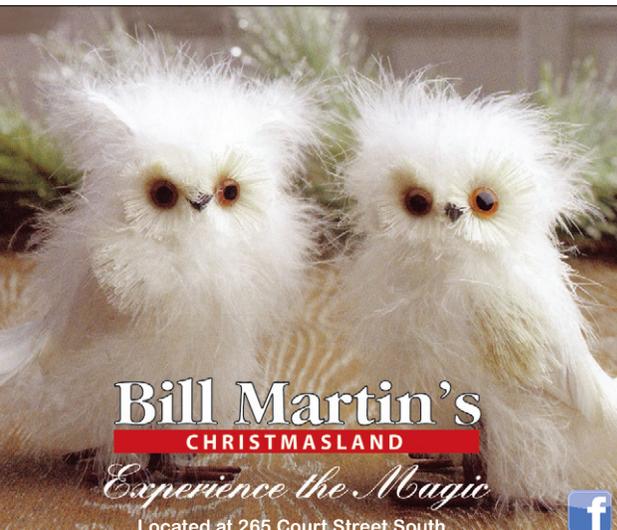
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LOCAL NEWS

Gallery move still in play

CITY HALL

By Leith Dunlick – TB Source

Backers of a proposed \$33-million waterfront Thunder Bay Art Gallery on Monday asked the city to chip in \$5 million toward the project.

Council was given a March 2017 deadline to make a decision, and despite the tight timeframe, agreed to take the next step in the process, advising administration to prepare a report on the funding request and the impact the John Patkau-designed gallery could have on the community.

It was welcome news to Thunder Bay Art Gallery director Sharon Godwin.

"We have been working with the city for many years toward this project. We've made commitments, they've made commitments and we're just all moving ahead with those commitments," Godwin said. "Obviously the decision wasn't made tonight and we didn't expect it to be, but we wanted to make sure we could make our request in more than enough time.

"We understand it's a difficult budget this year. It's always difficult to find money for culture, but it's very important that we do that in our community."

Money was at the root of dissenting questions asked by council, who nonetheless voted unanimously to move forward with the report.

Council heard the federal government is being asked to invest at least \$15 million in the project, while the province, through the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation, is being asked for \$5 million. An additional \$2.5 million would be raised through a capital fundraising campaign in the community. The federal money cannot happen without the city's commitment.

McIntyre Coun. Trevor Giertuga wanted to know the contingency plan should funding from senior levels of government not materialize.

"There are certainly a lot of balls up in the air," Giertuga said. "I like your optimism, but I don't necessarily share it."

Needing Coun. Linda Rydholm wanted to know how the facility would impact the city's bottom line.

"If we're going to spend millions of dollars, I would like some people to assure me it's going to be an economic driver," she said. "We're hurting right now with our budget."

The \$5 million isn't the only cost the city could be on the hook for, council learned.

There's also up to \$2.2 million needed for site infrastructure, including sidewalk extensions and additional parking, not to mention possible site remediation.

Current River Coun. Andrew Foulds reminded his council colleagues the report was not a commitment.

"We're not making a decision tonight," Foulds said. "I think everybody around the table wants to make a decision based on information. Let's get the report and make the decision based on information."

At-large Coun. Iain Angus agreed.

"I think we owe it to the Art Gallery and to the work they've done, and the money we've spent," Angus said.

The \$5 million would likely be taken from the 2018 capital budget, though council will consider splitting it over two years.

A decision would have to be made, if the money is approved, whether or not to take out a debenture or use existing funds.

The report will be presented by the end of February 2017

"It would still give the Art Gallery the month of March," said Gerry Broere, the city's acting manager of community services, acknowledging the deadline.

Godwin said if all goes well, the new Art Gallery would move into its waterfront digs in 2019.

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LOCAL NEWS

Tamarack House expanding service

HEALTH
By Doug Diaczuk – TB Source

A housing service that provides affordable accommodation to patients seeking cancer treatment in Thunder Bay is now accepting other patients to make up for fluctuating vacancy rates.

The Tbaytel Tamarack House, located on the top floor of the medical building on the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre grounds, is partnering with the Wequedong Lodge to provide beds to patients that were traditionally only available to patients undergoing cancer treatment in Thunder Bay.

“We’ve always had some non-cancer patients,” said Mark Henderson, executive vice-president of patient services with the TBRHSC. “What we are proposing now is to have a formal agreement with Wequedong Lodge and when Wequedong Lodge is over capacity, which it frequently is, if we have unused capacity we will extend beds to those patients.”

Wequedong Lodge is a non-profit organization that provides accommodation and services to First Nations people accessing medical care in Thunder Bay and has 52 rooms and 110 beds.

According to Henderson, Tamarack House, which has 19 rooms and 36 beds, has a fluctuating vacancy rate that sometimes leaves the facility at half capacity.

“Occupancy varies between 50 per cent and 100 per cent,” he said. “Right now we are at a busy time of year and I don’t think there are any empty beds. At other times of the year, only half the beds will be full and we still have the operation costs and therefore by allowing extra patients to come in, we will help defray the cost of the operation.”

Many cancer-care facilities in the province have seen similar lodging houses close in recent years. Henderson said he does not want that to happen in Thunder Bay, but acknowledges that keeping Tamarack House open is a challenge.

“When the cancer programs were divested by Cancer Care Ontario to the regional hospitals in 2003, a certain amount of money was transferred and that has never been increased since,” he said. “Because of inflation, we have actually been steadily losing ground for 14 years. What we could afford 14 years ago, we can’t afford anymore.”

An extensive third-party review of the hospital’s financial situation identified the Tamarack House as an area that needed to make some changes to defray costs.

“It won’t bring us back to balance, but it will certainly be a step in the right direction,” Henderson said of opening the facility to other patients.

Tamarack House opened in 2004 and provides accommodation for people from across the region seeking cancer treatment in Thunder Bay nearly free of charge. Patients are only charged a \$100 travel grant that can only be charged once in any patient’s visit. Henderson said priority will still be given to cancer-care patients at the facility.

A new, larger facility might be needed down the road, according to Henderson, if the hospital continues to expand its services, drawing more people from across the region seeking specialized medical treatment.

“I think it depends on what happens with the heart surgery program, if we start having to house a lot of heart surgery patients from the region here,” he said. “It’s a matter of ongoing discussion.”

“We’ve always had some non-cancer patients.”
MARK HENDERSON



MORE DIVERSE: Tamarack House will now additionally serve non-cancer patients.

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TB Life

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Christmas cheer sets lower target

THUNDER BAY
By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Thanks to community support, Christmas Cheer Fund organizers have dropped this year's fundraising target to \$128,000, a thousand dollars less than last year.

Co-ordinator Joleene Kemp said a little wheeling and dealing goes a long way with food suppliers, who provide the bulk of the contents of the hampers given out each holiday season by Christmas Cheer, providing food and toys to more than 3,400 children registered with the program, which includes the unemployed and working poor.

"We felt we could bring it down \$1,000. All the other charities are looking for help at this time and we thought we needed to be fiscally responsible," Kemp said on Friday.

"We know that people are generous and we're sure people will come forward and donate in a very generous way – both money and non-perishable food items – so we're able to fill our hampers."

It's important to maximize every dollar that comes in, said Kemp.

The goal is to ensure no child in the



SOFT TOUCH: These teddy bears will be given out in Christmas Cheer hampers.

program goes hungry over the holidays and the first and last person through the door receive an equal hamper.

Kemp said organizers wait until the final possible moment, Dec. 12 this year, to decide how to stock the hampers and just how much food is needed.

"One of the ladies, who looks after the food, does a mental shop and we take a look at the size of each family so we're

able to put enough food in each family that equates to a week's worth of groceries," Kemp said.

Age appropriate toys purchased through the Thunder Bay Fire Rescue's annual Toys For Tots campaign are also added to the baskets. Hoodies, scarves and other clothing items are also included for older children involved in Christmas Cheer.

Kemp said it's important for children to enjoy a happy holiday season.

"It's so they can feel good about themselves because if they feel good about themselves, maybe they will break the cycle. Maybe they will be the ones who go out there and get a job so they can provide for the family they have and we will see a decrease one day," Kemp said.

About 800 volunteers will donate their time during the campaign.

Hampers can be picked up on Dec. 13 for south-side families and Dec. 14 for those on the north side of the city.

Special events include a Dec. 3 Stuff a Bus campaign at the Real Canadian Superstore and a Dec. 11 blitz day at the CLE Coliseum when the public is encouraged to drop off non-perishable goods. School pick-ups will take place on Dec. 12.



GIFT OF GIVING: Christmas Cheer's Joleene Kemp unveils this year's campaign goal.

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Motors and muscles draw gets new locale

THUNDER BAY
By Leith Dunick - TB Source

There will be a slightly new twist to this year's Motors and Muscles draw.

The grand prize, a 2017 Harley Davidson Softail Heritage Classic, worth about \$27,000, will be just as great as it has been the past dozen years.

But this year the location of the draw has changed.

Instead of being held in conjunction with the annual Rib Fest celebration in August, the draw will instead be held at the Sleeping Giant Brewery's new MacDougall Street location during Oktoberfest festivities.

Fundraising chair John Trevisanutto said he's excited about the Oct. 14 event in support of Our Kids Count, which as usual will be a reverse draw, the last ticket standing winning the motorcycle.

"We only have 650 tickets and we've held it at that," Trevisanutto said on

Friday. "We have sold out every year and we usually sold out about two to three weeks in advance. We always seem to have people calling us and scrambling on the day of the event.

"One new twist this year is that everyone who buys a Motors and Muscles ticket will have free entry into Oktoberfest."

Anyone with a ticket in attendance the night of the draw will be entered into a separate draw for a children's quad, donated by Halfway Motors Power Sports.

Trevisanutto said the raffle has a huge impact on a grassroots community organization that works with young children and parents.

"I just believe it's a very good charity of choice and we have been supporting it for the last six years," he said.

Gladys Berringer, executive director at Our Kids Count, said being part of Oktoberfest is new and exciting.

"We need to change things up in Thunder Bay and this is one way to do it," she said. "It's the same (draw), but this is a way to attract people down to have a great time.

"This event has become part of our major fundraisers that support our programs. As an agency we have to raise close to \$160,000 every year to support our programs and this Motors and Muscles, together with some other events, forms about half of that."

Our Kids Counts, located at 704 McKenzie Street and at the Westfort Family Resource Centre on Crawford Avenue, provides community kitchens and teaches families how to prepare nutritious and affordable meals. They also host a monthly community breakfast. Tickets are available at Our Kids Count, the Sleeping Giant Brewery, Halfway Motors, Thunder Bay Harley Davidson and the OLG Casino, or by phoning 623-00292.



FANCY BIKE: John Trevisanutto with a 2017 Harley Davidson Softail Heritage Classic.

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FUN AND GAMES: Toy Mountain has been held at the Cranton Wellness Centre for 12 years.

Toy Mountain starts to grow

THUNDER BAY

By Nicole Dixon - TB Source

For 12 years a local wellness centre has helped bring smiles to hundreds of children's faces on Christmas Day.

The Cranton Wellness Centre and the Salvation Army kicked off the 12th annual Toy Mountain campaign Tuesday, which will help collect new unwrapped toys and items for unfortunate children.

Cranton Wellness Centre owner Alan Cranton said the campaign allows the wellness centre to give back to the community of Thunder Bay.

"This is really important," Cranton said. "I think for some of the kids this may be the only gift they get all Christmas season, and it's really important for us to step up to the plate and do everything we can to make this come true."

Although the presents collected are for children ages newborn to 18, the campaign has started to focus more on teens.

Cranton said there's a big push for

teenagers, because they seem to be the group left out each year.

"Being a wellness centre, of course, our drive is for healthy (activities), so sports equipment and technology as well," he said.

Last year, the campaign collected more than \$500 in cash and gift cards, and more than 400 presents, the most they've collected in the past 12 years.

The Cranton Wellness Centre staff is hoping to surpass last year's donations.

Cranton said as soon as the office put the word out within hours people had started coming in and dropping off toys.

"The people in Thunder Bay are awesome for stepping up and helping people in need, Thunder Bay is great," he said.

"We are looking forward to all the donations that will come pouring in this holiday season."

Those who want to donate to Toy Mountain can bring the new toys to the Cranton Wellness Centre on Memorial Avenue by Dec. 21.

Art of fetching wood without mishap



FRED JONES
RURAL ROOTS

fireplace.

The snow that we received had now become wet and heavy. So there was a slight trepidation on my part as I thought about ploughing with the machine along the trail. Would we get stuck? The quad has good, 'nubby' tires but still...

I retrieved saw and quad and headed into the bush. I met with very little resistance. Good! Soon I saw the fallen tree and prepared to de-limb and then buck into fireplace sizes.

But when I dismounted and slogged through this heavy, wet snow, I realized that the footing would not be good, not like when maneuvering through freshly-fallen powder snow. In freshly-fallen powder, all you have to watch out for is any hidden branches that might trip you up when working with a running saw. Potentially very dangerous. I know from experience.

I began limbing and then bucking the top part of the tree and worked my to the ditch the tree had straddled. Now the footing gets tricky not only from hidden

things to trip one up but when the snow is wet and heavy, one can slip and slide. That occurrence has happened to me before but fortunately not to the detriment of any of my limbs.

The cutting with the saw was easy but moving along the length of the tree into the bush was not. Lots of hidden 'tripper-uppers' lurking as well as overhead branches. Still we got the job done. Now it was time to fetch the pieces and load them into the quad trailer.

I only slipped twice. Jack pine tends to grow nice, thick branches more so than either spruce or balsam. So each piece had a convenient hand-hold and I was able to grab two- at-a-time. The treacherous portion of my back-and-forth trek was crossing the ditch. You think that you have a firm foothold and suddenly the snow gives and down you go with a jolt. I didn't fall but those jolts played havoc with my back.

Nevertheless, I managed to load the trailer. Now how would I get turned

around and head back to Casa Jones? Aha! Just drive further along the trail, up the hill, and around a wee oval at the top and retrace my tracks. Ah, but would the quad with loaded trailer make it up the hill especially with the snow having transformed from light and fluffy to cement? Nothing to do but give it a try.

We made it to the top of the hill and around the oval although the quad did hesitate a couple of times. The trip home was easy as the initial "ploughing" by the quad and loaded trailer actually packed down the snow so that driving home was easy.

The next part of this adventure was to sidle up to the log splitter, remove the tarp covering said machine, and begin the process of splitting.

All had been going smoothly, well relatively, until I tried to start the splitter, a gas-powered device.

I pulled twice and on the second pull the starter cord ripped out of my hand. Thank the stars I had on gloves as this incident happened once before a couple

of summers ago and the welt and pain created by this malfunction hurt for a couple of days.

The third time I pulled the starter cord just came out and stayed out. It wouldn't retract like it is supposed to. Aw dang! Now what? No doubt the spring that ensures the cord's retraction had just broken and me with all this wood.

Well, there is the chopping block and the splitting maul except jack pine can be ornery, more so than either spruce or balsam.

Luckily the pieces weren't particularly thick nor were they especially knotty though just enough as I attempted splitting a couple of pieces. It took more effort than usual but I got it done and it being warm out, working up a good sweat in the process.

When Laura came in and I told her of my adventure, she intoned that heating with wood happens twice: once when you fetch and split and again when you feed it into the fireplace or boiler. She got that right.



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IN THE bay

arts | entertainment | culture



MARXIST PIG: One of five high realism paintings by artist, Elizabeth Buset, on display at the Thunder Bay Art Gallery.

As greedy as a pig

New art exhibit examines consumerism and greed in modern society

ART

By Doug Diaczuk - TB Source

For artist, Elizabeth Buset, art as a political statement is meant to elicit a response in the audience, even if it's a negative one, because that's the only way to create real change.

"Art should shape society," Buset said. "Art needs to not only respond to society but it needs to be the impetus for change and it should really be on the fore front of leading change. It's never just an aesthetic practice. It has to go beyond that."

Buset's latest exhibit, *Swine*, opening at the Thunder Bay Art Gallery on Dec. 2, goes well beyond aesthetic appeal, as she pushes boundaries of comfort to create a powerful response in the audience, and she hopes, create change.

Swine includes a collection of five high realism oil paintings approximately 70x72 inches of commercially decapitated pigs heads adorned with cheap dollar store items, as well as a collection of more than 80 plastic pig masks, piggy banks, and a silk screening station of propaganda posters.

"The whole concept of the show is reexamining the metaphor As Greedy as a Pig and it's talking about over consumption in a capitalist society and the impacts of over consumption," Buset explained.

Pigs have long been a symbol of greed, gluttony, and vice and Buset said she was interested in pigs as both a symbol of the consumed and the consumer.

"Over consumption goes across the board," she said. "The message we are pitched by the media is: you need to buy more and you need to own more to be happy and it's just this empty promise that I think a lot of people go for. We just don't need this stuff."

Buset clarified that she recognizes the difference between need versus want. There are things people need, but there are also frivolous items consumed every day that are just thrown away, which she represents with the collection of plastic pig masks that she entitled, *Collective Guilt*. "I wanted to have frivolous objects included in the

show," she said. "When you are confronted with this entire wall of these masks, I think you realize the repetition of producing the masks but also the repetition of the animals that are slaughtered like this."

At the centre of *Swine* are five high realism oil paintings of pig's heads. The paintings took more than 700 hours to complete and real heads purchased from a local farm were used for models.

"I really believe in local farming," Buset said. "I'm not against meat or meat production in anyway, I'm really against factory farming because it works on that over-consumption level."

The paintings are graphic in nature and Buset said the time she spent working on them began to wear on her, but the more time she spent on each one, the more she began to see each animal.

"The more real the paintings became, the more time I put into it and the more realistically rendered they were, the more I came to appreciate the animal's individualism," she said.

Buset believes that good art should make the audience uncomfortable and she hopes her exhibit will create a similar reaction.

"I hope they have a real visceral reaction," she said. "I hope it makes them uncomfortable. I think there's a really interesting contrast between the beauty of the work and the paintings themselves and the amount of detail involved."

But this exhibit is not meant to shock simply for the sake of shock. It is meant to create change, to make the viewer think harder about their choices, and about how one individual can help shape society.

"I'm not hoping to change the world, but I'm hoping to start with the individual," Buset said. "I think when you really take the time to educate yourself of the reality and say: I know this is happening, what can I do, how am I compliant in this, that is when real change happens."

Swine was produced in part with a grant from the Ontario Arts Council and opens Dec. 2 and runs until Mar. 5 at the Thunder Bay Art Gallery.

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IN THE bay

Does Christmas really need a cliffhanger?



season finale cliffhanger was realized.

Suddenly, everyone was jumping on that bandwagon, trying different tricks to surprise us in May and guarantee we'd be back in the fall for answers. Of course, that was when there were only three networks competing.

Lots to choose from

Now we've got hundreds of stations and shows vying for our attention and TV seasons that can last from six episodes over six weeks to 22 lasting almost nine months.

Amid this, shows will take brief breaks or a several-month hiatus as new programs are auditioned or installed in their place.

Fortunately, PVRs can be programmed to record a show wherever it pops up or it's possible we'd never find it again.

But just to ensure we still actually want to find it when it returns, the studios have utilized the old



WHO SHOT JR?: The big mystery on the TV series, *Dallas*, in 1980 kicked off the TV cliffhanger.

cliffhanger wherever and whenever possible.

And it works.

Just look at Trump's election campaign of wild statements followed by promises of more information "Coming soon."

People kept tuning in. Apparently, we're a population of Sheldons who can't leave anything unfinished on *The Big Bang Theory*.

Consequently, today's shows don't just go on hiatus.

They have dramatic mid-season finales.

After three years of simply relying on clever writing and weekly killers, *Rizzoli and Isles* decided it was better to throw Jane off a bridge or kidnap Moira to kick off their mid-season breaks.

Weekly drama

And that same tactic is being used to drum up interest in new shows. During its first weeks, *This Is Us* dropped a bombshell in the final seconds of every episode that had us mentally going back and reviewing what we had just watched for days after:

The babies were born in 1980? Mom's now married to Dad's best friend?

Some shows even used the mini-cliffhanger "To Be Continued" method to hold our attention over a one-week Thanksgiving holiday.

Is our attention span really that limited?

Bush's "Shock and Awe" may have been a good war strategy, but in television it speaks to the lowest common denominator.

Not to mention a poor plotline.

And I don't want my limited focus held hostage during the holidays. I can't be worrying that *Blindspot*'s Jane has turned her brother into a John Doe while carving my turkey.

How [Someone Got] Away with Murder and killed Wes should not interfere with my annual eggnog experiments.

And I don't like being manipulated. The holidays are about hope and family and excessive shopping.

We're supposed to have mistletoe, not a cliffhanger, hanging over us.

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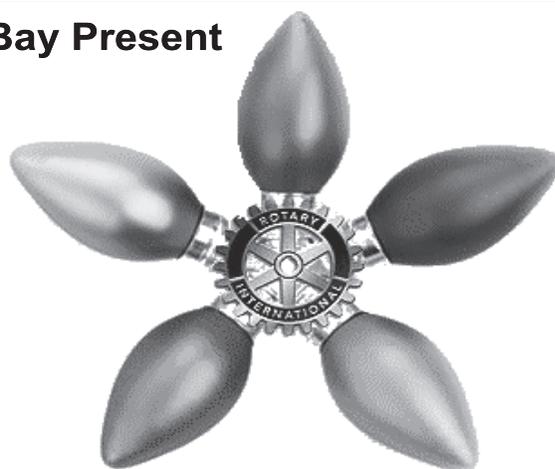
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IN THE bay



SCOTT HOBBS

UP IN THE AIR: Georgia Lee Schultz rehearsing her aerial silks for her role as Kaa in *The Jungle Book*.

Jungle wisdom

THEATRE

By Linda Maehans - TB Source

Rudyard Kipling's classic tale stalks and slithers and lumbers and roars to life with Magnus Theatre's production of *The Jungle Book*. For all ages, and the lessons-of-life we all must learn, I think this show will be visually as stunning as any true jungle scene can be.

So gather 'round and meet (with me) the main cast.

Annie Tuma is Bagheera the panther. Slight taut build, she looks me square in the eye and pins me with the soft flex of a dark velvet voice. "Oh I like to live mostly in the shadows. Watching over the entire jungle, making sure everything is running the way it should. Do I have any trouble? (slow smile) No, but I do cause some fear. Which is what I like. It's how I make sure things run. Without too much force. My powerful presence is often enough." I notice my heart is beating faster than it was before this first encounter with Bagheera.

Jonathan Gysbers is Baloo the sloth bear. Tall build, with handsome exuberance he makes an instant switch into character. "Me? What do I like best? Oh my goodness, it's sleeping! As you can assume by my name. Also I'm into eating! I love to eat. Do I ever get scared? Well, (an excited intake of air) sometimes! Situations really stress me out and I get worked up! But most of the time I'm good. As long as I'm eating, and sleeping, of course." His smile is warmer than melted caramel.

Georgia Schultz is Kaa the python. Again, slight build but with a deliberate narrowing of eyes and unnervingly languid way of speaking, in no time she has me hypnotized. "I am Kaa, the rock snake. I live in a tree. I don't like talking but once in a while, when I come down from my tree, (a blink of hooded eyelids) I do. Is everything in my control? Yessss, I would say so. I have a power that allows me to control whatever or whomever I choose." (another hooded-lid blink)

Brady VanVaerenbergh is Shere Khan the tiger. One glance into keen amber eyes is all it takes to understand a fundamental truth: here is top of food chain and big cats. "I do rule the jungle. And I want to get rid of Mowgli. Why? Because he is a man, and men are not welcome in my jungle. Do I enjoy the fear I instill? Yes. I am Shere Khan."

Michael Man is Mowgli. He presents innocent bright eyes; we think of polished pebbles along the bed of a clear underground stream. "My unusual experience so far? Whatever do you mean? My experience is the same as any other wolf. Sure, I wonder about lots of things. I've got great teachers all around me. Like Baloo, so big and fuzzy. Now, Bagheera, she's one to be feared. But I have a wonderful family of wolves; they treat me as one of their own. What will I be or do when I'm all grown up? (no hesitation). Leader of the pack."

The Jungle Book opens at Magnus Theatre on Monday, Dec. 5. Don't miss this timeless, timely show!

Wonder-filled TBSO family concert

MUSIC

By Linda Maehans - TB Source

Every December, as snowflakes swirl and Yuletide draws nigh, the Thunder Bay Symphony Orchestra welcomes everyone in our community to a special holiday concert.

Every year the evening's program is a wonderland of sight and sound: traditional carols and other beautiful music via the myriad voices of the Symphony Chorus alongside other choirs; ballet and magical scenes to spark the heart; and memories no matter the age or place. Or maybe the beginning of some new memories for first-time audiences at this (usually sold-out) concert.

The Source had the pleasure of chatting with a couple of artists excited about their roles in this year's Holiday Pops. First, with a teacher and mentor to the Stringlings. Charming name, whatever might this be?

"Most young string players begin

learning between the ages of 3-6," explains violinist Michelle Zapf-Belanger. "The Stringlings were born from my idea that even the youngest string players need to learn how to be performers. I want to get them started making music together because playing an orchestral instrument is a social activity – playing together and making friends is the point."

There are usually 20 or so Stringlings in the group. "The TBSO musicians feel a responsibility to pass on the magic of classical playing to the next generation, a finely honed skill passed down from teacher to student through the generations. To train a young string player you need to have him or her play alongside you; it's apprentice-based learning from the start. Working with the Stringlings is a special time for Tom and me, as this year we're able to include our own 4-year old son Carl." (if readers don't know: TBSO Concert Master Thomas Cosby and Michelle wear several



PASSING ON THE MAGIC: Katia Myllymaa and her duet partner Jacob Gazzola who will be performing their duet at the TBSO Christmas Pops concert.

extremely talented hats)

This is 13-year old Katia Myllymaa's fourth time to be part of Holiday Pops. The Studio One dancer has lovely memories, and big future dreams. "There's so much I love about dancing: the technique, and the artistry I can bring to it."

Katia's first performance was as a reindeer; then a snowflake; then a

Chinese dancer out of Tchaikovsky's holiday classic ballet The Nutcracker. This year she and her dance partner Jacob Gazzola perform "a pas de deux. It's when Clara arrives in the Land of Sweets; we represent the coffee of Arabia."

Katia described the beautiful costume she's wearing: bright turquoise with poufy chiffon pantaloons, gold gems

dangling from her faux-halter top and headpiece adorning a sleek hair-do. Nerves ahead of this or any performance?

"Starts off with butterflies in my stomach, but once on stage and the music begins everything is fine. My dream is to dance professionally on one of the great stages of ballet."

It's likely she will. Her teacher at Studio One, Lisa Fedoruk, elaborated on Katia's comment.

"She auditioned and was invited to the Royal Winnipeg Ballet's summer session (2015); asked to continue, but chose to return home that fall. This past summer she auditioned for the National Ballet of Canada. And is invited back to Winnipeg for 2017."

Holiday Pops 2016 features Les Dala as guest conductor. Curtain rises at 7 p.m. at the Community Auditorium on Saturday, December 10. As mentioned, usually a sold-out show.



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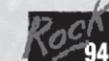
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HOLIDAY DEADLINE

There will be no paper on Thur., Dec. 29, 2016

Deadline for Dec. 22, 2016 Paper

RETAIL: Monday, December 19th, NOON
CLASSIFIED: Monday, December 19th, 4:00pm

Deadline for Jan. 5, 2017 Paper

RETAIL: Friday, December 30th, NOON
CLASSIFIED: Friday, December 30th, NOON

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December 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 2016,
8:30am - 5:00pm

December 23rd, 8:30am - Noon

Closed December 26th & 27th, 2016

December 28th & 29th,
8:30am-5:00pm

December 30th, 2016,
8:30am - Noon

Closed January 2nd, 2017

Merry Christmas
& Happy New Year



CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 1 Unite
- 5 Mother of Hezekia
- 8 Eth. Danakil people
- 12 Care for
- 13 Boy
- 14 From (Scot.)
- 15 Fr. historical provinces
- 17 100 centessimi
- 18 Black cuckoo
- 19 Family relative
- 21 Salt (Fr.)
- 22 Postpaid (abbr.)
- 23 Read (Fr.)
- 25 Sultan's residence
- 28 Lively
- 31 Himalayan monkhood
- 32 This one (Lat.)
- 33 Nipa palm
- 34 Of touch
- 36 Scales (pref.)
- 37 "The Bartered

DOWN

- 1 Dawn love song
- 2 Forsaken
- 3 57 (Rom. numeral)
- 4 But
- 5 Baltic island
- 6 Judges' bench
- 7 Pastoral
- 8 Amer. Football League (abbr.)
- 9 Fringe of curls or bangs
- 10 Rhine tributary
- 11 Substantial
- 16 Amazon region

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

RE	M	U	D	A	L	C	A	A	M		
E	D	E	T	A	N	O	O	A	H	E	
B	A	L	E	N	C	O	M	P	A	S	
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WORD SEARCH

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

Abroad	Cradles	Erect	Metes
Added	Deader	Erratic	Nasty
Agitators	Dodge	Evoked	Oases
Alpha	Drama	Evolved	Oversaw
Arena	Dulls	Excel	Preferably
Avowed	Easel	Fleshing	Repeat
Baffle	Edged	Flips	Shores
Booted	Elegy	Harem	Voids
Carrion	Elite	Lithe	Whale
Championship	Ensued	Loathed	Years

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"TB JVF ELX TLLTGEGXP RJ XQXLJ
LFR, DVK KTY Y JVFL ATLLVL RX
WVYTUDXP?"

— LFAT

PREVIOUS SOLUTION: "Whenever you find yourself on the side of the majority, it is time to pause and reflect." — Mark Twain
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Sudoku

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

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

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WEEKDAY MORNINGS

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LEITH DUNICK

WALKING AWAY: Jerika Baldin (left) and Lindsay Edward (right) walk Maggie Murphy off the court last Saturday night.

Wolves send Murphy out on winning note

THUNDER BAY
By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Maggie Murphy knows how to say farewell.

The fourth-year Lakehead Thunderwolves guard, beset by injuries and, more importantly, slowed by a budding nursing career that takes precedence over basketball, stepped onto the court in a crucial fourth-quarter situation on Saturday night, her team up by six against the winless York Lions.

Murphy, a former star with St. Ignatius in high school, promptly dropped a three-pointer on the Lions to extend the lead to nine and the Wolves went on to snap a five-game losing streak, downing York 65-47.

Moments later Murphy walked off the court, hugged individually by each and every teammate.

She'd return for a few brief seconds as the clock wound down and that was it, her hard-court career had come to an end.

It wasn't easy walking away, said Murphy.

But she simply couldn't make school and her career and basketball

all work together.

"I grew up watching basketball in the Thunderdome. I started when I was in Grade 7," said Murphy, who spent two seasons with the St. Thomas Tommies in New Brunswick before returning to the Thunderwolves fold last season.

"My first tryout was at 6 a.m. and believe me, I didn't want to be there. But to finish playing in the Thunderdome, playing for (Jon) Kreiner is probably the most emotional thing ever, considering now I'm done and this is where I grew up."

Murphy provided a spark to an LU team that only a night earlier had come within a whisker of knocking off the No. 6 team in the nation, only to fall short in the fourth-quarter comeback bid.

"I'm going to save what I really want to say until her senior night at the end of the year," Kreiner said. "She's a person who gave

everything that she had and really went from a player who was really not a basketball player to a player over the last couple of years at Lakehead who has been great for us and a great team player."

It was an all-around better

performance by the Thunderwolves (2-5) on Saturday night. They cut their turnovers to 19 and hit seven three-pointers, compared to just two the night prior.

They also got a stellar 12 minutes out of pivot Gillian Lavoie, often a forgotten piece of the puzzle this season. The Thunder Bay native scored eight points and grabbed five rebounds in limited action, also making the most of her opportunity.

"When you're given the opportunity you've got to come out here and prove why you deserve playing time," Lavoie said.

Getting a win in the pre-Christmas finale was the important thing, she added.

"We've been struggling against top 10 teams, but we've been in it mostly every game. We've been playing against them very well and it's just nice to know that working hard has finally paid off in the last game," Lavoie said.

Rookie Nikki Ylagan was the lone LU player to hit double digits, tying York's Megan MacLeod with a game-high 14 points. Lakehead guard Jerika Baldin was as generous as always, dishing out 10 assists while turning the ball over just once.

Lakehead won three of the four quarters, taking a 32-24 lead into halftime. York fell to 0-4.

"...to finish playing in the Thunderdome, playing for (Jon) Kreiner is probably the most emotional thing ever..."
MAGGIE MURPHY

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Dinkins, Kapec help LU snap slide

Duo combines for 50 points, Wolves win second of year

BASKETBALL
By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Manny Furtado should have Kache Kopec roll an ankle every week. The long-distance specialist sat out Friday's night's heartbreaking loss to the visiting York Lions to help the Lakehead Thunderwolves snap a five-game losing skid with a 79-75 win that wrapped up pre-Christmas play.

Add in 23 from a rejuvenated Bacarius Dinkins, who had 19 at halftime, and the struggling Wolves might have hit on a recipe for success in the second half - if a schedule that

includes the likes of Ryerson, Carleton and Ottawa doesn't cause too much fear to sink in over the holiday.

"Sometimes you're feeling good and sometimes you're not," said Kopec, who buried six of 15 three-point attempts on the night.

"We did a really good job moving the ball around and getting good shots. It's nice when you're a shooter and you're comfortable with the shots you're taking and not forcing anything. I felt I didn't get a lot of shots that were forced. It was always in flow, good passing, good spacing."

Opened things up

It helped Kopec that Dinkins finally broke out of a mini slump, finally able to find a way to beat the double- and triple teams the opposition surrounded him with in recent outings.

The answer was simple - stop and pop.

Dinkins was lights out with mid-range jumper for the first half, forcing



HUGE OUTING: Kache Kopec posted 27 points on Saturday against the York Lions.

the Lions to pay more attention to the Florida import with the ball away from the net.

Whatever works, he said.

"It opened up my game a lot. If I can get my jumper going I can do both, inside and outside," Dinkins said.

"With the double teams, I just have to find different ways to get myself going to get my shots up. And it's not just by posting up ... Hopefully I can continue from what I left off tonight in the next couple of games."

Keep it going

Finding another guy who can shoot, in addition to Alex Robichaud and Henry Tan, could be key to second-half success, Dinkens said, pointing to Kopec.

"We've been struggling from the three-point line, and coming out and making shots like that, they'll have to try to defend not just the inside, but the outside too. They couldn't do both tonight," Dinkens said.

Furtado, the Wolves third-year coach, said he thinks the team took a huge step against the Lions (2-2).

"That's a huge character win for our guys, being what happened last night and the big letdown, being up as much as we were," Furtado said.

He was particularly happy to see Dinkins get going again.

"We challenged him last night and called him out a little bit. Eight (points) and seven (rebounds) from our main guy isn't acceptable from one of our main guys."

The Lions led by one after the opening quarter and held leads in the second and third.

Kopec put LU in front for good with a three late in the third, then Henry Tan hit one from half-court at the buzzer, the Wolves up 63-56 after three.

York went on a 7-0 run in the fourth, punctuated by a Brandon Ramirez trey that drew the Lions into a one-possession game, down 75-72 with 2:13 to go, and made another three-point play to make it 78-75 with 51 seconds left in regulation.

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Falcons win third straight title

Newransky, Covello capture fifth straight HS championship

FOOTBALL
By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Winning one high school football title is an achievement in itself. Try winning five in a row, like Bryce Covello and Josh Newransky accomplished on Tuesday night, leading the St. Ignatius Falcons to a third straight senior high school football championship with a 12-7 win over a pesky, underrated Westgate Tigers squad.

The duo captured two titles as junior Falcons, then three more as seniors.

Both played huge roles in their latest season-ending triumph, Covello connecting with Noah Penfold for a 36-yard scoring strike midway through the third quarter for the game-winning touchdown, Newransky picking off Tigers quarterback John Czupryna in the end zone late in the fourth, Westgate threatening to take the lead with 2:24 to go.

It's hard to believe they could go five-for-five, said Covello, who

finished with 127 yards passing and a touchdown on the game, originally scheduled for Saturday, but postponed due to weather.

"It's a pretty unreal feeling," Covello said. "I've got to give all the credit to our football program."

"Our year of the '98 kids coming in really started a thing for this program, for this school. We came in, we brought the culture of football and every year after has picked it up."

Newransky, who hobbled off the field with an ankle injury after making the interception, said it's pretty unreal to hoist the trophy every single season of his high-school career.

"I can't describe the feeling of winning five championships. It just doesn't happen. I'd try to describe the feeling to you, but I couldn't. Our team works hard every day and we grind all the time in hopes of winning. We prepared very heavily for this game."

It's a contest that almost moved to Dryden, with the Fort William Stadium turf covered in snow and ice.

It might explain why the Falcons struggled offensively in the game's opening minutes, stalled on their first drive. It was the Tigers who struck first, Cayden Boucher marching it in



BIG WIN: Bryce Covello (left) and Liam Puskas with the senior football trophy.

LEITH DUNICK

town rivals, down 7-6.

A little snow wasn't about to get St. Ignatius down, though it meant making adjustments to the game plan.

"The weather conditions were not favourable for our team. We're more of a passing team. Westgate was running a lot of misdirection and obviously you can't get a lot of grip on here. You're slipping and sliding, but in the end we pulled it off," Robertson said.

Down five, the Tigers attempted a fake punt late in the third, only to have Czupryna driven back eight yards and turned over the ball on downs.

After another three-and-out the Falcons took over and went for it on third down deep in their own territory, only to have Nic Cull come up short and the Tigers took over on the St. Ignatius 23.

After two straight plays for losses, Czupryna converted a third-and-16, hitting Reid Stajkowski for a 21-yard gain. But facing third-and-goal from the eight, the Westgate quarterback's pass was snagged by Newransky.

They'd get the ball back one more time, but were unable to move the ball after the Falcons sacked Czupryna for a 12-yard loss on first down.

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