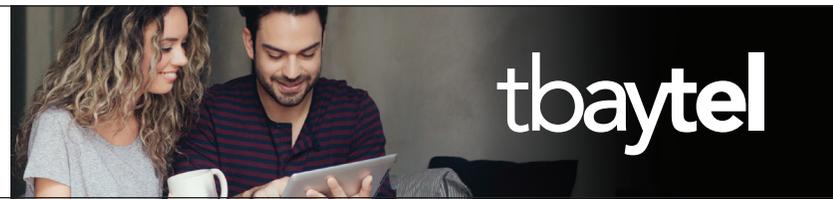


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First baby a boy

Couple's third son, Gabriel Gregory Moore McKenzie, arrived at 4:28 a.m. on New Year's Day /5



BIG BOY: Gabriel McKenzie weighed nine pounds at birth, the third son of proud parents Melissa and Gregory McKenzie and younger brother to Nickolas, 7, and Jackson, 4.

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DR. SHARON LAU & DR. JAMES MAO

Lang named a member of the Order of Canada

Former Confederation College president is thrilled with honour

THUNDER BAY
By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Pat Lang said she was caught off guard upon learning she'd been appointed to the Order of Canada.

Lang, the long-time former president of Confederation College, was left all but speechless when the call came in last week from Gov. Gen. David Johnston's office, telling her she'd be one of 100 appointees to the prestigious list.

"It was very emotional. Obviously I was very humbled and I was very honoured. I finally said to the woman

(on the phone), 'I'm sorry, I'm usually quite articulate and sometimes even a little bit elegant, but I'm neither today,' Lang said on Sunday.

Lang was one of 75 appointed as Members of the Order of Canada, a list that includes former Liberal leader Michael Ignatieff and David Onley, the former lieutenant governor of Ontario. An additional 22 were made Officers of the Order of Canada, while three more, including author Michael Ondaatje, were made Companions of the Order of Canada.

In a release issued last Thursday, the governor general's office said Lang was being inducted because of her commitment to "the growth and development" of Ontario's college system and her

long-time career as an academic administrator.

Education has always been an important driver in Lang's life.

"I knew it intuitively, and learned through the years, that students that have the privilege of going to college, that it changes their lives," Lang said.

"And I also know that those students, once they became graduates, that they drove the economy of whatever community we were living in; to me it was always a privilege to have the opportunity to contribute

to that in some way."

Lang, who left the college in 2011, will officially be inducted into the Order of Canada at a ceremony later this year in Ottawa.

"It was very emotional. Obviously I was very humbled and I was very honoured."

PAT LANG



LEITH DUNICK

DRIVING FORCE: Pat Lang spent 10 years at the helm at Confederation College.

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LOCAL NEWS

Nipigon Bridge failure top local story of 2016

YEAR IN REVIEW
By Leith Dunick – TB Source

The year 2016 saw Thunder Bay and Northwestern Ontario hit the national news on a number of occasions.

None of the exposure was positive, once again shedding a negative light on the region's largest city. When we started sifting through the top stories of the year, however, one was a unanimous choice. In January the Nipigon River Bridge literally came apart at the seams, stopping traffic in both directions on the TransCanada Highway for 27 hours.

Several months later the province finally released a report.

The incident revealed just how dependent the nation is on the highway for the transportation of goods and people.

We've put together a list of what we feel were the top 10 local news stories. It's never an easy task.

1Touted by the province for its design, the Nipigon River Bridge opened with much fanfare in 2015, but the joy was short-lived. In January, bolts on the bridge failed and the road deck lifted nearly a foot in the air, essentially splitting the country in half. In September a report was issued by Transportation Minister Steven Del Duca that blamed the design of the shoe plate and its flexibility, a lack of rotation in the bearing that was constructed and improperly tightened bolts. It's estimated the repair costs will come in between \$8 million and \$12 million.

2Spending four years in solitary confinement at the Thunder Bay District Jail brought Adam Capay into the national headlines. Accused of murdering a 35-year-old inmate while incarcerated at the Thunder Bay Correctional Institute, Capay's trial has been repeatedly delayed. Once his plight went public, it drew criticism at Queen's Park, leading to a temporary move into another cell – which correctional officers said was



DAY-LONG DELAY: Traffic was stopped on the TransCanada Highway for 27 hours.

done only to accommodate jail repairs. The facility also experienced an escape in 2016 and has now been shortlisted by the province for replacement.

3Lakehead Public Schools trustees shot down a plan to close a number of north side schools, after much public outcry. The original plan had included the re-purposing of Superior Collegiate as an elementary school, replacing three elementary schools. The board did vote to close Sir Winston Churchill, but the move will be delayed until 2018.

4Labour woes threatened to hit the City of Thunder Bay in November, but at the 11th hour a deal was reached and a strike that would have closed recreational facilities and interrupted garbage collection was avoided.

5The emerald ash borer finally made its way to the city, following years of warnings the pest was migrating northward. In November council approved a \$6.3-million plan to combat the invasive species over the next decade.

6Federal officials told representatives of the city that it had no program available that could help pay for Thunder Bay's controversial event centre plan, essentially shelving the project indefinitely.

7A jury delivered 28 recommendations, including equal funding to First Nations policing, after an inquest into the 2013 in-custody suicide of Lena Anderson, who died after being left alone in a police cruiser for less than 20 minutes.

8Thunder Bay continued its deadly ways in 2016, with eight murders officially on the books, the city's second-highest total since 1993.

9WestJet flight 142 from Vancouver to Ottawa was diverted to Thunder Bay International Airport in August after a threat was made. The plane was thoroughly searched and passengers were on their way the next day.

10Well-known Thunder Bay lawyer Alexander (Sandy) Zaitzeff is facing several charges of sexual assault, including invitation to touching under 16.



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Probability of Precipitation: 20% HIGH -19 LOW -24	Probability of Precipitation: 20% HIGH -19 LOW -22	Probability of Precipitation: 20% HIGH -18 LOW -22	Probability of Precipitation: 30% HIGH -13 LOW -17	Probability of Precipitation: 30% HIGH -10 LOW -15	Probability of Precipitation: 40% HIGH -7 LOW -11



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LOCAL NEWS

New year brings snowy trek



FRED JONES
RURAL ROOTS

Glorious morning with sun and fairly warm. Feed horses then strap on snow shoes. First snowshoe trek of winter. And off we trek with dogs zigzagging in and around us, thrilled to be outside and going on an adventure.

You may recall that during the final days of November we had a big dump of snow. “Huzzahs” and “hurray’s” all around, at least issuing from Casa Jones. Then it rained. Loud ‘boo’s’ issuing from same abode. Much disappointment from snow boarder and snowshoers. Then slowly throughout December we received snow.

Christmas we were told we’d get almost a foot of the white stuff. Didn’t happen. We got some; and then we got some more such that when my wife Laura and I headed off on our first snowshoe tromp we soon realised that walking on the land without snowshoes would be an unwelcome endurance slog.

Initially we didn’t sink far into the snow as we walked. A hard crust had

formed due to freezing rain and fierce winds. It had snowed since that event so that the hardened surface had about four inches of fluffy stuff. However, it was when we decided to turn left and follow the path between two paddocks that leads to a lane beside the upper beaver and that I suddenly found that I was sinking down on my snowshoes. Hah! No crust here. So slogging it was all the way to the beaver pond where we stopped to rest and admire the view of the snow-covered pond, the large beaver lodge, and the tracks that climbed the lodge to the breathing hole at the top.

“Fox?” I asked. “Could be,” Laura answered, “Could also be lynx or wolf looking for a snack of beaver kits.” We were too far from the lodge to clearly identify the tracks.

One of the beautiful opportunities about snowshoeing is that you see tracks of all sorts of forest denizens that you’d never see any other time of the year unless the area over which you traverse is muddy and some animal has passed by that way. Usually we see deer tracks in the mud. We almost never see those of moose anymore.

We saw lots of rabbit prints or, as Elmer Fudd would say “wabbit twacks, heh, heh, heh.” We saw tracks of Ruffed Grouse, field mice, and a set that stumped me until one of the dogs began to bark enthusiastically looking up in a

tree. “Squirrel!” the pooch was announcing. The rodent scolded the dogs and we decided that the tracks we were examining must be those of the squirrel.

We both recognized how out of shape we are but there was no rush. We veered off the trail to investigate potential candidates for next Christmas.

“Christmas is barely over and here we are looking for next year’s tree,” Laura opined.

“Yup,” I agreed, “we’re timber cruising for the 2017 Christmas tree and also for any standing-dead spruce or balsam that I can fetch for the fireplace.”

We located a couple of decent potential Tannenbaum’s and three large, dead spruces that appeared in good shape.

Throughout all of our roaming, the dogs had been making their own trails excited to investigate smells. They had ploughed through several areas of deep snow.

“Those woofers are going to be very tired when they get back to our ‘hoosie,’” I predicted. When we did eventually return, my prediction was correct. Both dogs slumped on the rug, Todd, who has long hair, busy picking out snowballs and ice from his paws that left the floor sopping wet.

“We have to go out again tomorrow,” Laura announced, “and again each day until I have to go back to work. This is

the best way for us to get in shape.”

New year’s Day, 2017: The snowshoe walk was neither as long as that of the previous day nor as arduous since we followed our tracks we had already made. At one point in the back field that has grown in with pine trees, Laura suddenly shouted “Look!” Something or somebody had made tracks in the snow. As we followed we wondered if it had been made by a moose although we haven’t seen any moose for a couple of years. Deer, yes; moose, no. Soon we realized the tracks were made by snowshoes, two pair of them. We followed them until we saw that they emerged from the lower beaver pond.

It was obvious they were made by our neighbours who live kitty-corner to us. We followed them as it appeared they navigated most of our trails.

“Well, we can thank them for they broke trail for us,” laughed Laura. Indeed they did for which I was grateful.

It was a beautiful time to be in the bush. The dogs were very happy; we were very happy. The surprised grouse and treed squirrel were not.

And here we are at the very beginning of 2017. The ancient Chinese curse: “May you live in interesting times” certainly came true in 2016. Let’s hope for less ‘interesting times’ of the Chinese variety but lots of happy times for this new year.

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LOCAL NEWS

McKenzie family has New Year's Day baby

THUNDER BAY
By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Hanging around a few extra days paid off for Gabriel Gregory Moore McKenzie.

The youngster entered the world screaming, said his mother Melissa, who gave birth to Thunder Bay's first baby of 2017 at 4:28 a.m. on New Year's Day, less than two hours after her water broke.

Originally scheduled for a Boxing Day birth, the youngster even hung on long enough for his mother, and father, Gregory, to have a New Year's Eve dinner.

Having the first baby of 2017 wasn't really a consideration, at least until Dec. 26 came and went with no signs of Gabriel's imminent arrival.

"We were a week overdue, so I guess it was something that always crossed our mind as each day passed and there was still no baby. We didn't really anticipate it until three o'clock in the morning when my water broke," Melissa said, hours after giving birth, already back at home surrounded by her extended family.

"Then we were like, 'OK, this is potentially possible.'"

When the couple arrived at the hospital, there was already another mother-to-be in labour, but Gabriel's delay entering the world had lasted long enough, the third-time mother said, her sons Nickolas, 7, and Jackson, 4, at her side.



NEW BABY: Melissa and Greg McKenzie with sons Jackson, Nickolas and Gabriel.

They'd also taken a sneak peak at years past, and realized last year's first baby was born in the afternoon, and the year before that, late in the morning.

"We knew it was in the cards that maybe it would happen. We didn't try to make it happen, by any means," she said.

They called their midwife and within two hours of arriving at Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre, Gabriel was born.

"When we went in there there was somebody else already in labour, but I just beat them to the punch."

Gabriel weighed exactly nine

pounds at birth.

"He was a big baby. He was 21 inches long," mom said.

Older brother Nickolas said he was quite happy to have a little brother come along, especially when he considered the alternative.

"I didn't want a girl, because they're usually bossy," he said, matter-of-factly.

Melissa and Greg said they had no idea the sex of the baby, and while a girl might have been a nice change of pace, they're equally happy it was a healthy baby boy.

"I think we have a pretty perfect family here," Melissa said.

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Editorial

EDITORIAL

New Year's in the park

It's time for the city to consider a return to a waterfront celebration on New Year's Eve.

It's something the city was sorely lacking in 2016.

Other than heading out to the bars, Thunder Bay had little to nothing to offer revelers on the final night of the year.

It's commonplace in cities from one end of the country to the other to have a central celebration, with music, fireworks and a communal countdown.

Sure, it gets cold in Thunder Bay in late December, but last year's Hometown Hockey celebration, held the first week of January, proved that thousands are willing to come out and have a good time if the entertainment is right.

Certainly that doesn't mean Coleman Hell topping the bill every year, but there are plenty of other local acts in town that could keep the party going well into the night.

The waterfront was sold to taxpayers as a place for the city to gather.

Well, let's give them one more reason to head downtown. It certainly wouldn't negatively affect the entertainment district, as party-goers would fill the bars and restaurants before and after joining the party at Marina Park.

Given the fact Fort William Historical Park didn't hold its annual New Year's Eve celebration this year, it's something worth considering.

Red Nose a success

To the editor:

There were plenty memorable moments during the 33rd annual Operation Red Nose campaign, which ended with positive results, as the road safety campaign's goal of keeping roads safe across Canada over the holidays was once again met.

Indeed, 78,341 motorists, including 5,154 in the seven Ontario host communities, chose Operation Red Nose for a safe ride home in 100 Canadian communities where the service was provided. For the national organization, the campaign was another success.

The volunteers, always ready to help Year after year, the success of Operation Red Nose relies on the impressive participation of volunteers, across the country, who choose to donate one or more evenings of their holidays in order to keep their communities' roads safe.

Offered to the community, by the community, the effectiveness of the safe ride service relies entirely on the population.

During the 2016 campaign, 55,669 people, including 3,269 in Ontario, wore the famous red vest in order to provide their fellow citizens with an additional way of getting home safe after holiday celebrations.

It is with a sense of accomplishment and, moreover, with their head full of anecdotes and memories, that these volunteers have gone home at the end of a night volunteering.

Rides which bring a lot to communities In addition to improving road safety, Operation Red Nose volunteers and service users have made it possible to support important local causes. At the

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



heart of Operation Red Nose's mission is the commitment to provide financial support to numerous local non-profit organizations dedicated to youth or amateur sport. Each year, proceeds of the national campaign equal, on average, \$1.5 million that benefit the 100 local host organizations, from coast to coast.

Operation Red Nose mobile application: record use in 2016

Over the past few weeks, numerous volunteers and users of the Operation Red Nose service used the mobile application for smart phones, making it an

excellent tool to get home safe. During the 2016 campaign, the application was used 117,220 times, a record since its creation.

Operation Red Nose would like to remind Ontarians that even when the safe ride service is not in operation, other options are available to ensure a safe ride home.

Whether by calling a friend, a relative, a taxi, or staying overnight, many solutions are available to make sure one doesn't get behind the wheel when they don't feel fit to drive.

Operation Red Nose's mobile application is also a great tool which can be used even outside of the holiday season.

Available for free, for both iPhones and Android phones in the seven provinces where the program is held, the app allows one to get the phone number of a local cab company throughout the year. Operation Red Nose will be back again next December to bring you home for the holidays.

David Letouche,
Quebec City

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A Santa's wishlist for 2017

Dear Santa: I know many people would feel it inappropriate for a grown woman to write to you, but if Americans can believe in Donald Trump as an appropriate president, I sure as figgy pudding can believe in you.

Now I could start off with a list of my good qualities. For instance, I haven't peeked at a single present under the tree. Which is pretty good for someone who gets impatient peeling a Mandarin orange. And I haven't complained – too much – about the cold weather. In fact, I've found it helped. Because with the limited space in my freezer, I've been driving around with a turkey in my backseat for a week. But since you already know if my behaviour is deserving of your favour

or not, I won't waste any more of your time. I will, however, remind you that adults deserve an extra boost at this time of year. You, my friend, may have a contingent of elves at your disposal, but most of us are going it alone.

Now, it's true I don't have kids. But I do have two dogs. And every night I re-assemble my living room after their day of play while I'm at work. I walk them regularly, pick up way more poop than should be possible from those two bowels and vacuum enough hair to make another dog. So hear me out. I don't want toys or money. I'm just

looking for a few minor miracles.

I'd like people to start learning more and reacting less to what they see in the media. Perhaps then someone won't shoot up a pizzeria because of a fake news story about pedophiles in the basement that doesn't even exist.

Speaking of which, I'd like news outlets to not cover every item that Trump tweets. He used them to guarantee reputable national coverage during the campaign despite a lack of political issues, verifiable facts, or detailed plans. So get them to smarten up.

I'd like this winter's new shows to be inspiring and demonstrate the good we can do together – instead of focusing on how to stop a zombie apocalypse. One takes a little effort. The other ignores reality entirely. Guess which is which.

I'd also like reality shows to be limited to baking competitions and

home renovations. Let's be done with anything that incorporates hot-tub dates, alliances, Housewives and the Kardashians.

I'd like television studios to make more comedies. We already know a thousand and one ways to kill someone. That's easy.

Making people laugh? That takes talent. And we're going to need something to break the tension over the next four years, especially if *The Big Bang Theory* ends.

Those are my wishes for 2017. A little something for everyone.

Although on a more personal note ... I'd like to remind you *Castle* ended its seven-year run this past spring. Which means Nathan Fillion has some free time. So I'd like him, please.

And a bigger pooper-scooper. This column was originally scheduled to run in our Dec. 22 edition, but for technical reasons wasn't available.



Perspective

Consider prospects

Perspective is important when looking at the world

OPINION
By J.R. Shermack
Special to TB Source

As the holiday season winds down many people pause and reflect on the year gone by and also the one coming up next.

You could spend your time lamenting the past and dreading the future or, you could do something else entirely.

Consider the prospects. A well-known, local motivational speaker used to tell a story about an old man on a rocking chair at the outskirts of town.

A stranger approached with a question, "What kind of people live around here?"

The old man asked him back, "What are they like where you come from?"

"Where I come from," the stranger replied, "people are unfriendly, unhelpful and can't be trusted."

"I think you'll find that they are the same way around here," advised the old man.

Once again

This scene was repeated a little while later when another stranger came by with a different perspective.

"Where I'm from," he cheerfully replied, "everybody is happy and always glad to see you."

This time the old man smiled and said, "I think you'll find that the people around here are just like that."

It all depends on your perspective. On New Year's Eve last week I was

reminiscing with my family about 2016 – we had plenty of pictures to jog our memory.

According to last year's top news stories, 2016 was a real bummer, but our family photos told a completely different story.

Our photographic record revealed family fun, frolic and fellowship through four seasons of sliding, swimming, gardening and happy birthdays.

We watched ourselves, grown-up adults, soaking each other with water balloons, garden hoses and buckets at our Canada Day "Fear Games."

We re-celebrated special events, laughed at all the photo bombs and as we watched our own top news stories, last year seemed much better than we thought.

The proof was right in front of our eyes – 2016 was a hell of a year in many ways and there is no reason why 2017 shouldn't be even better.

But that's just my perspective – you can judge for yourself how good or how bad the coming year will be for you.

For instance, consider what might be our planet's biggest challenge – how to cope with global warming.

Climate change is a serious threat, but if you look a little deeper, you will find another, more hopeful side to this story.

Last year, the third year in a row,

global carbon emissions remained stable – some experts believe our growing carbon footprint has finally flat-lined.

This was accomplished amid rapidly growing world economies, which demonstrates progress without environmental costs.

In 2016 Costa Rica powered its entire country for 250 days without any fossil fuel, including one stretch of 113 straight days.

In 2016, for the first time ever, a solar-powered plane was flown around the world – it took 505 days at a top speed of 70 kpm, but they landed it.

It's there

If you look for good news, you will find it – diseases are being eliminated, the natural environment is being protected and alien worlds are being explored.

Consider the prospects. I'm not naïve – sometimes it seems that half of life is hardships and the other half is getting over them.

However, the way we react to the events and experiences of 2016 will affect the quality of our lives in 2017.

Whatever you dwell upon, grows – if you focus on bad news and tragedy you may live next year in a constant state of dread.

If you spend your time looking for the good in life, 2017 will be much easier to take.

Make your choice and may your New Year be everything you expect.

"...2016 was a hell of a year in many ways and there is no reason why 2017 shouldn't be even better."

LACE UP THE SKATES



TAKING TO THE ICE Anthony Dicastirro took full advantage of colder temptures last week and hit the outdoor rinks to play hockey with his sister, Isabella.

This week in history:

YMCA

The Young Men's Christian Association was established in Fort William in 1913. This picture was taken in the 1940s at the corner of Leith and Myles Streets. It was a popular association for men in the early days of Fort William and Port Arthur as it offered a variety of activities.



HOW TO WRITE US:

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

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your VOICE

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TOTAL VOTES: 261

YES
52.49%

NO
47.51%

JANUARY

*A Year
in Review...*



Nipigon River Bridge fails, halts traffic

1 Broken bolts on the newly opened Nipigon River Bridge forced the Ministry of Transportation to close the span for 17 hours, effectively halting Trans-Canada traffic while an assessment and temporary repairs were made. When the bolts broke, cables tightened, raising the road deck nearly 60 centimetres. The province launched an immediate investigation, but did not release a report for several months.

2 Lakehead University graduate Adam Wood was one of four people killed in a school shooting in the small Saskatchewan community of La Loche. Police arrested and charged a 17-year-old, who cannot be named under the Youth Criminal Justice Act, with four counts of first-degree murder and seven counts of attempted murder after the shootings.

3 Thunder Bay police arrested a 40-year-old man in conjunction with a pair of grisly killings in December 2015. Benjamin Marki was first put under 24-hour surveillance while investigators looked for evidence in the deaths of 60-

year-old Wilfred Pott and 50-year-old Anne Chuchmuch, whose burned bodies were discovered after a suspicious house fire. Maki was living with the couple at the time.

4 Norm Gale was officially named city manager after holding the job in a temporary form for several months after former city manager Tim Commisso stepped down the previous fall. Gale was the long-time Superior North Emergency Medical Services chief who would face the threat of a municipal workers' strike before his first year on the job came to a conclusion.

5 Jail guards settled their contract dispute with the province after an 11th-hour deal was reached with the province – albeit not exactly on the terms the guards were hoping for. The province deemed the workers provided an essential service and sent the negotiations to an arbitrator.

6 Families of murdered and missing Indigenous women met with the federal government to help lay the groundwork for a long-awaited inquiry. The



BROKEN BRIDGE: The Nipigon River Bridge was closed for 17 hours in January.

meeting took place with Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Carolyn Bennett and Minister of Status of Women Patty Hajdu in the wake of more than 1,200 cases of murdered and

missing women between 1980 and 2012.

7 Nishnawbe Aski Nation officials called on the provincial and federal governments to launch a suicide task force during an emotional conference

held in Thunder Bay. Grand Chief Alvin Fiddler called it a 30-year pandemic, saying more than 600 NAN community members had taken their own lives over the past three decades.

8 Kyle Stoney and Carl Rae pleaded guilty to charges related to the 2014 death of 52-year-old Christopher Adams. Stoney pleaded guilty to manslaughter charges, while Rae copped to aggravated assault charges. Both were initially charged with second-degree murder.

9 The death of a 40-year-old woman in a John Street home led to charges against another woman. Kimberly Fox, 36, was charged with second-degree murder after the body of Charlotte Hudson was discovered after a neighbour phoned 911.

10 Residents finally moved into the newly constructed Hogarth Riverview Manor. The structure, run by St. Joseph's Care Group, would endure a year of growing pains. The provincially run facility replaced a pair of city-run homes, Grandview Lodge and Dawson Court.



Christmas Tree Recycling

After the holidays... between Dec 26 & Jan 11, bring your tree to one of the many Christmas tree collection sites.

Remove all ornaments and remove plastic tree wrap before dropping your tree off at the collection site.

Do **NOT** put trees out for curbside garbage collection.

The chipped trees are added to the compost pile at the City's landfill site.

In the spring, when the compost is mature, it is provided to residents free of charge to enrich flower gardens and lawns across Thunder Bay.

Look for the CHRISTMAS TREE DROP-OFF SITE sign.

DROP-OFF LOCATIONS

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Grandview Arena Madeline St
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John Jumbo Recreation Centre Toivo St

Strathcona Golf Course

SOUTH

Delaney Arena Legion Track Dr

Kinsmen Northwood Centre 609 James St N.

Westfort Playing Field off Neebing Ave

West Thunder Community Centre

Edward St



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*A Year
in Review...*

FEBRUARY

School board hints at pending closures

1 The public got its first official hint the Lakehead Public School Board had closures on its mind. In a report released early in the month, the board indicated it wanted to close Sir Winston Churchill Collegiate and Vocational Institute and seven-year-old Superior Collegiate and Vocational Institute, along with several elementary schools, a cost-saving measure that drew the ire of parents and students.

2 After weeks of work, the Nipigon River Bridge fully reopened to two lanes of traffic after temporary repairs were made to the span, which failed in January, shutting the Trans-Canada Highway to traffic for nearly a day.

3 Horizon Wind Inc. announced it was going to sue the province for \$50 million over its kyboshed turbine farm on the Nor'Wester Mountain Range. The company alleged the Ministry of the Environment deliberately delayed the renewable energy approval process and accused the government of negligent misrepresentation and misfeasance of public duty.

4 A Thunder Bay Police Service officer was charged after his work-issued Glock and three magazines of ammunition were stolen from his personal vehicle. Sgt. James A. Glenna was charged with careless storage of a firearm and breach of a firearm regulation. The firearm and one of the three magazines of ammunition was eventually turned over to police.

5 Two suspects in a 2014 Field Street death of 44-year-old Lloyd Oiskineegish pleaded guilty to manslaughter. Felton Sakanee and Keith Mishene were among the first to be arrested in the case. Two other suspects were also accused in the case.

6 Relatives of residents at the newly opened Hogarth Riverview Manor expressed concern the province wasn't providing adequate staffing levels and that residents were sometimes waiting hours for breakfast or to get out of bed. The complaints led to changes.

7 City officials announced they would begin the process of looking into the feasibility of a safe-injection site for

Thunder Bay, which would be a first outside of Vancouver. It was conducted in conjunction with London, Ont.

8 A man deemed a sexual predator was sentenced to five years in prison (less 93 days for time served), in an historical sexual assault case. Gary Bruce Lamont pleaded guilty to five counts of sexual assault against five male victims between the ages of 17 and 24 between 1993 and 2007.

9 The city sent a letter to nearby businesses asking owners what should be done with the controversial Victoriaville Mall. Among the suggestions was demolishing the 36-year-old facility and returning that portion of Victoria Avenue to a city street.

10 Thunder Bay Mayor Keith Hobbs went public with his desire to sell off yet another city-owned golf course. Hobbs said developers could turn Strathcona Golf Course into a new subdivision and generate more tax revenue for city coffers. The city's golf division has been a money-losing venture for years.



DEADLINE SET: Churchill students learned the school might close in June 2017.

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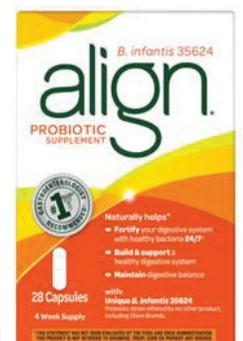
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MARCH*A Year
in Review*

Homicide at local hotel

1 A 38-year-old man was killed and a 33-year-old woman arrested after a death at a south-side hotel. Perry Bois was found dead in a hallway at the Victoria Inn. Charged with second-degree murder was Pauline Cutfeet of Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug First Nation.

2 After Jane Taylor and her dog were hit attempting to walk to Hillcrest Park, the 70-year-old Thunder Bay woman renewed a push to have a crosswalk installed on High Street to protect pedestrians in the area.

3 Police were called to the North Syndicate Avenue area where a man had barricaded himself inside a residence. It took 19 hours for police to convince the man to surrender. Police were alerted to the call the night before after a distraught woman phoned 911 to say the suspect was out of control in the home.

4 The body of missing Kenora 16-year-old Delaine Copenace was located in a wooded area near Water Street in Lake of the Woods. Police ruled out foul play in the death. The

teen was last seen in downtown Kenora on Feb. 28. The office of the Chief Coroner of Ontario decided not to hold an inquest into her death, sparking outrage from her family, who had called for one.

5 The federal government presented a \$99-million settlement offer to Fort William First Nation in the band's Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Specific Claim, which argued Ottawa appropriated nearly 1,600 acres of land in 1905.

6 Actor Nick Serino was rewarded for his hard work, winning the Canadian Screen Award for best supporting actor for his role in the locally shot film *Sleeping Giant*. Serino, a Superior Collegiate graduate, played the role of Nate, a somewhat troubled teenager looking for ways to have fun during a summer vacation spent on the shores of Lake Superior.

7 The Chamber of Commerce called on the city to conduct a core-service review of all its services. Chamber president Charla Robinson said while she was happy council

managed to reduce the initial proposed tax-levy increase from 4.04 per cent to 2.1 per cent, there were too many good ideas dismissed out of hand during budget talks.

8 An abused dog was rescued from Sandy Lake First Nation and a new southern Ontario home was found for the German shepherd cross, who was rehabilitated for several months and needed a set of wheels attached to her hind quarters in able to walk.

9 The province announced it would commit \$7 million of the \$20 million needed for Confederation College to build a technology, education and collaboration hub to consolidate many of its trades and technology programs into a single building.

10 The city announced it would not be submitting a bid to host the 2021 Canada Summer Games, saying it was a good idea, but one that did not have much hope for success, Mayor Keith Hobbs saying he'd heard the city's chances were slim. The bid would have cost \$300,000.



DEADLY DISCOVERY: Police guard a crime scene at the Victoria Inn on March 19, 2016.

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*A Year
in Review...*

APRIL

Shortfall delays Balmoral roadwork

1 The city announced it would have to delay planned work on Balmoral Street because of a \$2.7-million cost overrun, 67 per cent more than had been budgeted for by council and administration. A block less work than originally planned in 2016 was tackled under the revised plan.

2 Prime Minister Justin Trudeau paid his first post-election visit to Thunder Bay, touring the local Bombardier plant where he promised to help with Ontario's resource development needs. But the PM stopped short of committing to match the province's \$1-billion commitment for the long-delayed Ring of Fire project.

3 A couple was arrested and faced nine charges after a starved dog was discovered in the Picton Avenue area in March. The Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals released pictures of the malnourished animal, which led to a 28-year-old man and 27-year-old woman being sent to court.



NICOLE DIXON

PICTURE PERFECT: PM Justin Trudeau poses for a selfie with a Bombardier worker.

4 A union official blamed delays in the arrival of parts for delays in delivering Bombardier's street-car order to the Toronto Transit Commission. Only 16 completed cars

were expected to be delivered by year's end, but the company planned to significantly accelerate production in order to have the 204-car order completed by 2019.

5 Two men were sentenced to five years behind bars for their role burning a body in a fatal July 2014 assault in the Field Street area. Felton Sakanee and Keith Mishene were originally charged with second-degree murder in the death of 44-year-old Lloyd Oskineegish.

6 Neebing municipal council, to the dismay of many area residents, gave the go-ahead to block off a boat launch on Oliver Lake's eastern shores. The reason cited by Neebing Mayor Ziggy Polkowski was liability as the boat launch was located adjacent to a road.

7 A Thunder Bay teenager was hospitalized after a serious assault at the waterfront skateboard park. The boy's mother, Shelly Lynn St. Arnaud, alleged he son was struck with a Razor scooter after an altercation that escalated. It led to a severe concussion, brain bleeding and a lacerated ear.

8 A five-hour standoff on Balmoral Street resulted in the arrest of a 51-

year-old man. The initial call came just after noon with a report of man barricaded inside a home. Police say they were concerned for his well-being after a gunshot was heard following a short discussion with officers on scene.

9 Thunder Bay's Coleman Hell grabbed the attention of the nation, performing his hit Two Heads on the Juno Awards. The musician was nominated for the breakthrough artist award, but fell short in his bid when Alessia Cara took home the trophy. Past winners include The Weekend, Serena Ryder and Michael Buble.

10 A local 28-year-old man was arrested in a sweeping provincial investigation into child pornography which saw 80 people charged. The suspect faces a single charge of possession of child pornography and police said two other area homes were searched during the investigation, which saw 174 search warrants executed across Ontario.

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MAY

*A Year
in Review...*

Kashechewan evacuees land in city

1 Evacuees from Kashechewan First Nation began arriving in Thunder Bay, airlifted out of the James Bay-area community after floodwaters threatened the remote reserve. Community leaders earlier that week declared a state of emergency. About 300 residents were expected to make Thunder Bay their temporary home.

2 Four local firefighters hit the road to help their Fort MacMurray brethren battle a massive blaze that destroyed more than 1,600 homes and covered more than 10,000 hectares, forcing the evacuation of the entire northern Alberta community.

3 Council voted to retain city hall as the south-core transit hub, ending six years under temporary status. The vote was close, just 6-5, after transit manager Brad Loroff said they considered sites on Miles and Violet streets, but found serious concerns over passenger safety and the money the city would have to spend to create a new terminal. Several nearby business owners objected to the decision, but to no



FLOODED OUT: About 300 evacuees from Kashechewan First Nation arrived in the city.

avail.

4 David Wilson was found guilty of second-degree murder in the death of 48-year-old Robert Barbeau, the jury

rejecting his claim of not being criminally responsible. During the trial the court heard that Wilson attacked the victim with a hunting knife in the

parking lot of their McLaughlin Street home. The defence claimed Wilson was mentally ill and a forensic psychiatrist said while he suffers from paranoid schizophrenia, he was only moderately ill at the time Barbeau was killed.

5 James Paxton was sent to prison for eight years for preying upon at least seven underage male victims between 1983 and 1991. Other incidents occurred in 2003 and 2004. All of his victims were younger than 16 at the time of the offences. Paxton was a former bible camp counselor and babysitter.

6 A school-bus crash in Gillies sent one student to hospital. The incident took place on Highway 595. The bus, which had 17 students on board, left the roadway and struck a hydro pole. Uninjured students were picked up by parents. The crash also robbed Whitefish Public School of its power, leading to an early closure that day.

7 Former Fort William First Nation Chief Georjann Morriseau announced she was stepping down as a band councillor, citing a desire to spend more time with her young family.

Morriseau spent one term as chief before being swept aside by Peter Collins.

8 The City of Thunder Bay announced it would not officially endorse the Guardian Angels, a move that had been requested by the vigilante organization. City manager Norm Gale said the municipality simply doesn't endorse organizations. Police Chief J.P. Levesque concurred, saying his department also won't endorse organizations.

9 A Thunder Bay teenager took home a fourth-place finish at a prestigious international science fair. Hammarskjold High School student Emily Cross was part of the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair's Canadian entry in Phoenix, her project a discovery of a way to break down ironstone without damaging fossil specimens held within.

10 A citywide fire ban was lifted, but not in time for the opening of camping season on the May long weekend. The ban was put in place at the request of the Ministry of Natural Resources after dry conditions hit much of Northwestern Ontario.



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*A Year
in Review...*

JUNE

Emerald ash borer arrives in Thunder Bay

1 City officials confirmed the inevitable, announcing late in the month that the emerald ash borer had arrived in Thunder Bay. The Asian beetle had been slowly advancing on the city in recent years and it landing in Thunder Bay set off months of planning trying to figure out how to combat the bug, which threatens the city's ash tree population.

2 The Thunder Bay Art Gallery was awarded \$2.2 million for a study looking into the feasibility of moving the facility from the Confederation College campus to the waterfront. Gallery officials said the overall cost of a new building would be somewhere in the range of \$25 million, which has since been increased to more than \$32 million.

3 Thunder Bay music legend Bobby Curtola died on June 7 at the age of 73. Curtola became an early teen idol, rocketing up the charts with hits like Don't You Sweetheat Me, Hitchhiker and Fortune Teller, all of which hit the top 10 on the Canadian charts in the early 1960s. Curtola had 25 Canadian gold singles and 12 gold albums.

4 The Lakehead Public School Board made its school closure recommendations, opting to keep Hammarskjold High School open and close Superior Collegiate and Vocational Institute, repurposing it as an elementary school. The recommendations, however, were overturned by the trustees in an October vote.

5 Staff and residents at the 112-bed Bethammi Nursing home were relieved to learn the long-term care facility would remain open. MPP Bill Mauro, who made the announcement, acknowledged it wouldn't solve all issues surrounding long-term care in the city, calling it a national problem facing an aging population.

6 Thunder Bay Police made a huge drug bust, stopping two major trafficking rings dead in their tracks. Project Recover resulted in charges being laid against 19 people, the seizure of more than 115 pounds of marijuana worth more than \$1 million and 1.6 kilograms of cocaine, valued at \$165,000. Vehicles, boats and a tractor trailer were also seized, along with five firearms and \$140,000 in cash.

7 Dozens of cats were removed from a north end home by the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, who executed a warrant at the Secord Street home. A heavy smell of ammonia could be detected on the scene.

8 Both Thunder Bay MPPs survived a cabinet shuffle made by Premier Kathleen Wynne, though Bill Mauro did see his portfolio changed from minister of Natural Resources and Forestry to Minister of Municipal Affairs. MPP Michael Gravelle retained his post as minister of Northern Development and Mines.

9 An inquest jury recommended a new jail be built to replace the Thunder Bay District Jail following an in-depth look into the 2008 death of a 29-year-old prisoner, ruled to be the result of alcohol withdrawal.

10 Members of the city's LGBTQ community said they refuse to submit to fear in the aftermath of a massacre at a gay night club in Orlando, Fla. Spokeswoman Donna Nagy said the tragedy would make them stronger. Forty-nine people were killed when a gunman opened fire inside the club.



BUG OUT: The emerald ash borer has been advancing on Thunder Bay for years.



Don Rusnak, MP

Member of Parliament • Thunder Bay–Rainy River

Wishing everyone a happy and healthy 2017!

Contituency Office

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JULY

A Year in Review..

Event centre funding denied by feds

1 The federal government struck down the city's request for funding for a \$114.6-million event centre, telling Mayor Keith Hobbs in a letter the project does not meet any existing federal infrastructure programs. The letter, from Infrastructure Minister Amarjeet Sohi, told the city that professional sports facilities are the responsibility of the private sector.

2 A 26-year-old was charged in the city's fourth murder of the year, after 18-year-old Brent Donio was killed outside a Windsor Street housing complex. Clinton Nicolas Netemegesic turned himself in to police and now faces second-degree murder charges. Another 18-year-old, Cecil Todd Matinet, was also charged with second-degree murder in connection with the death.

3 Police embarked on a manhunt that lasted more than 24 hours after a suspect wanted in a serious assault that took place on Fort William First Nation disappeared. Anishnabek Police Service officers responded to the incident, but the suspect had fled. He was located by Thunder Bay Police the following day,



PROJECT A NO GO: The federal government said an event centre for a professional team does not qualify for funding under any current program in place.

after they received a tip that Mark Boucher had been spotted in the Cameron Street area.

4 A body was pulled from the McIntyre River floodway near

Waterford Street and later identified as 38-year-old Clayton Chuck Mawakeesic. Lawrence Beady, 24, was subsequently arrested and charged with manslaughter in the case, which police were quick to

rule was suspicious.

5 City manager Norm Gale had the dubious task of telling city council the municipality's operating budget was projected to come in at a \$3.2-million deficit, four times the shortfall after the fiscal year's first quarter. Gale blamed legal and insurance costs, as well as police overtime, for the shortfall.

6 A 55-year-old man was sent to hospital with non life-threatening injuries after being shot at a Simpson Street watering hole. Jonathan David Dunston was taken into custody three days later and charged with attempted murder.

7 The Thunder Bay Blues Festival boasted its biggest crowds yet, thanks in part to an all-Canadian lineup featuring the likes of Colin James, Tom Cochrane and the legendary Burton Cummings. The Red, White and Blues Fest was brought about by a low Canadian dollar, which made it too expensive to bring in big-name American talent. Later in the month large

crowds turned out for FortFest at Fort William Historical Park, an event that featured The Cult, Platinum Blonde and The Trews.

8 City council voted down a controversial backyard chicken bylaw proposal, much to the chagrin of several residents. Coun. Aldo Ruberto, one of eight to vote against the bylaw, said he had no faith in the ability to enforce the regulations.

9 A man died during a standoff with Thunder Bay Police in a south side hotel. The investigation was turned over to the province's special investigation unit. Police spokesperson Chris Adams said the 33-year-old man had barricaded himself inside room. After several hours police entered the room, where they found the man unconscious.

10 A fire broke out at Resolute Forest Products' Thunder Bay sawmill on Darrell Avenue. Fire-fighters spent more than four hours battling the blaze, which began inside a sawdust bin inside the plant.



Michael Gravelle, MPP

Thunder Bay - Superior North

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*A Year
in Review...*

AUGUST

WestJet flight diverted after threat

1 A WestJet flight from Vancouver to Ottawa was diverted to Thunder Bay after an unspecified threat was made. RCMP said 125 passengers and crew were forced to leave the plane after it landed at Thunder Bay International Airport. The aircraft was searched and was sent on its way the following afternoon.

2 Four men were arrested and faced multiple charges after a 17-year-old man was allegedly kidnapped from his Thunder Bay home. Police said the teen was in danger the entire time he was held captive at a residence in the 700 block of Simpson Street, where he was assaulted for about 48 hours.

3 A 23-year-old man was killed by propeller in a freak accident at the Kakabeka Falls Airport. According to police a float plane had landed on the Kaministiquia River and was approaching the shoreline. The passenger exited the aircraft too soon and walked into the propeller, dying instantly.



LEITH DUNICK

GROUNDING: This WestJet plane spent more than half a day isolated at the airport.

4 A 55-year-old Thunder Bay man was shot in a south-side bar and was sent to hospital with non life-

threatening injuries. Days later police arrested a suspect near city hall. Jonathan David Dunston was the sub-

ject of a police manhunt and the public was told not to approach him if spotted as he was believed to be armed and dangerous.

5 An actress who produced a bikini-clad video promoting the Ring of Fire Mining development for KWG's The Mining Minute said she had no intention of sexualizing either herself or the mining industry. The video, produced by Theresa Longo, went viral and drew the wrath of women's groups nationwide.

6 Nishnawbe Aski Nation leaders joined a rally in front of the Thunder Bay Courthouse to show support of Sixties Scoop survivors ahead of the start of a class-action lawsuit. Between 1965 and 1985 an estimated 16,000 Aboriginal children in Ontario were removed from their homes and placed in other non-First Nation communities.

7 Minister of Veterans Affairs Kent Hehr paid a visit to the city and announced the local Veterans Affairs office would reopen in January 2017. Hehr said the federal government was

making good on an election promise after the Conservatives closed several offices across the country.

8 The do-it-yourself crowd lined up for hours in advance of the opening of a Lowe's location at Intercity Shopping Centre. The U.S.-chain store filled a vacancy at the mall left when Target pulled out of Canada entirely.

9 The city announced it was ready to start issuing building permits for the long-delayed waterfront hotel project. A pair of outstanding issues were holding up the process, according to the city's chief building official. The 150-room hotel was supposed to open in 2014. Work has yet to resume on the project.

10 A 34-year-old man was arrested and accused of robbing a Thunder Bay Credit Union. Police said they had spotted the man and attempted to corral him, but he fled the scene and managed to avoid arrest. He was charged in both the daytime robbery of the Bay Credit Union and an Oliver Road Mac's Convenience Store.

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SEPTEMBER

A Year in Review...

Triple murder month



FILE

DEADLY INCIDENT: Thunder Bay Police investigate the death of a 20-year-old man.

1 Thunder Bay Police laid second-degree murder charges against a 20-year-old woman after a body was found outside a south-side residence on McKellar Street. Kirsten Faith Wesley was arrested after being picked up and detained for questioning and faces the charge in the death of 20-year-old Leslie Noah Moonias.

2 Twenty-five-year-old Otis Perkins was killed and a 14-year-old, who cannot be named under the terms of the Youth Criminal Justice Act, will face second-degree murder charges after a fatal stabbing incident in the Limbrick Street area.

3 The month's third murder charge was laid after a 35-year-old man's body was found in a trailer on a lot abutting Wilson and Court streets. Armand Cumming was jailed and charged with second-degree murder in the death of Mannie Spence.

4 Canada's Minister of Transportation Steven Del Duca paid a trip to the Nipigon River Bridge where he released a report into its failure eight months earlier. Del Duca said repairs to the span,

critical to east-west traffic flow throughout Northwestern Ontario, would cost between \$8 million and \$12 million and should be completed sometime in 2017. The report blamed human error and design flaws for the failure.

5 A pedestrian was killed crossing the road and police sought witnesses who were with the man. No charges were laid in the incident which saw the victim struck as he crossed Cumberland Street, just north of Red River Road.

6 A fire in the Bay and Algoma area destroyed a vacant warehouse that once belonged to Superior Motors. Firefighters arrived on scene to find the building fully engulfed in flames. No one was hurt in the blaze, and the investigation continues into the cause of the fire.

7 City council found a way to slice \$3 million from its 2016 budget to help eliminate most of a troubling negative variance the municipality was facing. City manager Norm Gale said the savings would be accrued from cutting nearly \$1 million from the operations budget and deferring more than \$2 mil-

lion in capital expenditures.

8 Thunder Bay Police offered a \$50,000 reward for information leading to an arrest in the unsolved 2014 murder of William Wapoose. Wapoose's body was found by a passerby at Chapples Park. Police Chief J.P. Levesque said during a news conference they believe the case is very solvable.

9 Teachers with the Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board took to the streets in search of a new contract, demanding more transparency when it comes to the board's hiring process. Union officials say experience and seniority is being ignored in many cases, while the board said they are simply following criteria already set in place.

10 Lakehead University hired Cynthia Westly-Esquimax as its first truth and reconciliation chair, a first for Canada, for that matter. Exquimax said universities must commit to more Aboriginal advisors and consider hiring some of the more than 4,000 PhD graduates as fully tenured university professors.

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*A Year
in Review...*

OCTOBER

Capay's solitary plight hits national news

1 Prisoner Adam Capay's four-year placement in solitary confinement at the Thunder Bay District Jail made national news after it was revealed the murder suspect was suffering from memory loss and had tried to physically harm himself. Capay is charged with the June 2012 death of 35-year-old Sherman Quisses, who died while the two were prisoners at the Thunder Bay Correctional Centre.

2 Lakehead Public School Board trustees went against the advice of administration and elected to keep Superior Collegiate and Vocational Institute open. Earlier in the year it had been recommended the facility be closed and turned into an elementary school, amalgamating three schools into one. Trustees did vote to close Sir Winston Churchill Collegiate and Vocational Institute, a move later delayed until 2018.

3 A prisoner who escaped from the Thunder Bay District Jail was recaptured in Leduc, Alta., after two weeks on the run. Philip Robert Crosby, 48, walked out a service door at the jail on



ON HIS OWN: Adam Capay spent four years in solitary confinement at the District Jail.

Oct. 11 and faced a litany of charges after police took him back into custody after he was spotted in a bank in the Edmonton suburbs.

4 A Thunder Bay Police officer was suspended for alleged racist postings to his personal Facebook page. Four others were placed on administrative duties

after the post, which suggested Aboriginals were the cause of their own problems and it was not "the white man's fault."

5 A Thunder Bay couple faced four counts of animal cruelty, the aftermath of 23 cats found abandoned in Wilson Street Park earlier in the year. OSPCA investigator Jeremy Gardiner said he had a hard time locating the suspects, who had moved from their last known location.

6 Thunder Bay Police turned to the public for help locating a suspect in a violent early morning sexual assault that took place in the Cumberland Street area. Police said a man grabbed a female victim and attacked her for about half-an-hour.

7 Toronto-based Metrolinx made waves in Thunder Bay, announcing they planned to look for competitors to provide light-rail trains for its Hurontario Light Rail Transit project between Mississauga and Brampton. However, MPP Bill Mauro (Lib., Thunder Bay-Atikokan) said the local Bombardier plant had nothing to worry

about.

8 A comprehensive recreation master plan made a number of recommendations, including the closure and repurposing of Neebing Arena. The plan including adding twin ice pads at Delaney Arena and Port Arthur Arena. Dease Pool was also placed on the chopping block.

9 City officials announced they had put two major road upgrade projects on hold because they could not obtain the federal or provincial funding in time to pay for the cost of the rebuilds. The decision affected the already-delayed four-laning of Junot Avenue, near Windsor Street, as well as continued work on Balmoral Street.

10 Two Thunder Bay residents were charged in the death of a dog found earlier in the month. The death was deemed suspicious. After a month-long investigation a couple was charged with the Criminal Code offence of killing an animal. A 57-year-old male was remanded into custody, while a 40-year-old female was released with a promise to appear at a future court date.

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NOVEMBER*A Year
in Review...*

Recommendations arise from inquiry

1 A jury delivered 28 recommendations at the conclusion of a coroner's inquest into the April 2013 suicide death of 23-year-old Kasabonika First Nation woman Lena Anderson while she was in police custody and left alone for less than 20 minutes. The jury called on the federal government to provide equal funding to First Nations policing and to ensure communities policed by Nishnawbe Aski Police Service are identical to those in non-First Nation communities in Ontario.

2 City workers under Unifor Local 87 avoided walking off the job when they accepted the municipality's latest contract offer, a five-year deal retroactive to Nov. 1, 2014. Had they decided to strike, residents would have been left scrambling to figure out garbage collection and alternatives to city-run facilities, such as its rinks and senior centres.

3 Thunder Bay Police Chief J.P. Levesque found himself in the national hot seat after a *Fifth Estate* documentary suggested local police had not conducted a thorough enough inves-



INQUIRY: Lena Anderson committed suicide while in police custody in April 2013.

tigation into the Oct. 19, 2015 death of 41-year-old Stacy DeBungee, an Aboriginal man whose body was pulled

out of the McIntyre River. It was one of several deaths on local waterways police have been accused of quickly deeming

not suspicious and not taking seriously.

4 Students at Sir Winston Churchill Collegiate and Vocational Institute got a one-year reprieve when the Lakehead Public School Board voted to delay closing the school until June 2018 after the province changed its capital deadlines. Students were delighted at the delay, especially those set to graduate in 2018.

5 Thunder Bay Police said they welcomed the assistance of the Ontario Human Rights Commission to help them deal with allegations of racism and systemic discrimination. Chief Commissioner Rena Mandhane earlier in the month sent a letter to the TBPS outlining a number of steps they could take to improve the situation.

6 A windy winter storm wreaked havoc on the Sports Dome, tearing a hole in the bubble's fabric which led to its collapse. It was expected to remain out of commission for up to a month while repairs were made.

7 A houseboat built by former Thunder Bay resident Rick Small

drew international attention when it washed ashore in Ireland. The boat had most recently been seen in Conception Bay, Nfld.

8 St. Joseph's Care Group administrators were forced to halt admissions to the 416-bed long-term care facility after the province issued a report stating the newly opened residence had fallen short on nine compliance orders.

9 Thunder Bay Fire Rescue hired its first two female firefighters, welcoming Stephanie Drost and Ceilidh Boyd among the six new recruits brought on board after successfully completing a rigorous 22-week training program.

10 Friends of Chippewa Park announced it was going to seek federal, provincial, municipal and private funding to help complete a \$1.5-million refurbishment of the park's nearly century-old carousel. The plan, if approved, would include the construction of a building to surround the C.W. Parker ride to protect it from the elements.

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A Year in Review... **DECEMBER**

Prominent lawyer facing sex charges

1 A lawyer facing sexual assault charges was denied bail. Alexander (Sandy) Zaitzeff has been charged with two counts of sexual assault, sexual interference, invitation to touching under 16, five counts of assault and theft under \$5,000. He also faces a charge of breach of recognition. The news got worse for Zaitzeff later in December, when his legal licence was suspended after the Law Society of Upper Canada said they were investigating alleged professional misconduct.

2 The inquest into the 2011 Thunder Bay District Jail death of Cody Thompson-Hardy was delayed once again. The 18-year-old died while in custody, after being raced to the hospital. The inquest faced a number of delays, mostly due to jury roll issues. This time it was unspecified legal issues needing to be worked out that cause the delay.

3 Thunder Bay MP Patty Hajdu, the federal minister of status of women, came under heavy fire after it



JAILED: Lawyer Alexander (Sandy) Zaitzeff is awaiting trial on several charges.

was revealed she signed on to spend \$1.1 million for new office space that kept her in the same building as ministry staff. Hajdu, a first-time MP,

turned down a less expensive option that would have cost \$400,000, but would have housed her staff in a nearby building instead.

4 A deadly collision on the Thunder Bay Expressway took the life of 50-year-old Gary Maki, who was ejected from his pick-up truck and pronounced dead at hospital. Ontario Provincial Police continue to seek witnesses to the three-car pileup, which closed the busy highway for several hours. The driver of an SUV involved in the collision is alleged to have crossed the centre line.

5 City council decided not to seek changes to the way residents vote in 2018, punching out the idea of a ranked ballot by a 6-4 count opposed to the measure. The province changed regulations that would allow voters to rank candidates by preference, the lowest-ranked hopeful dropping off the ballot at the end of each round if the threshold to win wasn't reached.

6 A Simpson Street bakery employee scared off a would-be robber who pulled out a knife and demanded cash. The clerk instead pulled out a bigger knife and the suspect ran off into the night, last seen headed to the

city's east end.

7 Police suggested foul play might have played a role in the disappearance of a 23-year-old Ottawa man. Justin Duncan was last seen on Dec. 12 at the intersection of Memorial and 10th avenues.

8 Pricilla Thomas was sentenced to four years in prison on a manslaughter charge in the 2014 death of 35-year-old Jeffrey Monroe.

9 A British Columbia-based company officially took over the OLG Casino Thunder Bay's property and management, a 20-year commitment to operate the facility. Gateway Casinos and Entertainment will also run similar operations in Sault Ste. Marie and Sudbury.

10 A pair of email threats sent students fleeing the hallways at St. Patrick High School and led to the closure of the south-side facility for the remainder of the day. A search by police turned up nothing, though the investigation is ongoing.



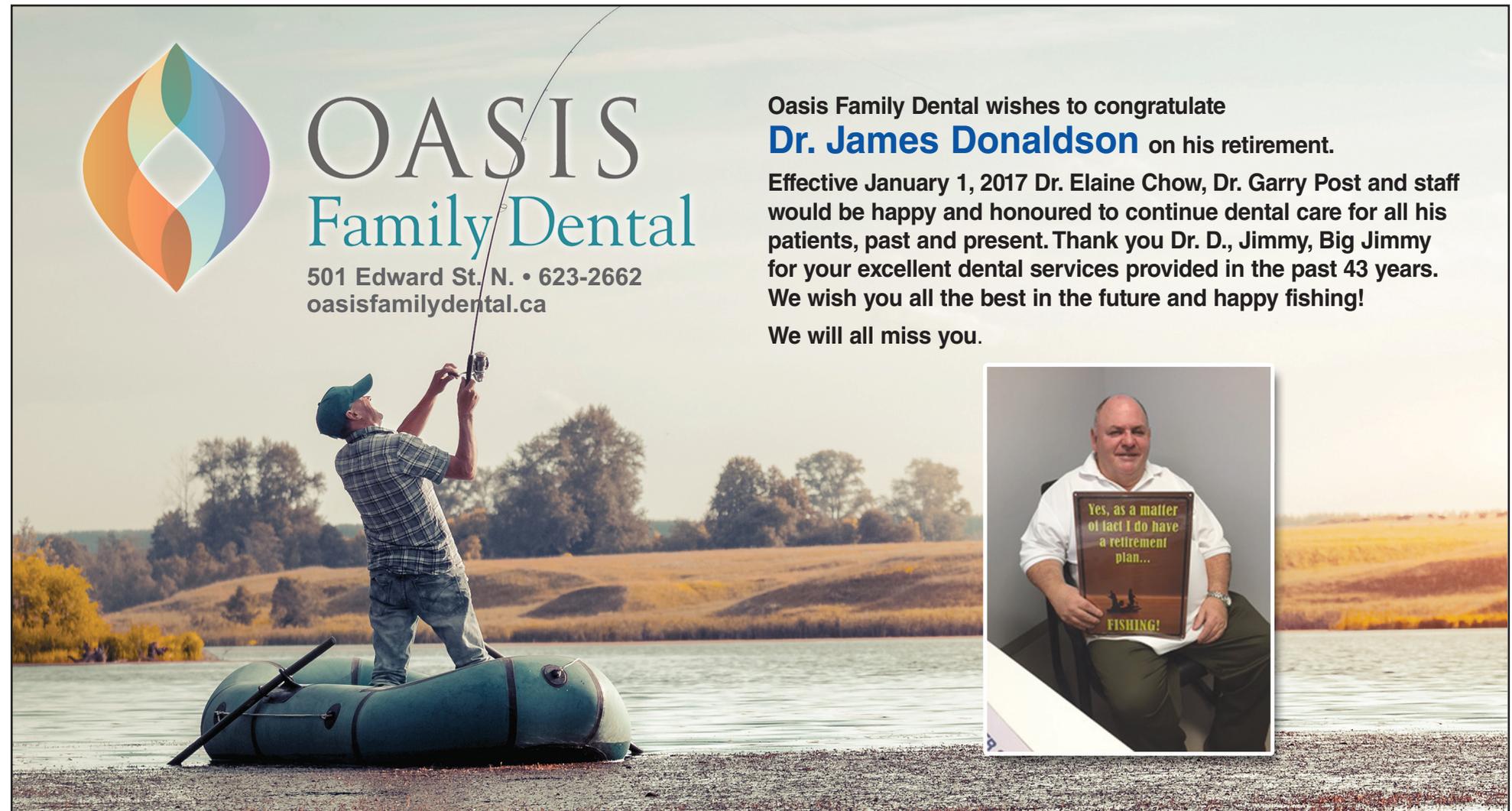
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IN THE bay

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A perfect place to start

Blue Rodeo set to kick off cross-Canada tour in Thunder Bay

MUSIC

By Doug Dlaczuk - TB Source

The legendary Canadian rock band, Blue Rodeo, are getting set for another cross country tour, and for the second time, they will be setting the stage for the rest of the country in Thunder Bay.

"It worked out really well last time," said Blue Rodeo vocalist and guitarist, Jim Cuddy, in an interview with the Thunder Bay Source. "It's a very comfortable and friendly place to start."

Blue Rodeo will be kicking off their 50-date Canadian tour at the Thunder Bay Community Auditorium on Jan. 11. The latest winter tour is in support of their 14th studio album, 1,000 Arms.

With Thunder Bay audiences always being so friendly and accommodating, Cuddy said it's a great place to start, even if all the kinks of the newest tour haven't been worked out yet.

"There is added pressure, but we don't really realize it for a couple shows in," Cuddy said. "We think we're ready but then we wonder what just happened. At the first show, you are still at the idea stage. You have to have a place that will be friendly enough and accepting enough if you make a mistake in a song."

"It's fun to see the first show, because you are not going to see a well-oiled machine," Cuddy added.

Blue Rodeo have been touring and making music for the last 30 years. In that time, they have won countless Juno Awards, been inducted in the Canadian Music Hall of Fame, received a star on Canada's Walk of Fame, and have been named to the Order of Canada.

Despite such longevity and performing for decades, Cuddy said every show is like walking out on stage for the first time.

"We still get the nervous energy," he said. "It's an enjoyable thing to do. We do love playing music. We love having a new record to work into the night. We always feel like we're a slightly new band every two years when we do this."

Blue Rodeo's latest release, 1,000 Arms, is a bit of a throwback to the band's earlier work. Tim Vesely of the Rheostatic's co-produced and engineered the album and Cuddy said working with Vesely, who helped him on a Christmas album, provided a very calming presence in the studio.



1,000 ARMS OPEN: Canadian rockers, Blue Rodeo, are set to kick off their cross-Canada tour in Thunder Bay on Jan. 11 in support of their newest album, 1,000 Arms.

"He's a really good musician and he really understands music," Cuddy said. "He was just a great collaborator and he seemed like the perfect guy to do the record. We are a fussy bunch."

"We take our obligation very seriously to be good musicians, to play all our shows at the highest level!"

JIM CUDDY

Vesely listened to Blue Rodeo's earlier works and suggested Cuddy and Greg Keelor should sing together like they used to do, something that caught Cuddy and the rest of the band by surprise.

"We didn't initially understand," Cuddy said. "We didn't used to stack vocals, we would just sing, the two of us."

In 1,000 Arms, Cuddy and Keelor are once again singing together instead of stacking vocals in the studio. Cuddy said going back to their roots really suits the new album.

"It felt familiar and yet it felt fresh," he said. "I think it really gave a good character to the record. When it's just the two of us singing, it's more about energy. The call and response has more energy to it and so does the duet. And these are more energetic songs."

Cuddy added that fans familiar with their entire musical catalogue will definitely recognize the character of their first couple of records in 1,000 Arms, which is something the band didn't even realize was missing from more recent work.

"It didn't occur to us that we left that behind until we started to examine it," Cuddy said. "We just felt like we always sang together, we just sang together in a very different way."

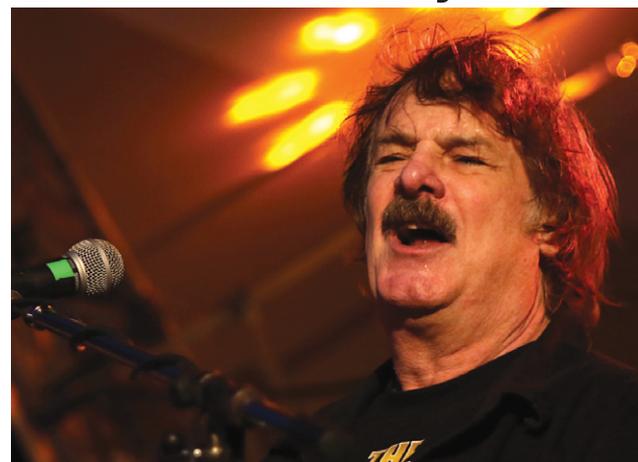
Musically, 1,000 Arms feels upbeat and energetic, though lyrically it deals with some heavy subject matter, but according to Cuddy, the band never set out to work on this new album with that in mind.

"We don't notice that," he said. "I never consciously set out to write up lyrics or down lyrics, I just write what's on my mind and try to write the appropriate music. It's not just sped up sorrow. There's some anger in the songs, there's some pushback in the songs, there's some sarcasm in the songs and I think that goes with the energy of the songs."

The 1,000 Arms Tour kicks off in Thunder Bay on Wednesday, Jan. 11 at 8 p.m. at the Thunder Bay Community Auditorium. Cuddy said fans can expect to hear an eclectic mix of old and new songs. And even if it isn't quite a well-oiled machine the first night out, you know the band is working just as hard and playing with just as much passion at the start of the tour, as they will be at the end.

"We work hard to put out good material," Cuddy said. "We really do. We take our obligation very seriously to be good musicians, to play all our shows at the highest level, and put out the best records we can."

IN THE bay



LEITH DUNICK

GUESS WHO: Burton Cummings drew record crowds to the Blues Festival.

Blues Fest a huge draw

YEAR IN REVIEW
By Leith Dunick -TB Source

Here's our top 10 local entertainment stories of 2016, as chosen by Thunder Bay Source editor Leith Dunick:

1 Organizers of the Thunder Bay Blues Festival, faced with a plummeting Canadian dollar, decided to stick north of the border when booking acts in 2016. The all-Canadian lineup, featuring the likes of Colin James, Serena Ryder and Burton Cummings, proved to be an all-out hit, drawing record crowds to the waterfront for the three-day event.

2 It was a breakout year for local singer Coleman Hell, who started the year with a performance on the Hometown Hockey stage at Marina Park, dropped another hit single, Fireproof and his first full-length solo album, Summerland.

3 The music world lost an early legend when former teen-idol Bobby Curtola died in June at the age of 73. Curtola had hits in the early 1960s with songs like Indian Giver, Aladdin and Fortune Teller, producing 25 Canadian gold singles and a dozen gold albums during his career.

4 Actor Nic Serino made his mark in his debut silver screen performance, capturing the best supporting actor award for his role in the independently produced film *Sleeping Giant*.

5 There was a changing of the guard at Magnus Theatre, where long-time artistic director Mario Crudo decided to step down. Crudo, who oversaw the theatre's move to its present-day north-core location, was replaced by Thom Currie, who arrived from Newfoundland and Labrador.

6 Former Late Show with David Letterman bandleader Paul Shaffer made a triumphant return to his hometown in October, reforming the band for a performance on the Community Auditorium stage.

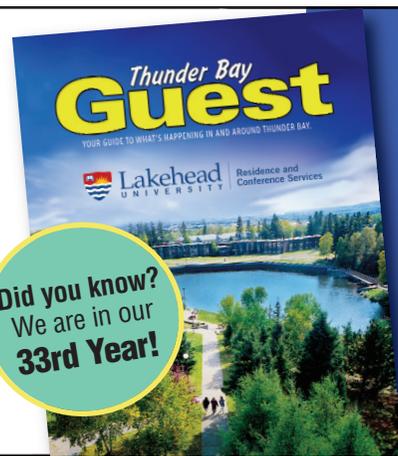
7 Tragically Hip front-man Gord Downie paid a visit to Ogoki Post, the home of 12-year-old Chanie Wenjack, to announce the release of *Secret Path*, his tribute to the youngster's tragic tale. Chanie died in 1966, after running away from a residential school in Kenora. Earlier in the year Downie revealed he was stricken with terminal brain cancer and embarked on a final 15-date tour with the Hip. The last show, from Kingston, Ont., was screened at the Auditorium.

8 Fort Fest drew thousands to Fort William Historical Park to listen to bands such as the Cult, Platinum Blonde and Starship perform.

9 Proponents of a waterfront move for the Thunder Bay Art Gallery announced the proposed facility would cost \$33 million to build, \$5 million of which they hope city taxpayers would cover. The federal and provincial governments are also being asked to contribute to the project.

10 Though it had to be delayed a day because of weather, the arrival of the Nitro Circus show at Port Arthur stadium proved to be a hit with thrill seekers and adrenaline junkies young and old. The stands were packed for the high-flying antics in the show's first stop in Thunder Bay.

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Here are some beautifully designed home technologies bringing us one-step closer to a fully integrated life:

1. Living lighting. Gone are the days of stubbing your toe on furniture legs as you stumble to flick on the lights. New lighting options can now be controlled before you even enter the room and home, offering automatic access from most hand-held devices. There are now many beautiful compatible lighting solutions in the market featuring this wireless technology.

2. Intuitive energy efficiency. An energy-efficient home is cool for so many reasons — cost savings being number one. Efficient appliances are not new, but intuitive ones are. Using programmable



thermostats such as NEST that can be remotely adjusted and controlled by a button or simple voice command, creating a home that caters to your lifestyle is easy. There are also televisions, blinds, vacuum cleaners and coffee machines that can intuitively adjust their energy spending based on your habits.

3. Safe and sound. Probably the area where smart technology is making the most advancements, integrated security helps us sleep a little sounder at night. From automatic smart locks to security cameras you can access anywhere on the planet to technology that lets you create virtual keys for

unexpected house guests, feeling in control of your safety at home has never been simpler. Taking home security a step further, homeowners and companies are even looking at ways to create their own virtual private networks to beat potential hackers.

4. Smarter living. Moving towards truly intuitive living, the next generation of smart homes will continue to take us one step closer to a hands-free world, with products that recognize our changing schedules. Think beyond voice-activated appliances to a home that senses your proximity and prepares your space before you even enter the door, sets your home to "sleep mode" as soon as you close your eyes at night or when you leave in the morning, and has a coffee machine that brews a stronger cup of coffee after you've had a late night out.

For more information on how you can integrate technology in the design of your space, check out the National Home Show on March 10 to 19 at the Enercare Centre, Exhibition Place or visit www.nationalhomeshow.com. www.newscanada.com

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Stanley Cup win tops sports scene in 2016

Krista McCarville rink a close second in annual top 10 list

YEAR IN REVIEW
By Leith Dunick - TB Source

1 Matt Murray started the 2015-16 NHL season in the minors, but by June he had won the starting job and led the Pittsburgh Penguins to a Stanley Cup win over the San Jose Sharks. Along the way Murray tied an NHL record, winning 15 playoff games. He was also named to Team North America for the World Cup of Hockey and then in October signed a three-year, \$11.25-million contract extension to stay with the Penguins.

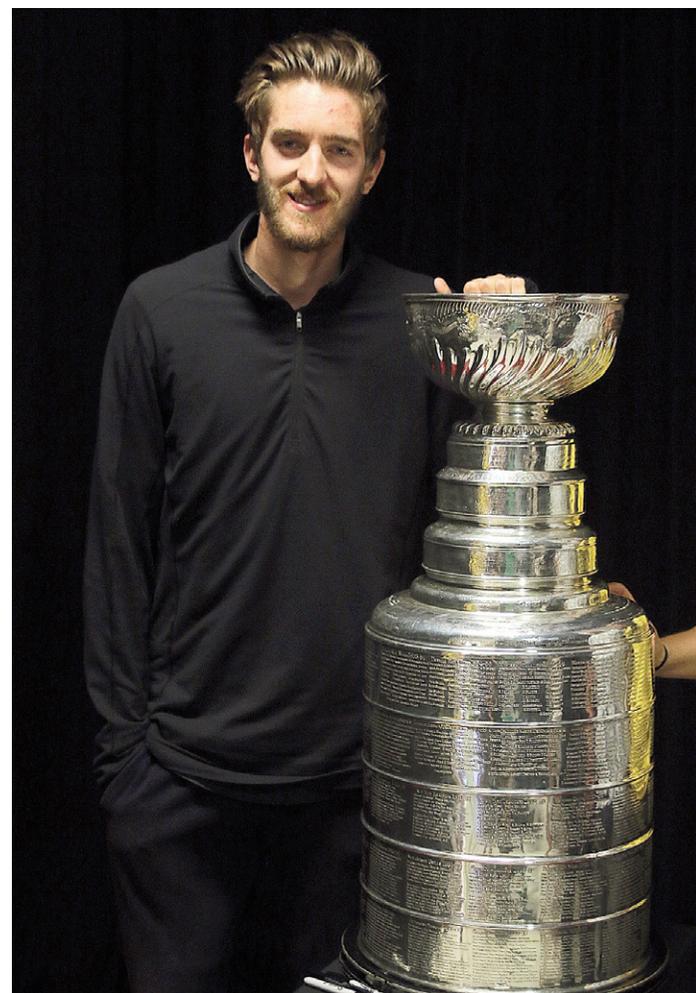
2 Krista McCarville, Ashley Sippala, Sarah Potts and Kendra Lilly stunned the curling world with a trip to the Scotties Tournament of Hearts final, where they lost a nail-biter to Alberta's Chelsea Carey in the final. McCarville had taken the previous season off to spend with her family.

3 The Port Arthur Nationals became the first Thunder Bay team in more than three decades to win their way to the Canadian Little League Championship, using home-field advantage at George Burke Park to knock off Toronto's High Park Braves 9-4 in the provincial championship.

4 The St. Ignatius Falcons junior football team continued its grid-iron dominance, winning a fifth straight Superior Secondary School Athletics title while stretching the Falcons incredible winning streak to 31. The senior team won its third straight, downing Westgate in a snowy final. The senior team captured a provincial championship, winning the Simcoe Bowl.

5 The Trevor Bonot rink capped a remarkable week in Yarmouth, N.S., capturing the Canadian Mixed Curling Championship. The foursome included lead Megan Carr, second Kory Carr and third Jackie McCormick.

6 It was a season to forget for hockey's Lakehead Thunderwolves, who for the first time in 15



CUP CHAMP: Matt Murray tied an NHL mark, winning 15 playoff games as a rookie.

seasons since returning to the university ranks missed the OUA playoffs. A slow start bore most of the blame for the Wolves, who saw attendance dwindle. They're back in the playoff hunt in 2016-17.

7 The Thunder Bay Border Cats changed ownership, Brad Jorgenson handing over the reins to a Florida group headed by Kyle Smith and charter franchise owner John Wendel. Attendance was up under the guidance of new GM, Thunder Bay's Dan Grant, though the team struggled out of the gate, dropping 15 straight to open the season.

8 It was a summer of movement for local NHLers, notably Eric Staal and Carter Hutton. Staal, the long-time captain of the Carolina Hurricanes, was dealt to the New

York Rangers at the trade deadline, then signed with the nearby Minnesota Wild as a free agent. Hutton left the Nashville Predators after two seasons to become the back-up in St. Louis. Former NHLer Tom Pyatt returned to the fold after two seasons in Europe, signing with the Ottawa Senators.

9 American Taylor Moore captured the third edition of the Staal Foundation Open, edging Canadians Corey Connors and Austin Connelly with an 18-under 270 at Whitewater Golf Club.

10 The Thunder Bay Chill were back in the Premier Development League playoffs, but were eliminated in one game, falling 3-0 to the host Michigan Bucks, who went on to win their third league title.

Lakehead THUNDERWOLVES TIP OF THE WEEK!

Make sure you drink adequate fluids before, during and after the game. Healthy, nutritious pre and post-game meals are important for performance and recovery.



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34. MOTORCYCLES/ATV'S

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50. PERSONAL

51. NOTICES

Winners of WEST END BRUINS GAS DRAW are: 1st Prize - Lloyd Wabigwan, 2nd Prize - Emily Biloski, 3rd Prize - Merrick Nash. Held December 21/16. Lottery License M786318.

53. GENERAL SERVICES

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50. PERSONAL

54. HOME IMPROVEMENTS

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63. COMING EVENTS

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58. CAREERS

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