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LOCALNEWS Lyn McLeod named Lakehead chancellor

Ex-Ontario Liberal leader takes over post from Derek Burney

THUNDER BAY By Doug Diaczuk – TB Source

A former MP and leader of the Ontario Liberal Party has been named the ninth chancellor of Lakehead University.

On Wednesday, Lakehead University announced Lyn McLeod as the next chancellor of the institution, making her the second woman to hold the position.

"I am extremely excited about it," McLeod said following the announcement. "Obviously, I'm very honoured to be asked to be chancellor. I'm so pleased to be reconnecting with Lakehead. I've been involved with Lakehead from different points in time, from the time I was a mature student and Lakehead gave me the opportunity to further my education here. I am very proud to be able to come back as chancellor and help further the goals of Lakehead."

McLeod has held political office for more than 30 years. She was first elected to the Ontario legislature in 1987, representing the riding of Fort William/Thunder Bay-Atikokan until 2003. During her time as an MPP, she held the position of Minister of Colleges and Universities, Minister of Energy, and Minister of

Natural Resources, and also served as party leader from 1992 to 1996.

Lakehead University president, Brian Stevenson, said McLeod's intimate understanding of the community and the region, as well as her extensive experience in Ontario politics, make her the best candidate to be named as the new chancellor.

"When we looked at her history,



NEW JOB: Lyn McLeod says she's pleased to reconnect with Lakehead University.

her commitment to community, her constant and continuous service, she could have retired a long time ago, but she still sits on boards, she's still

"I am very

proud to be

able to come

back as

chancellor "

LYN MCLEOD

address.

out there and supporting people," Stevenson said. "That passion, that energy, that strength that she brings to any role she is in, I think that is what we were really impressed by."

Having been involved in post-secondary education policy for so many years, McLeod said she has a number of priorities she would like to see Lakehead

"One of those priorities for me has always been our ability to reach out to our First Nations communities and bring more indigenous education and more awareness of our indigenous communities and our indigenous culture," she said.

McLeod added that she is pleased to see Lakehead is already moving in

that direction, pointing to the university's requirement that all graduates complete an indigenous studies credit before graduating.

Stevenson said McLeod's priorities of more indigenous education and awareness fits well with the university's strategic plan.

"We have a strategy in Northwestern Ontario and Simcoe County to try and increase the number of indigenous students to create more sensitivity and understanding around indigenous issues," he said. "I think she is going to take that role very passionately and help us move in that direction."

McLeod lives in Alliston, Ont. in Simcoe County. She sits on the Georgian College Board and she is looking to further the partnership between Georgian College and Lakehead University.

According to McLeod, there needs to be stronger linkages between universities and colleges, which is her second top priority as chancellor.





Dr. Byron Advent was born and raised in Thunder Bay. He graduated from Lakehead University and then moved to Houston, Texas and received his Doctor of Optometry Degree from the University of Houston. Dr. Advent spent time working in Texas and Vancouver before moving back home to Thunder Bay. He is happy to have moved back to Thunder Bay and bring his experiences and patient-centered care to Harbourview Optometry Centre.

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LOCALNEWS



DEADLY INCIDENT: Police investigate a double killing last week at a Fort Frances trailer park.

Double murder in Fort Frances

"It's pretty

close to

home."

KATHLEEN

DEBENETTI

FORT FRANCES By Leith Dunick – TB Source

A neighbour of Fort Frances murder victims Carol Affleck, 66, and her 77year-old husband Lovern Affleck, said it was her dog who clued her in something was amiss next door.

When Kathleen Debenetti, who lives at Lakeview Trailer Park, finally climbed out of bed, she was stunned to see heavily armed police putting crime-scene tape up around her neighbours'

DeBenetti said she watched police detail evidence in their driveway, covering something with tarps as more officers arrived on scene.

"There were four policemen, three had rifles and one had a dog and they were going on around

the trailer court," she said in an interview last Wednesday with Dougall Media reporters.

"They passed through my yard several times and through the neighbour's yard several times and that's pretty much what I saw for the morning."

DeBenetti said police initially told her not to leave her home, so she stayed home from work. Later police told her for her and her daughter's safety they should evacuate the trailer park.

She said the suspect, identified by OPP as 37-year-old Tyler John Cousineau of Fort Frances, was believed to be another neighbour, who lived directly across from the victims.

"The detectives came to my house last night about nine o'clock to ask me some questions and he let me ask him a couple of

questions. He told me the suspect surrendered," DeBenetti said, adding police told her the suspect had been in his house the whole time.

DeBenetti said she believes the couple were from British Columbia and had moved to Fort Frances a few months ago to be close to family.

It was shocking for everyone in the trailer park, which is mostly used by seasonal residents.

"It's pretty close to home," she

said. Cousineau has been charged with two counts of second-degree murder and was scheduled to appear in court on Wednesday. Several OPP units remain on scene in Fort Frances investigating the tragedy.

A tip line has been established and police ask anyone with information to phone them at 1-844-677-5040 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477. Tips can also be given at www.tipsubmit.com.

Crash victim dies of injuries POLICE collision on Oliver Road has died.

By TB Source staff

Starkey

City police say a 26-year-old man involved in a March 3 single-vehicle collision on Oliver Road has died. In a release issued on Monday, police say they are withholding the man's identity at the request of family. The investigation continues.

Wanted Wednesdays

n an effort to clear a backlog of more than 1,600 outstanding warrants, Thunder Bay Police Service has embarked on a weekly program

Name: Catlin Bertha Anne Dorval Alias: n/a Offences: Failure To Appear times three; Breach UTA times two; Mischief under \$5,000 Gender: Female Age: 32 Hair: Long curly brown Eyes: Hazel Height: 5-foot-3 Weight: 115 pounds Descriptors: Caucasian called Wanted Wednesdays. Each week police will release the identities and photographs of four people wanted for a variety of offences,

> Name: Jaymz Keir Hancock Alias: n/a Offences: Extortion, Forcible Confinement Gender: Male Age: 23 Hair: Straight Brown Eyes: Brown Height: 5-foot-9 Weight: 137 LBS Descriptors: Caucasian

encouraging anyone with informa-

tion as to the suspects' whereabouts

to provide that information or for

the suspects to turn themselves in.

Jaymz Keir Hancock

Name: Joseph Robert Theriault Alias: Denis Offences: Failure to stop at scene of accident Gender: Male Age: 51 Hair: Straight short brown Eyes: Brown Height: 6-foot Weight: 187 pounds Descriptors: Caucasian

A or

Alias: n/a Offences: property of crime, bree entering ti disguise w Gender: 1 Age: 29 Hair: Sha Brown Eyes: Bro Height: 5 Weight: 2 Descripto

Joseph Robert Theriault

Catlin Bertha Anne Dorval



Name: Nikolas Claros



Nikolas Claros



RETAIL BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY FOR AN AGENCY STORE IN PASS LAKE, LCBO RFP #2017-111 PASS LAKE

An excellent business opportunity is now available to established retailers in Pass Lake.

The **Liquor Control Board of Ontario** (**LCBO**) is seeking a responsible, customer-focused retailer to operate an LCBO Agency Store in Pass Lake.

To qualify, the applicant must have an existing, currently operating retail business in the community and commit to operating the Agency store within established LCBO guidelines. To facilitate the sale of beverage alcohol products, the operator may be required to enter into separate commercial arrangements with the LCBO and domestic beer suppliers. The successful applicant will also be required to participate in a special LCBO server-training program to ensure the responsible sale of beverage alcohol products.

Since 1962, the LCBO has authorized more than 200 Agency stores to serve communities that have requested service but where the local population is too small to support a regular LCBO or beer store. These Agency stores are operated by local retailers within their existing retail business. Agency store contracts are normally awarded for a five-year term. In communities where there is currently an Agency store, as the contract nears expiry, the LCBO will take into consideration the fact that new businesses in the community may have been established and will allow an opportunity for all businesses in the community to compete for the next five-year term.

Operating an LCBO Agency Store provides a retailer with an excellent opportunity to increase revenue and attract customers while providing local residents with beverage alcohol services. Agency stores also deliver economic benefits to the community in many cases through job creation and increased customer traffic for local merchants.

For this competition, the LCBO must receive requests for the application package from interested businesses **by mail** before end of business day **Friday**, **March 31**, **2017**. The application requests must quote the following information:

RFP #2017-111 Pass Lake Request for Application Package Procurement and Contract Management, LCBO 1 Yonge Street, Suite 1404 Toronto, ON M5E 1E5

LCBO

Please note: An application fee of \$100 must be included with your request in order to receive an application package. Make the cheque or money order payable to the LCBO only.

In order to be considered for this business opportunity, applicants must submit to LCBO Procurement and Contract Management a completed proposal in the required format before the closing date and time, **Friday, April 21, 2017, 3 p.m. local time**. Late submissions will not be accepted and will be returned unopened.



Editorial

EDITORIAL

Wednesday worries

Apparently there's been some flack arising over the Thunder Bay Police Service's Wanted Wednesday program.

Each week police release photos and information about four suspects wanted on outstanding warrants.

The idea behind the program is twofold.

First, it's a way for law enforcement agencies to close the book on cases, which though relatively minor in most instances, nevertheless clog up the books.

Secondly, it's a chance for people who might think they could be publicly outed next for failing to appear in court to answer to charges against them.

The backlash suggests it amounts to little more than public shaming, that the offences don't merit having the suspects' pictures splashed all over the local news and throughout Thunder Bay's social media streams.

We disagree.

Unless the offences they've been accused of committing have been wiped from the criminal code, everyone named is wanted for breaking some sort of law.

It's up to the court to prove them innocent or guilty, but it's on those charged to show up and let justice occur.

Victims of crimes and other offences deserve, at the very least, to have closure.

If a little public embarrassment shames someone into doing the right thing, all the better.

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If you have concerns about editorial content, please contact ldunick@dougallmedia.com. If you are not satisfied with the response and wish to file a formal complaint, visit the website mediacouncil.ca or, for additional information, call toll-free at 1-844-877-1163.



Keep park parking free

To the editor: At a recent public open house, citi-zens were presented with a proposed strategy to manage parking at the waterfront.

We learned there is presently not a problem with parking at Marina Park.

The strategy is proposed to manage parking for the future; once the hotel opens, the CN station has commercial tenants, and the developer's market building planned for a portion of the CN station parking lot is operating and requires parking.

The parking management study proposes that paid parking would "encourage parking space turn-over", improving parking availability. The Study goes on to tell us that the hotel and condos have private parking and would not be impacted.

So, it they have parking, why does the Parking Authority feel the need to "manage" the parking?

The other rationale put forward is that paid parking would put the cost on those who use the park. But no other city park has paid parking, not the Auditorium or the Canada Games Complex, for example.

So why here?

The issue really, is that it is hoped that by charging for parking, we will have a shorter visit to our park. (encouraging turnover, as the study puts it.); thus leaving the parking for the use of future commercial activity. The park is not meant to be a home for commercial enterprise.

We only have one Marina Park, and it is fortunately on the greatest lake in the world, no less, with an unparalleled view.

Why clutter it up with more commercial ventures?

The only commercial opportunities that should be in the park are those which will enhance our enjoyment of our park visit.

Things like a shop to get an ice cream or a warm drink or bike rentals. Since the re-opening of Marina Park, much has been done to encourage public attendance with new

special events such as Winter Fun Days, which add to the summer enjoyment of Live on the Waterfront (formerly Summer in the Parks).

We should be further fulfilling the vision and ensuring that anything proposed for Prince Arthur's Landing, even paid parking, goes through the Waterfront Development Committee's evaluation criteria.

These include, among other questions, "Does it improve accessibility, increase public ownership or access to the waterfront, bring us together as a Community and increase public participation?"

We contributed \$65 million in tax dollars to make that happen.

It's unacceptable that paid parking is

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



being considered as a way to shorten our visits to the park, so parking is available for unnecessary commercial activity in the park.

Citizens can comment online on the city's website until March 17; a link to the Parking Survey is on the Main page

Or call the Parking Authority at 625-2370. A report is being prepared for council.

> Patty Bates. Thunder Bay

Jobs fleeing region

To the editor:

he Liberals again are stripping more jobs from Northern Ontario. Approximately 44 jobs are being sent to Cornwall from the North Bay office of the Crown Corporation Ontario Power Generation.

That being said, Kathleen Wynne has gone on record several times stating we are "One Ontario."

With the constant robbing of good careers/jobs and industries from Northern Ontario it is showing what we have been saying. "We are not one

Ontario."

We are but 2 Ontario's made up of a Northern Ontario and a Southern Ontario. We are already treated as a Legislature of southern Ontario's provider.

Whenever, the good career jobs or resources are needed in Southern Ontario the government/party in power quickly robs them from Northern Ontario to give it to Southern Ontario.

This is not the only time this has occurred and not only that they are trying to sneak them out without announcement, discussion or even a consultation.

As leader of the Northern Ontario Party I am demanding that instead of robbing Northern Ontario and making it more of a barren wasteland and continuous over population of Toronto that the Legislature builds Northern Ontario. You want to claim we are 'one Ontario' then it should be

If you cannot provide to the North or even invest where the money came from to build Downtown Toronto then let us have our referendum vote of the Northern Ontarians once and

for all and do not fight the results but support them.

Think of it if we are such a loss or burden to the south then why keep us let us free. Who better to run Northern Ontario than the honest not corrupt Northern people who are not forced to back a Toronto based political party.

To date the jobs that have and are being lost in the North due to cuts or Southern Ontario relocation are in the thousands to tens of thousands over the last 20 years.

We look at sale of Ontera, closure of Natural Gas plants, OPG, News jobs, hospital and health care cuts and the relocation of the Laundry jobs from Sudbury to Toronto.

In closing how can we be One Ontario when the only "Ontario" is Toronto. Northern Ontario should be invested in and not pillaged from to benefit Toronto only.

We are sick of Toronto and the legislature treating all Northern Ontario at their own disposal.

> Trevor Holliday, Leader, Northern Ontario Party

Perspective

READY FOR THE OUTDOORS

People we meet

Mom's surgery shows health-care's compassionate side

OPINION By J.R. Shermack **Special to TB Source**

well-known local motivational speaker once offered some advice about personal growth.

He said that the two biggest influences in our lives are the books we read and the people we meet.

I always agreed with this observation and a personal experience over the past week showed me how true it is, especially the people part.

I was sharing a stressful experience along with several other people and as our lives and emotions intertwined, we were all affected.

We exchanged glances and forced smiles as we waited together for news that our friends or relatives had been taken from surgery to recovery.

We were all on the same emotional ride.

Nervous times

Mom needed an operation and the mood was apprehensive in spite of many assurances that the outcome would be positive.

Surgery is always serious business, but we were positive (maybe a little nervous) in anticipation of the big event.

This was a natural reaction and we confidently put our faith in theThunder Bay Regional Health and Sciences Centre.

More precisely, we trusted the skill and judgement of the surgeon and hospital staff who would bring mom back to health.

We showed up early on operation day and quickly realized there wasn't a thing to worry about.

The level of care and compassion we witnessed must surely be a Canadian hallmark – this is health care of the highest order.

I'm not talking about the funding or the facilities or the equipment the men and women working on the front line deserve all the credit.

When a loved one is ill or recovering from surgery we try to ease their burden but in fact, we are somewhat helpless and mostly useless.

But I didn't despair and in fact, I was encouraged as I watched the efficiency and effectiveness of the nursing staff.

They brought comfort and reassurance to patients in distress and tears of joy to the eyes of family members crying with relief and gratitude.

Who could ever be the same after that - who could witness those acts of human kindness without becoming a little more compassionate themselves.

They were just doing their job but they did it with care and compassion that could move you to tears.

Hospitals have an atmosphere of emotion.

I saw other people just like myself who were patiently waiting for news that their loved one was recovering.

At first, in a small waiting room, we tried to divert our attention from the serious matter at hand with old magazines and hot coffee. I was optimistic but still concerned - as I looked around I could see worried expressions on some of the faces.

We reassured each other with smiles and nods, all hoping for good news and fearful of any complications.

Some men seemed very uncomfortable as they tried to handle the emotion while nervously juggling the purses, bags and belongings of their loved one.

Everywhere

I saw these guys all over the hospital as I was coming and going with shopping bags in one hand and coffee in the other.

We all wore the same expression genuinely concerned, slightly confused, sincerely wanting to help but not knowing exactly what to do.

Fortunately, everybody else from the surgeon and recovery nurses to the cooks and the cleaners did know what to do.

I am still shaking my head in wonder about the miracle of surgery, the compassionate care in recovery and the emotional support from strangers.

The experience we went through together changed my perspective -I look at things a little differently now.

And it was all because of the people I met.



AN AXE TO GRIND Last Saturday and Sunday, hundreds of ourdoor enthusiasts attended the New Ontario Shooting Association Gun Show at the Slovak legion.

HOW TO WRITE US:

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

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

Address them to: **Thunder Bay Source** 87 North Hill Street, Thunder Bay, ON P7A 5V6 Fax: 345-9923

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A&P opens

n mid-April 1957, the A&P opened its first store at the Lakehead, on South Court Street near the intersection of Bay Street. Opening week was full of extraordinary specials and people lined up at the door to take advantage of them. Free merchandise included macaroni and relish and specials were to be had on pork chops at 49 cents a pound, five large jars of jam for 99 cents and cigarettes for \$2.89 a carton. This store remained with the A&P chain until the late 1980s when it became Renco Foods





Thunder Bay Guest Magazine, contact Tracey Cambly 807-346-2629

INSPECTION

Inspection of Approved 2017–2018 Annual Work Schedule Lake Nipigon Forest

The **Nipigon District Office** of the Ontario **Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF)** has reviewed and approved Lake Nipigon Forest Management Inc. April 1, 2017 -March 31, 2018 Annual Work Schedule (AWS) for the **Lake Nipigon Forest**.

Availability

& MORE

The AWS will be available for public inspection at the Lake Nipigon Forest Management Inc. office and the MNRF public website at **ontario.ca/forestplans** beginning **March 15, 2017** and throughout the one-year duration. ServiceOntario Centres in Toronto (777 Bay Street), Geraldton (208 Beamish Avenue West), Terrace Bay (1004 Highway 17), Nipigon (5 Wadsworth Drive) and Thunder Bay (435 James Street South, Suite 114) provide access to the Internet.

Scheduled Forest Management Operations

The AWS describes forest management activities such as road construction, maintenance and decommissioning, forestry aggregate pits, harvest, site preparation, tree planting and tending that are scheduled to occur during the year.

Tree Planting and Fuelwood

Lake Nipigon Forest Management Inc. is responsible for tree planting on the Lake Nipigon Forest. Please contact Scot Rubin, Chief Forester, listed below for information regarding tree planting job opportunities.

For information on the locations and licence requirements for obtaining fuelwood for personal use, please contact the MNRF Nipigon District Office Management Forester, Raymond Weldon or MNRF Thunder Bay District Office Management Forester, Laurren Peterson. For commercial fuelwood opportunities, please contact Lake Nipigon Forest Management Inc. Chief Forester, Scot Rubin.

More Information

For more information on the AWS or to arrange an appointment with MNRF staff to discuss the AWS or to request an AWS operations summary map, please contact:

Raymond Weldon, R.P.F., Management Forester

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Nipigon District Office 5 Wadsworth Drive, P.O. Box 970 Nipigon, ON POT 2J0 tel: 807-887-5058 fax: 807-887-2993 e-mail: raymond.weldon@ontario.ca office hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Scot Rubin, R.P.F., Chief Forester Lake Nipigon Forest Management Inc. 2225 Rosslyn Road Thunder Bay, ON P7K 1G9 tel: 807-621-7835 e-mail: srubin@hmeenterprises.ca office hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Ontario

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LOCALNEWS



HISTORIC DAY: AI French will fly a Sopwith Pup biplane on April 9.

Ex-local vet to fly at Vimy centennial

MILITARY By Gary Rinne – TB Source

A former Thunder Bay resident will travel to France to play a memorable role when one of the most significant battles in Canadian military history is celebrated on April 9.

Al French, now living in the Vancouver area, will pilot a replica Sopwith Pup biplane in a flypast for the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge.

Historians describe Canada's victory over a German force as a defining moment in the country's development as a nation.

French was born and raised in Thunder Bay where he was a member of the 66 Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron.

He subsequently became a fighter pilot with the RCAF, and later captained passenger planes for Air Canada before retiring 10 years ago.

The aircraft that French will fly at Vimy is a replica of the Sopwith Cub biplanes which Canadian pilots used over the battle.

It's one of two built from scratch by volunteers at the Canadian Museum of Flight in Langley, B.C., and will be transported to France along with five other biplanes in the belly of an RCAF C-17 transport. French said he's "pumped" to play a role in the Vimy ceremony.

"I'm really honoured to be part of this. It's the heritage that came down to me. I really honour these guys. They knew very little about aerodynamics...They didn't know they needed oxygen to go up to 18,000 feet. They were really pioneers of aviation," he said.

French noted that Canadian pilots were particularly valued by Britain's military hierarchy during the First World War.

"Most British officers were more part of the aristocracy and didn't really have a technical education...The 'colonial' gentlemen were a little more technically adept and a little more open to new ideas...So the Canadians and Australians were a big part of the Royal Flying Corps and the Royal Naval Air Service."

All the pilots who participate in the memorial flypast at Vimy will be veterans of the RCAF or the Royal Canadian Navy.

Prime Minister Trudeau and a representative of the royal family are expected to attend the commemoration, which is also being held in conjunction with Canada's 150th birthday celebrations.



LOCALNEWS



TRADITIONAL CELEBRATION: The 29th annual LUNSA Powwow is an opportunity for people of all ages and all backgrounds to share and celebrate indigenous culture through song and dance.

Powwow revels in cultural past

FIRST NATIONS By Doug Diaczuk — TB Source

An annual powwow has been celebrating Aindigenous culture in Thunder Bay for nearly 30 years is about bringing the entire community together for song, dance, and healing.

Hundreds of people attended the 29th annual Lakehead University Native Student Association Powwow on Saturday and Sunday.

"I think it's pretty exciting," said Brianna Decontie, president of LUNSA. "It's the beginning of March Break for our Lakehead students and it's a time to come together and also for the whole community of Thunder Bay. It's nice to get out and sing and enjoy your family."

The powwow is an opportunity for students to celebrate and share their culture with the rest of the community, according to Decontie.

"I think it's a great opportunity for students to come together at LU and show what we can put on for the community and showcase other students around the area and Lakehead," she said.

The powwow included drum circles from communities across the region, as well as traditional dance by people of all ages.

For Decontie, participating in the many dances is a very spiritual experience.

"It's a great feeling," she said. "When you put on your regalia, your bead work, your dress, you just feel at peace. And you do a lot of praying and healing as well. Everyone has their own style of dancing. No two dancers are the same."

Cynthia Wesley-Esquimaux, chair of the

Truth and Reconciliation Commission at Lakehead University, said the powwow is an opportunity to express language, culture, laughter, and pain.

"What it means is it is an opportunity for people to have an expression of their culture and their experience," she said. "It's a community event. It's kind of like an explosion of community."

It is especially important for students, many of whom are away from their homes, to have an opportunity to celebrate their culture.

"It means everything," Wesley-Esquimaux said. "It shows off their songs, their dances, their music, their drums, their languages. It means everything to them because they don't get that all the time."

But Wesley-Esquimaux added the powwow is about much more than providing an opportunity for students or members of the indigenous community to celebrate their culture. It's about sharing, which for her, is a big part of truth and reconciliation.

"How it relates to truth and reconciliation is that the entire community of Thunder Bay is invited," she said. "All of the people, not just indigenous. If you just look around there are lots of people from other cultures here and it's about introducing them to the culture and sharing it with them."

And while the entire community was sharing the many different cultures and experiences, it was the children, dancing and singing, who will gain the most from this celebration.

"It's great to see the young ones," Decontie said. "They are the next generation and they are the ones who are going to be putting on this powwow one day and they are leaning the language and the dancing and the songs." Thunder Bay--Rainy River Through your lens!

Deadline: May 1st, 2017

To apply: Email your photos of Thunder Bay- Rainy River with your name and address to don.rusnak@parl.gc.ca or by mail (postage free) to: Don Rusnak Member of Parliament, 950 Valour Building, Ottawa ON K1A 0A6

> Top photo will be featured on Don Rusnak`s 2017 Christmas card and the cover of the 2018 calendar. FOR MORE INFO CALL (807) 625-1160



Photo

Contest

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Don Rusnak Member of Parliment Thunder Bay - Rainy River

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LOCALNEWS



RECALLED: Lowerys partner, Scott Christie.

Water recall hits bottler

THUNDER BAY By Nicole Dixon – TB Source

After a recall ordered by the Thunder Bay District Health Unit, Kakabeka Crystal officials say they hope to be back in business sometime next week.

Officials with the health unit advised the public not to drink Kakabeka Crystal water on Thursday because of evidence pointing to bacterial contamination.

Lowerys partner Scott Christie was shocked to learn the health unit had found some form of bacteria in the water.

"They haven't isolated it yet, so we don't know exactly what the bacteria is," Christie said.

"All we know is that they found something, but it shows to be non harmful as there have been no illnesses reported."

Christie said it was quite shocking, because the company takes all precautions to make sure the product is of quality and clean of any bacteria.

The health unit has been inspecting every aspect of the company's operation including the well, transportation and the bottling facility.

"We actually did our own independent study this week at your own testing lab and our studies and analysis came back clean, so we are at a loss as to where the problem is happening," Christie said.

"We are complying with the health unit, doing a voluntary recall and we are currently in the process of trying to swap out all of our customer's current water."

He said they've made arrangements with other water distributors to pull from their supplies in order to ensure Kakabeka Crystal customer's needs are met.

So far, the bacteria have only been found in the larger bottles, but the company is doing a voluntary recall on everything to be safe.

Christie said they are hoping to be back in business next week as the health unit is doing some examinations, analysis and more inspections Friday and possibly Monday.

They will need a couple of days to ensure the final product is up to standards.

Christie said any situation similar to this one "comes back and could bite you," but they are doing everything they can for their clients.

"We are phoning our customers, complying with the health unit and we are as concerned as the health unit and everybody else," Christie said."

Christie added that the recalls affect everything shipped out in the last 30 days.

Kakabeka Crystal serves about 800 customers in the region.

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TIMES CHANGING AGAIN: A change in the political landscape has raised concern over women's rights around the world.

Women march to keep rights already obtained

THUNDER BAY By Jon Thompson – TB Source

The tradition of marching for rights on International Women's Day dates back to 1899, but in 2017, shifting political winds are mobilizing feminists to march in defence of the political and social rights women have already won.

"We've seen with events in recent years – the election in the U.S. – growing concerns about racism, Islamophobia, xenophobia and Indigenous rights," said Gwen O'Reilly, the co-ordinator of Northwestern Ontario Women's Centre.

"We can't take our rights for

granted. We can't take our rights as women for granted or our rights as free people or our democracy for granted."

Under this year's theme, "women resist, women persist," O' Reilly said solidarity means confronting language and actions that devalue women.

"We need to speak up if we witness racism, if we witness racism or sexual assault or harassment, we need to speak up about it. We need not to be silent. We need not to normalize it."

Pyteke Blaauw is the past presi-

dent of the Lakehead Unitarian Fellowship. She echoed the sentiment expressed on a placard at the head of the march, which read, "I

"We can't take our rights for granted." Gwen O'Reilly

f the march, which read, "I can't believe we're protesting still." Blaauw worried for future generations that

sexism is re-entering the public discourse in ways she thought long-gone.
 "It's regressive and we women feel the clock is being turned back and we might lose many of the

might lose many of the advantages and rights that were gained in the '50s.

"This is solidarity to make sure we can keep going forward."

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Grass fields to be turfed

TBLife

EDUCATION By Nicole Dixon - TB Source

The football fields at St. Patrick High School and St. Ignatius will soon be replaced with artificial turf.

The Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board held a news conference last Thursday morning to announce the major facility upgrades.

Director of Education Pino Tassone said it's a \$4.5 million investment at both facilities to install FIFA quality artificial turf and rubberized 400 meter tacks.

"They are going to start as early as spring," Tassone said. "They are going to start excavation, which will begin right away and hopefully the ground will not be frozen.'

Tassone said the general contractors have worked on many artificial turf fields all over Ontario and they have promised, weather permitting, the fields will be complete no later than September 1.

The contractors could have both fields complete by August, but the board provided the extra month in case they encounter any issues with installation.

The project costs are covered by a combination of a School Condition Improvement Grant funded from the province and Board Working Funds allocated to capital.



TAKING THE FIELD: Two Catholic board high schools will have new-look football and soccer fields.

"We have received two installments over two years, so I would say anywhere between 50 to 60 per cent will be funded by the ministry and the second portion will be funded through a Board Working Grant," he said

Tassone said the artificial turf will save more than \$60 thousand a year in maintenance costs and some opportunity for community use could bring in some

revenue

"Over many years we are going to save a bundle of money and in 25 years we will have our money back in regards to what we pay for this."

He added this project is a huge opportunity to enhance the physical education program and host a variety of sports tournaments including track, soccer and lacrosse

The ravens are back. Well, they never left but they have occupied the same nest as last year. That nest So for three years the rave So for three years the ravens were nesting elseis very visible from two points on our land near the where. barn and the house and that makes me happy. I thought that perhaps they only occupied a nest This nest was first built back in 2011. I watched it once and then moved on like itinerant renters.

single point, an excellent base upon which to build.

The two vantage points for watching the nest are either from the main gate that opens into the west horse paddock, what we call the Winter Paddock where the equines spend the cold, snowy months, or from atop Mt. Crumpet, our beloved manure pile.

It is not hard to find the nest because the jack pine Perhaps they have a whole series of nesting spots in tree in which they've located their home is the only the bush and they like to try out each of them like jack pine tree in that vicinity. Just scan the bush and people who own several homes throughout Canada when you find the lone jack pine, look up and there it and the U.S.; but the ravens did return.

But the year after the ravens inhabited this particular tree and successfully hatched a noisy bunch of kids, they disappeared.

At least they didn't return to that nest but built elsewhere. I could hear the squawking brood somewhere to the south of the original nest but never discovered it largely because it wasn't on the trails along which I tended to trek.



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being constructed. The ravens, being smart, chose a

FRED JONES **RURAL ROOTS**

But last year while emptying a load of stall leavings, jack pine tree where two branches veer off from a I chanced to look up to that lone jack pine and behold!

A raven head was bobbing about in the former nest.

"Aha!" I thought, 'murder' hath returned."

I noted frequent flights to and from the nest in that lone jack pine tree. Good.

So this season I didn't expect them to return to that particular nest thinking that they like to

rotate, to move about.

I guess it was mid-February that I observed one of the pair flying to and from the jack pine nest. If I looked carefully, I could see bits of nesting material in their beaks as they were doing renovations.

One afternoon I was seated at the table slurping some soup for lunch when a motion outside caught my eye

Something black was balanced on one of the horizontal fence rails between two posts.

able to adjust my vision, I saw that one of the ravens was busy stripping cedar bark off of the rail. It took the bird a minute or so and then it flapped off in the direction of the nest near Mt. Crumpet with a great, long piece of cedar bark between its beak. Resourceful thing, I thought.

I've been told that the ravens, who stay around all winter, are some of the first, if not the first, avians to nest and lay eggs. I believed that all was said and done in terms of nesting and egg-laying by the beginning of March.

So it came as a surprize to see the other day both parents sitting high up on a poplar branch by Mt. Crumpet, and then Edgar (my daughter named them after Edgar Allen Poe's famous poem) climbed on to Lenore's back and there was much flapping of wings. "What's this?"

I shouted, "Haven't you two already bred? Was the first attempt unsuccessful and since it is early days yet, you thought that you'd try again?" Or have I got it wrong? Does the raven mating season extend into March?

Either way, I suppose that they were just insuring that their tribe increases. In about a month or two, we will be serenaded with the raucous, demanding squawks of young raven-lings, a cacophonous noise that doesn't cease until the juvenile birds head off to "do their own thing" somewhere about September. We get to see a continuous harassing of their parents for months on end.

And then one day, they're gone and only Edgar and Lenore remain. Until next year.



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TBLife Westgate raises Special Olympics flag

EDUCATION By Doug Diaczuk – TB Source

Student athletes at a local high school were proud to hold up a flag that they will soon be competing under later this year.

On Tuesday, students at Westgate Collegiate and Vocational Institute, along with members of the Thunder Bay Police Service and Knights of Columbus, participated in a flag raising ceremony for the upcoming Special Olympics Ontario School Championships.

"One of the pillars of Special Olympics is awareness and this is a great event for awareness for Special Olympics," said David Workman, a special needs multiuse classroom teacher at Westgate. "It's recognition for the athletes and their ability to perform and participate and the social growth."

The flag has travelled throughout Ontario and it will make its way to the



BANNER DAY: Students and teachers at Westgate were joined last week by Thunder Bay Police to honour Special Olympics.

ead <u>us onlin</u>

Niagara region for the provincial championships that will be held from June 12 to 14.

Workman has travelled with the team participating in the Special Olympics from Westgate to previous championships and he said students

achieve a lot more than medals or first place finishes.

"It's very meaningful for the students participating in the Special Olympics," he said. "It provides them with a whole range of benefits. One is inclusion, social inclusion through sports. Another one is lifelong physical activity."

"The statistic is there is a 16 per cent higher rate of employment for students who participate in the Special Olympics who are identified with an intellectual disability than students or people who are identified with an intellectual disability who are not involved in Special Olympics," Workman continued.

This year, Westgate will be sending 27 student athletes to compete in sports ranging from track and field, to soccer and basketball, to floor hockey.

"We have students that are very active in the sport and quite competitive and we have students that are there where the social inclusion is the most important piece," Workman said. "It has a wide range of focuses."



Meet Joe Roberts, a former homeless youth who lived on the streets of east Vancouver. He made a promise that if he ever escaped his fate, he would do something to pay it forward. The Push for Change is his promise realized. Beginning May 1, 2016 Joe began pushing a shopping cart, (a symbol of chronic homelessness) across Canada on a 517 day, 9000 km trek to raise awareness and funds to prevent youth homelessness.

Come be inspired as you hear Joe share his story, and learn the importance of investing in the prevention of youth homelessness.

5km Fundraising Walk hosted by: Amalgamated Transit Union Local 966 Contact information: www.Facebook.com/ATU966 Date: Sunday March 19, 2017 Time: 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

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TB**Life**



TRANSFER TIME: Big Brothers Big Sisters is closing up shop after 45 years in Thunder Bay.

Our Kids Count takes new role

Organization to fill gap left by Big Brothers, Big Sisters

THUNDER BAY By Jon Thompson – TB Source

Big Brothers Big Sisters is passing its mantle to Our Kids Count after 45 years of operating local programming.

All existing programs including youth mentoring, Traditional Match, Game On, and Go Girls will transfer on April 1 and continue under the 20-year-old Our Kids Count brand at their McKenzie Street location.

The Our Kids Count board will expand to accommodate the Big Brothers Big Sisters leadership and allow others within the organization to serve in an advisory capacity.

Big Brothers Big Sisters chairwoman Jennifer Bencharski said the amalgamation wasn't foreseen in her organization's 2016-2019 strategic plan but she's satisfied with the way the organizations will fit together.

"The dissolution as it's going to come out in

the next couple of weeks wasn't on our radar for a couple of years. We were looking to partner," she said.

"Just with the logistics of having programming transfer over to Our Kids count, it was easier to do that as a partnership, for them to pick up the membership solely on their own."

Bencharski said funding shortages and an ability to manage overhead costs were major drivers in the decision.

Our Kids Count treasurer Mark Tilbury sees the programs as a perfect fit for his organization. He's preparing to welcome 100 new clients immediately and is looking to grow those programs in the future.

"When we looked at it, it made absolute sense under our service delivery model and it's going to augment our services quite nicely to allow us to service the children and families of Thunder Bay," Tilbury said.



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Polar plunge cancelled

THUNDER BAY By TB Source staff

A popular fundraiser that has generated a lot of public interest has been cancelled for this year.

The eighth annual Polar Plunge, which would normally be held at the end of March has been cancelled.

Last year was the largest Polar Plunge ever in Thunder Bay with around 300 people jumping into freezing water and raising more than \$80,000 for the Special

Olympics.

Event coordinator Warren Giertuga said they had to postpone it for this year because of some logistical challenges that were out of their control.

Organizers hope they can make it a bigger and better event next year.

Giertuga said the local law enforcement community has some other avenues of fundraising that they will focus on this year for the Special Olympics and he hopes they can make up the lost fundraising this year with the larger Polar Plunges in the future.

IN THE bay arts entertainment culture

Time to get funky Thunder Bay (again)

Five Alarm Funk returning to Thunder Bay as part of cross-Canada tour in support of new album, Sweat.

MUSIC By Doug Diaczuk - TB Source

f you have ever been to a Five Alarm Funk show, and there have been many in Thunder Bay, you know to expect a night of heart pounding music, feet stomping, dancing, and just letting loose. That energy on Thunder Bay dance floors has not been lost on the band.

"It seems like the people of Thunder Bay really like to come out and get loose and not in a bad way or anything like that," said Tayo Branston, drummer and vocalist with Five Alarm Funk. "They are just really down to earth awesome people who want to hit the dance floor and wash away the day and enjoy themselves."

Fans will get yet another opportunity to dance to the Vancouver-based band's unique genre transcending music as they make a stop in Thunder Bay on Sunday, Mar. 19 at Crocks as part of a 24-date cross Canada tour.

The eight-piece band is no stranger to Thunder Bay, having made several stops in the city throughout their decade long career.

"We love Thunder Bay," Branston said. "You guys are the gateway to Ontario. We probably play Thunder Bay more in a year than we do in Vancouver. Usually when we come out we do two shows, sometimes even three shows in a year in Thunder Bay. It's really important for us to build the audience there and make sure people want to come out and get funky. It's one of our favorite stops."

The latest tour is in support of Five Alarm Funk's new album, Sweat, released on Mar. 4. Branston called



BRINGING ON THE FUNK: Members of Five Alarm Funk, Gabe Boothroyd, Oliver Gibson, Jason Smith, Tayo Branston, Tom Towers, Carl Julig, Eli Bennett, and Kent Wallace, will be bringing their unique, genre transcending style of funk to Crocks on Sunday, Mar. 19.

Sweat, the band's sixth studio album, the tightest, most cohesive record they have ever done.

"It seems like for years we've been trying to hone our sound and Sweat is sort of the epitome of what our genre transcending past has lead us to," he said.

Mixing short bursts of gang vocals, intense horns, heavy guitars, and

thumping drums, Branston called Sweat the culmination of the band learning how to write together and learning exactly how they wanted to sound.

What really seems to set Sweat apart from earlier albums is the way it captures the energy the band feels when they are up on stage performing to a crowd, which Branston credits producer, Ben Kaplan, for achieving. "He really brought the live kind of energy," he said. "With Sweat, it was really imperative to get that live, energetic sound and he brought this kind of thunderous feel."

For the eight-piece band, the writing process has always been the same, which starts with jamming sessions two days a week every week, and building on ideas that each member of the band brings forward.

"It's a natural and kind of allencompassing process for the band and that's how we've always done it and we will continue to do so," Branston said.

And even though Five Alarm Funk does not shy away from bending various musical genres or mixing in different sounds, Branston said the band doesn't really concentrate on whether or not one genre or sound feels more dominant.

"I wouldn't say any one genre is more dominating, except for the fact, we are kind of, in our minds, bringing a new era, a new style of funk to the genre of funk," he said. "We do like transcending. But there is no one genre we try to stick away from or say it needs to be like this. We are very unconventional and untraditional."

And yet, for some fans in Thunder Bay, hitting up the dance floor when Five Alarm Funk comes to town has become a bit of a tradition, and what makes it a memorable night for fans and the band, is just how unconventional it can be.

"It's incredible," Branston said of performing live. "For us it's the best feeling in the world. We live to be on stage and to be able to see people enjoying your music that it takes countless hours in rehearsal to create and to get on the world to see people from all over the place come together and enjoy your music and dance to your music and really have fun and really let loose is one of the most enjoyable experiences for the band."

Five Alarm Funk will be performing at Crocks on Sunday, Mar. 19.

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IN THE **bay**

Is revenge bitter or . . . is it sweet?



When you've been wronged, a little revenge can be sweet. And according to a new crop of TV shows, it's the best meal out there. Kourtney Kardashian built a career oh-woe-is-me-ing herself as the ugly, fat girl of the Kardashian clan. Then she left her husband, joined a gym and posted her physical transformation on social

media. Kourtney became slender, fit and ultimately, confident. And since her talk show failed miserably, why not sell her fitness regime to the viewing public?

Introducing E! Network's *Revenge Body*, the show where women who were dumped get a fitness, flirting and fashion make-over to flaunt over their ex. They feel fabulous showing off what their ex can no longer have and then move forward with confidence.

It all sounds so positive. So WE TV decided to give it a try. *Mama June: From Not to Hot* follows the weight loss journey of former TLC reality star June Brown. June and her youngest were discovered on the disturbing beauty pageant series, *Toddlers and Tiaras*. So popular was the little girl with her nearly incomprehensible southern twang and cocky disposition that she got her own show, *Here Comes Honey Boo Boo*.

For four years, viewers followed the antics of the poor, backwoods family, including the long-awaited marriage of June and Honey Boo Boo's father, Sugar Bear. That union, however, quickly ended. But first, it was revealed that June was secretly dating an ex who had molested one of her other daughters years earlier. So amid the scandal, TLC cancelled the show.

Then months later, June and Sugar Bear re-appeared on TLC's *Marriage Boot Camp: Reality Stars*. There, they revealed their ugly secrets before divorcing and collecting yet another paycheque.

You'd think television would be done with them all. Years later, Honey Boo Boo is no longer a cute, chubby six-year-old. She's an obese teenager with lots of attitude and little common sense.

June's no longer simply a loving but extremely obese and uneducated mother of four. At thirty-seven, she's an unemployed grandmother of two who knowingly dated her daughter's abuser – twice.

She has little to offer except her weight loss journey. And the reason behind it? Sugar Bear is re-marrying and wants his daughter there. So June plans to attend too ... in a size four dress.

And therein lies her moment of revenge. Perhaps she's earned it with all her hard work and gastro/plastic surgery. Unfortunately, that's not enough for June. Before the big day, she tries on a wedding dress and taunts the plus-sized new Mrs. Bear-to-be.

Instead of teaching her kids healthy habits and becoming an example of female self-confidence, June uses her new body to hurt another woman. She also tells her obese child not to worry about her weight despite the family's medical history and her own doctor voicing his concerns.

Perhaps there is a healthy level of revenge. But this cannot be the empowerment that the recent International Women's Day was celebrating.

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IN THE **bay**



TREMENDOUS LOSS: Northwestern Ontario Writer's Workshop president, Jane Crossman, with author Richard Wagamese during his visit to Thunder Bay.

Region mourns loss of great storyteller

LITERATURE By Doug Diaczuk - TB Source

The literary community across the country continues to mourn the loss of Richard Wagamese, one of Canada's great storytellers, but local writers and indigenous leaders say his stories will live on as his legacy in the region.

"I'm extremely saddened," said Jane Crossman, writer and president of the Northwestern Ontario Writer's Workshop. "He was an absolutely marvelous story teller. And he was a brother of Northwestern Ontario. It's a tremendous loss for Northwestern Ontario, and it's a tremendous loss for Canada, and it's a tremendous loss for the world of storytelling."

Wagamese passed away on Saturday at the age of 61. The award winning Ojibway author and journalist was from the Wabaseemoong First Nation and recently lived in Kamloops, B.C.

With more than 13 published books, including *Keeper 'n Me*, *Dream Wheels*, *One Native Life*, and *Medicine Walk*, his works received many accolades throughout his long career.

One of his most celebrated novels, *Indian Horse*, was shortlisted for the Dublin Literary Award and was a finalist on CBC's Canada Reads in 2013. The novel tells the story of Saul Indian Horse, a young man who attempts to deal with the trauma of the residential school system through hockey.

For Wagamese, fiction was not always that far away from fact and he faced his own struggles and challenges, having been a survivor of the Sixties Scoop. Nishnawbe Aski Nation Grand Chief, Alvin Fiddler, said the entire NAN community has been struck with a sense of profound loss.

"He just had so many gifts," Fiddler said. "In spite of the many challenges he encountered in his life, the fact that he was able to somehow get past some of those things and share his gifts of storytelling and his writing. I think it is a tremendous loss, not just for the First Nations, but the entire country."

In 2015, Wagamese was awarded the Kouhi Award by the Northwestern Ontario Writer's Workshop for outstanding contributions to the literature of Northwestern Ontario and he received an honorary degree from Lakehead University in 2014.

Crossman said she met Wagamese when he was in Thunder Bay and she remembers him as being an incredibly positive and kind person.

"I got to know him," Crossman said. "He was a humble man and a very gentle soul. I connected very well with him and I thought he was a wonderful human being."

For Crossman and Fiddler, Wagamese's legacy will not only be remembered through his ability to tell such engaging stories, but that the stories he told were representative of a region, and it's people.

"He brings to life, through his work, the experience of the Ojibway Canadian growing up in Northwestern Ontario," Crossman said. "He just adds tremendously to our story telling in Northwestern Ontario."

"I think that will be his legacy, the fact that even though he was a victim of the Sixties Scoop and lived with the impact of residential schools, and somehow he was able to overcome that and share his stories and the stories of his people," Fiddler added.

"I think that will be his legacy and those stories will live on."

IN THE **bay**

Art will please and expand the mind

ART By Linda Maehans - TB Source

The Annual Juried Student Exhibition coming out of LU's Visual Arts department always has me anticipating a near-overload of stimulation. The 2017 show just up at Thunder Bay Art Gallery is no exception.

Except, it isn't an overload because the well placed and spaced submissions offer viewers a pleasingly uncluttered journey. And, there's a brightened change in the overall mood of the show. In previous years some submissions stirred up feelings of unease, or dismay, even revulsion; so effective were the artists' intended warnings about social ills, environmental calamities already happened or just about-to, or the ominous takeover of technology. The negativity was draining.

This year's exhibition is anything but draining. Instead it is refreshing, colourful and surprising. Exceptionally

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PAPER



READY FOR JUDGING: The annual Juried Student Exhibition is now on display at the Thunder Bay Art Gallery.

surprising, in fact, for the materials the students of 2017 have chosen to integrate into their ideas: the messages that expand our minds. Here's a few examples of what I'm talking about.

Near the entrance to the third gallery is a large fabric-and-thread wall hanging titled "Blue is Great". Stitched and shaped together from remnants of denim and a few scraps of other brightly durable cloth, we gaze at a three-dimensional replica of a great blue heron. Years ago now, on a walk through a

ORGANIC

GLASS

ls the marsh near town I saw one of these magnificent birds for real.

In the second gallery hangs a delicate mobile made of creamy crochet thread and birch. Standing underneath and looking up, we see it's an ornate cross; or it could be a graceful ghostly bird. I imagine the latter is what an infant in his or her crib would see. On invisible threads are a pair of hands: the creator of the mobile holding her crochet hook; her knuckles are little tubes of birch. This lovely piece is called "Child Labour". Nearby, a simple-clever work with sound. Some rough planks onto which a blurry scene has been splashed: a splotch of green, like a forest, and an evening sky. Put on those headphones, my dear, and feel the inside of a barnbecome-dancehall on a lively Saturday night. Note your energy level rise; your toes might start tapping. "This place brings us together" is a perfect title.

Roly Martin is Assistant Professor and Acting Chair of Visual Arts at LU; he confirms what I'm sure others too will remark when they visit this year's exhibition. "Of course we continue to impart a strong anchor of traditional technique and skill to the students. But we also encourage them in their contemporary world to choose and use unconventional materials in new ways. We say 'look at this, your world, and decide what your own influence in it will be'.

Back in gallery three, stand before a sculpture of steel, aluminum and chicken wire. "Pride and Power" has a giant wingspan, the regal head of a phoenix. "This student was researching the extinction of endangered species, specifically the bald eagle. No longer classified as extinct, here is how the artist expressed her joy over this outcome."

The jurors announce the winners at a reception at the gallery this Friday evening; but a People's Choice award ballot box is open until April 2. Go visit this beautiful show and cast your vote.



penturing, Stobhan Bolton, Gabriella Colavecchio, Kevin Hare, Kate Madden, Iain Stewart, Ken James Stewart, Paul Van Dyck, Josh Wiles director: Thom Currie set designer: Nancy Anne Perrin, lighting designer: Rebecca Miller, costume designer: Mervi Agombar, stage manager, Gillian Jones

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PREVIOUS SOLUTION: "Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter." - Martin Luther King, Jr. ©2017 Satori Publishing

Sudoku

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





Stars rally to edge Lakers

SIJHL By Leith Dunick –TB Source

The Superior International Junior Hockey League standings are a lot like a 40-year-old beer drinker trying to fit into his old high-school football jersey – it's a little tight in the middle.

The Thunder Bay North Stars on Friday took an opportunity to open up a little room in their bid to finish second, the Dryden Ice Dogs having long locked up top spot in the six-team circuit

The Stars stormed back from a 2-0, first-period deficit, scoring the final three goals of the night at Fort William Gardens to eke out a 3-2 win over the Fort Frances Lakers.

The victory gives the Stars (30-17-6) a four-point cushion over idle English River and five over Thief River Falls, who were drubbed by the frontrunning Dryden Ice Dogs on Friday night.

"Home ice is big," said forward Brad Thrower, who potted the power-play winner 4:22 into the final period, beating Lakers goalie Jessie Heisz cleanly with a wrist shot from the left circle.

"In the playoffs, hopefully we can get some more fans out into the stands here. The energy means a lot to the guys when we score. They feed off the energy."

The decisive goal, Thrower's 18th of the campaign, proved that sometimes firing the puck on the net results in good things.

"(Ryan) Walsh gave me a good pass. We were on the power play and I had a lane. I took the shot, which I don't do too often. But it was nice, it's nice to get the winner," said Thrower, earlier in the day nominated for the SIJHL's most improved and most sportsman-



IN TIGHT: Fort Frances' Jack Bernie scored twice on Thunder Bay goalie Nathaniel Dupuis last Friday at Fort William Gardens

like player awards.

North Stars coach Jeremy Adduono said it was a great rebound win after a disappointing 8-5 loss to the same Lakers a night earlier. Every point is key at this stage.

"That was our whole message, starting yesterday, and we didn't get the job done," Adduono said. "We had to regroup and our only focus tonight was to get the two points. We didn't really care how we got the result and how we got there, we just wanted to get it.

"I thought we played pretty well

overall for 60 minutes, obviously behind for most of it. But we stuck with our game, believed in ourselves and full credit to our players. They got the job done."

At least on the scoreboard, in the early going it looked like more of the same from the Lakers, who raced out to a 3-0 lead on Thursday and led 2-0 by the 12:14 mark of the first in the rematch.

Jack Bernie scored both Fort Frances goals, the first coming just 19 seconds into the contest, surprising Nathaniel Dupuis in the North Stars net. His second came on the power play, seven seconds after Thrower was sent off for a trip.

EITH DUNICK

Avery Siau cut the Lakers lead in half three minutes later, making a nifty deke move in close on Jessie Heisz, the last goal until Jonathan Masters tied the game 2:42 into the third, taking a couple of whacks at a bouncing puck in front of the Fort Frances net.

The two teams will lace them up again on Tuesday night in Fort Frances. The Stars wrap up regular season play next weekend at home against Thief River Falls and English River.







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