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YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

INSIDE



Locals caught off guard in false missile scare /4

MOVING DAY



Hospital finds home for excess patients /3



St. Ignatius captures its own tournament / 16

Atwood visit draws huge crowd

WWW.TBNEWSWATCH.COM

Hundreds come out to Chapters to hear iconic Canadian author discuss her novel The Handmaid's Tale/13



FAN FRIENDLY: Author Margaret Atwood signed autographs for hours after speaking in Thunder Bay.

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Sears closes its doors one last time

By Doug Diaczuk - TB Source

wenty-eight years ago, Debbie Beaden was busy unloading stock and preparing merchandise to open the doors at the Sears store in Thunder Bay. Now she walks through an empty store and watches as the doors close for the final time.

"It's kind of a closure for me because I helped open the store all those years ago," Beaden said. "It's a closure, but it's sad seeing all our family because we are a family. We worked together for many years. It's bittersweet."

Sears Canada announced last October that it had failed to find a buyer for its assets after being under the Company's Creditors Arrangement Act and that it would be closing its stores nationwide.

Sunday was the last day for Sears at Intercity Shopping Centre, and dozens of employees, both past and present,

gathered for a group photograph outside of the store.

"It has been emotional for those of us who were working and those of us who came back today just to say goodbye to our colleagues," said Annette Pateman, who has worked at Sears for the last three years. "It has been emotional because you know it's going to the the last time you hang up a garment or serve somebody on the till.

Liquidation sales have been held for the last several weeks, with everything available for purchase, from remaining merchandise to shelves and racks.

Pateman said employees have been working hard for the last several weeks during liquidation sales and have been trying to keep up morale during the difficult time.

"The last few days have been hard seeing it become emptier and emptier and all the stock going and going," Pateman said. "We've always tried to work really hard for the customers and



END OF AN ERA: Current and former Sears staff members said goodbye on Sunday.

give them the best experience and that's what kept people coming into Sears right to the very end."

Stacy Wrigley, who has also worked at the retail store for the last three years, added that it has been very

surreal seeing the store become empty and knowing it won't be opening

"It was basically you can't believe that it was closing," she said. "Sears has been like a family for pretty much everyone. It's sad that it's closing because you met such great people and everyone tried to be positive, even seeing everything like it is, and

Sears now joins other retail giants like Eaton's and Chapples Department Store to close in the city.

The first Sears store opened in Canada in 1953 in Stratford, Ont. and was known as Simpson-Sears. In 1955, Simpson-Sears store opened in Fort William.

"It's a part of Thunder Bay," Beaden said. "It has been for many years. We've heard a lot of comments from customers about how they are sad it is closing and that they are going to miss

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FLU SOLUTION: Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre CEO Jean Bartkowiak (left) and Northwest Local Health Integration Network CEO Laura Kokocinski plan to move 32 patients from the hospital to Hogarth Riverview Manor.

Patients moving

Hospital sending overflow to Hogarth Riverview Manor

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

hunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre has struck a deal with the Local Health Integration Network and St. Joseph's Care Group to deal with a spike in patients suffering from a nasty strain of the

The three organizations have joined forces to create 32 temporary transfer beds for Thunder Bay Regional at the one-year-old Hogarth Riverview Manor, where two units have yet to open because of a shortage of personal support

Jean Bartkowiak, president and CEO at the overcrowded hospital, said this is a temporary solution to a temporary problem.

Something had to be done, he said. "It's going to be some relief on our space and a more appropriate location for some of the patients," Bartkowiak said on Friday, two days after discussions began between the three organizations and the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care.

"It's some relief on the staff also, because hospitalizing patients in small areas, like seven or eight patients in one room, is not optimal for staffing purposes. Having 32 patients in one unit allows us to staff more appropriately. It gives us a little bit of breathing space."

While the hospital has experienced surge capacity levels on an ongoing, regular basis over its 14-year history, this year has been particularly troubling, Bartkowiak said.

"This is an uncharacteristic flu season," he said. "This year is very different than last year. Last year, at the same time, I was operating within my bed complement, but the flu season didn't hit as bad last year -

and we had (fewer) alternate level of care patients at the same time.

Bartkowiak, who said on Thursday the hospital had 455 patients, also noted he can't plan a health system based on uncharacteristic season periods.

"I think this called for a special measure, which we have implemented, and as I've stated, very

Between 15 and 20 staff members are expected to move to Hogarth Riverview Manor with the transferred patients, who have already started the move and will be chosen based on their health stability and not in need of surgery.

Laura Kokocinski, CEO at the Northwest LHIN, said they've been working on surge capacity issues for several months, with an eye to a predicted more serious strain of flu.

"We knew that we had to do something a little bit different," she said, adding the hospital has also managed to open up new beds and space has been made at the Lakehead Psychiatric Hospital, beds that were scheduled to be closed.

"We started to look at what else

was possible because we knew the numbers, especially over the last week or so, have been increasing dramatically at Thunder Bay Regional," Kokocinski said.

The LHIN, through the ministry, has given the hospital more money to help cover the added costs, so the plan won't impact the hospital's bottom line. Other hospitals in the region, including Dryden and Kenora, are also facing

similar situations.

"I think this

called for a

special

measure,

which we

have imple-

mented."

JEAN

BARTKOWIAK

St. Joseph's Care Group CEO Tracy Buckler said it's not surprising and they were glad to be able to provide space that at present was going unused.

Weather Forecast

Mix of sun & clouds

Probability of Precipitation: 20% HIGH -3 LOW -10

Scattered flurries

Probability of Precipitation: 70% HIGH 2 LOW -5



Mainly sunny

Probability of Precipitation: 20% HIGH -2 LOW -16

SUNDAY



Scattered flurries

Probability of Precipitation: 60% HIGH -5 LOW -15

MONDAY

A few flurries

Probability of Precipitation: 60% HIGH -12 LOW -19





Scattered flurries

Probability of Precipitation: 40% HIGH -13 LOW -17

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Locals face Hawaiian missile scare

HAWAIIBy Leith Dunick - TB Source

The last thing Brent Hawley expected to hear coming over his radio on Saturday morning was an urgent emergency message warning of an impending incoming hallistic missile

incoming ballistic missile about to strike Hawaii.

The former Thunder Bay resident and hometown friends Jeff and Alexandra Jones had packed up their paddle boards and were on their way for an early morning frolic with dolphins in the tropical paradise when all three of their phones started blowing up.

"All of a sudden it breaks in and says this is not a drill, over and over and over again," said Hawley, reached hours later by phone.

"It just said any moment it could land." Given rising global tensions and the relative proximity to North Korea, whose dictatorial leader Kim Jong Un earlier this month told the world his nuclear capabilities meant his country could strike anywhere in the United States, it was a bit unnerving, Hawley said.

"No one was super stressed out," said

"It was a

huge sense of

relief."

BRENT HAWLEY

Hawley, a former long-time Thunder Bay radio personality, whose last gig was hosting the morning show on Energy 103.5, owned by Dougall Media, owners of this website.

"OK, I had one guest from Canada who was extremely stressed."

The trio stopped their vehicle immediately and turned around, headed back to Hawley's home in Kaiaulu-Kona, still unsure if the world was coming to an end.

About 15 minutes later Hawley said a Hawaiian congresswoman tweeted out

that it was not an actual attack. Authorities later said the alert, from the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency, was sent by accident when an employee clicked a wrong button. It took 38 minutes for the warning to be officially revoked.

Hawley, a endurance athlete who has called Hawaii home for the past two years, said he's gotten used to monthly tests of the emergency warning system, which serve as practice runs for natural disasters like tsunamis. A nuclear missile strike warning was something entirely different, setting off panic throughout the nation's 50th state.

It was jarring, he said.

"I think the radio was scarier than the text messages because of the urgency in the voice," he said.

The Canadians did what Canadians do best after the all-clear came – they had a couple of drinks to settle their nerves.

"It was a huge sense of relief," Hawley said.



TROPICAL MOVE: Thunder Bay's Brent Hawley has lived in Hawaii for the past two years.







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Soccer gets support

City will consider a \$25-million facility for indoor soccer

CITY HALL By Matt Vis - TB Source

Tatteo Bosch and his U-11 Thunder Bay Chill teammates have spent the past two winters on gymnasium floors playing a version of soccer bearing little resemblance to the beautiful game.

But for local soccer enthusiasts the dream of a dedicated indoor soccer complex became a little clearer Monday night as city council took their side by officially declaring the facility a priority for Thunder Bay, though there is not yet any firm commitment to move ahead.

Officials from Soccer Northwest Ontario brought forward to council the business plan study for the proposed Chapples Park Soccer Centre, a \$25 million indoor turf hub that would be home not only for the soccer community but also providing a sheltered field for other sports like football and ultimate Frisbee.

"We anticipate that federal and provincial governments would support a funding partnership with the city of Thunder Bay provided the city designates the construction of the

facility as a priority," Soccer Northwest treasurer Taras Sawula sad.

"Our initial discussions with government partners indicate the city could obtain access to matching funds from existing and upcoming programs. We would expect the city contributions to the project would be contingent upon leveraging contributions from the provincial and federal governments."

The facility would include one FIFA regulation sized pitch, which



PASSIONATE: Thunder Bay Chill owner Tony Colistro speaks to council on Monday.

could be divided into two or four smaller fields. Outside, nine outdoor fields within Chapples Park would be within the immediate vicinity. As well, the building would have the

potential for a future expansion that could house an indoor tennis centre.

Coun. Aldo Ruberto said it's time for soccer to be given the same investment as other sports.

"We spend \$1.5 million on operating our hockey arenas. I don't want to use them as comparisons but I have to say in this day and age this is long overdue," Ruberto said.

"I'm extremely comfortable going forward with this project. I'm extremely comfortable saying this is our No. 1 priority."

As part of the resolution, city administration is to report back to council by the end of the month with financial implications of the project, as well as potential sources of funding.

Community services manager Kelly Robertson said administration will also report back on whether it recommends proceeding with design and site preparation while awaiting answers on funding from senior levels of government.

"I think what's going to be key is whether we can come up with the financing for the project," Robertson said. "That's going to be a key priority in the short term and that's probably going to drive when we can go out and tender at least the construction."

Do you have an opinion to share?

E-mail the editor at ldunick@dougallmedia.com





ON ALMOST ANYTHING ELSE IN THE STORE! Details in-store.



"l'm

extremely

comfortable

going forward

with this

project"

ALDO RUBERTO



Editorial

EDITORIAL

What's in store now?

Sunday marked a sad chapter in Thunder Bay's long and storied retail history.

Sears employees past and present gathered at the entrance to the Intercity Shopping Centre location, posing for one final picture before the store shut its doors for good.

For all intents and purposes, the day of the department store is done.

The writing's been on the wall for years. The rise of the Internet meant consumers could shop the world for better prices.

There's no turning back.

According to a June 2016 article in *Fortune* magazine, for the first time in the world wide web's short history, consumers made more of their purchases online (51 per cent) than they did in stores.

It's only going to get worse.

Eaton's, Target, Zellers and now Sears. Danier, Aeropostale, Ben Moss, Grand and Toy and Future shop are also all gone in Canada, never to return.

South of the border Sam's Club, the Gap, Kmart, J.Crew and Macy's are closing hundreds of stores in 2018.

The good news is that Amazon founder Jeff Bezos is now worth a reported \$105 billion, making him the richest man in history.

These retail jobs, though low paying, are the foundation of the economy. Take them away and the whole thing collapses.

Sure, saving a buck is nice, but the damage being done is irreparable.

CONTACT US:

87 North Hill Street, Thunder Bay, Ontario P7A 5V6 Ph: 807-346-2600 • Fax: 807-345-9923

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

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

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

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Spend taxes on roads

To the editor:

Thunder Bay's roads are falling apart faster than the city is repairing them.

Now a new report says the problem is going to get even worse. That's because city councillors haven't increased the roads budget to match big jumps in the costs of repairing our roads.

The report was prepared for the city's infrastructure department.

It says bid prices from contractors have jumped by up to 65 per cent over the last 12 years. (No explanation is given for why contractors' bids have climbed so high. Interestingly, inflation over the period was only 22 per cent.)

Here's what the report says about city council spending on roads over the last 12 years:

"Annual budgets for pavement rehabilitation in this time have ranged between \$7 million to \$10 million per year with occasional dips below this range in 2010 and 2011.

Since 2005, the recommended amount to spend on pavement rehabilitation has been \$10 million, updated to \$12 million in 2010."

So for more than a decade now city councillors have spent millions less than they should have on roads. That's costing us all.

The new report says in the year 2000 just 0.2 per cent of our roads needed total re-construction.

By 2015 that jumped to 4.2 per cent. The report notes that a total re-build costs three times the price of rehabilitation. The report lands on councillors' desks just as they begin deliberations on the 2018 budget.

The report says administration now recommends the annual budget for roads jump from the \$12 million a year to \$13 million.

Will council now pay attention? Don't bet on it.

This is the crowd that bet \$4 million on an event centre instead of roads and now wants to hand over another \$5 million to pay for a new art gallery on the waterfront.

They have not been good stewards of our taxes.

Shane Judge, Thunder Bay

Sad day for Sears

To the editor:

'm so sorry to see the store closed. In 1955 my family and I moved to Thunder Bay. My stepfather Burton Smith was one of the original managers of the Sears store.

Barbara Halstead, Thunder Bay, Via Facebook

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Hospital makes right call

To the editor:

think we need to applaud the CEO at Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre, and how he has opened beds to put people in them in this time of crisis.

The system is stressed and people could argue it's broken.

But this is the tip of the iceberg folks

It's not going to get better in my opinion.

Thunder Bay is at a new crossroads like we have never seen before.

Why?

We now service more remote communities than ever.

We have now a higher proportion of elderly people then we have ever had. People in the North aren't as healthy as they are elswhere in the proinvoce. Youth is less representative of our population.

We are also seeing issues we have not seen ever, such as narcotic addictions.

So has the CEO addressed it? I think so, he put low acuity people where they belong. It takes creativity and new ideas.

This is the new reality. Do we deserve better?

Do we deserve better? Sure we do. So be prepared to dig into those pockets folks this ride isn't free, you want it, you're paying for it.

Sean Bagwood, Thunder Bay, Via Facebook

One hospital one too few

To the editor:

Well gridlock or whatever you want to call it is not going to be fixed by moving patients. There is not enough staff as it is.

Now they want to send staff to another location along with patients that need care. Is this guy gone looney or what where is this extra staff going to come from?

CEO Jean Bartkowiak says this is a temporary thing well when this temporary thing clears and another flu hits right after what are they going to do then.

I do not know where the brilliant idea came from to build this undersized and understaffed hospital in the first place but obviously they never looked at the whole picture when they did it.

They most surely should have left McKellar alone and used it for a back up hospital which we badly need. How can you justify taking two hospitals and just closing them out for a hospital that does not even come close to the size of the two that were taken away.

With our population and all the outlying districts depending on our hospital for care did they not even consider all this.

I'd hate to see what would happen if we ever had a major disaster in the city because we would be totally screwed. I can guess that there would probably be a lot of deaths because of having no place to take them.

I never ever supported this hospital because of this reason I can never ever remember having a gridlock in either McKellar or Port Arthur General in all

This hospital might have a bigger emergency room but that is all they have except for their trauma unit it is excellent. Also their ICU is excellent.

The nursing staff do the best that they can but they are all overworked and understaffed and there definitely is not enough beds or operating theatres for what we need.

It is a shame that our sick and elderly have to pay for what our government has done. I think it is time to add on or build another hospital so we can have decent care in this city.

> Charlene Youmans, Thunder Bay Via Facebook

Perspective

Rhythm and blues

People's behaviour, it turns out, is all in the timing

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

ate last year Michael Rosbash was startled awake from a deep sleep by what he described as "shocking"

He was surprised to learn that he and two others (Jeffery C. Hall, Michael W. Young) had been awarded the Nobel Prize for medicine.

The prize (\$1.38 million) was awarded for discoveries and continued research into chronobiology, the study of the human biological clock.

Anyone paying attention in the '60s and '70s will remember when we became aware of our so-called biorhythms.

This enhanced a holistic view of the world at a time when many were looking for meaning and purpose in their lives.

These three scientists were also looking for something.

They began their winning research in the mid-1980s and eventually isolated a gene that can tell night

It triggers a series of physical and emotional changes that have evolved over millions of years to keep our bodies strong and healthy.

Our inner clocks anticipate differences between day and night to optimize our physiology and behavior according to varying amounts of daylight.

This led to further research into the impact of circadian rhythms and also, what happens when we choose to ignore them.

At our best we should all be operating like well-oiled machines, revving up or winding down according to our genetic instructions.

Most of us are genetically programmed to be most alert and energetic early in the day - everybody is a morning person.

We get progressively more "zoned out" and by mid-afternoon we are fighting to stay alert as we sink into a low-energy stupor.

This is not the time for crucial decisions - wait until you slowly begin to re-energize in the later afternoon hours and early evening.

That's the time for any critical thinking left-over from earlier in the

Rosbash and his colleagues did not discover bio-rhythms - they found the genetic mechanism that controls

Changes made at the molecular level are a factor in jet lag, insomnia, depression and heart disease, among other ailments.

There is also a measurable effect on human performance and decision-making during the midafternoon slump when our cognitive ability is low.

Kids routinely score lower on standardized tests taken during the afternoon.

In courtroom trials, jurors are more likely to resort to racial stereotypes during afternoon deliberations.

While there is a small group of socalled "night owls" who seem to have the opposite cognitive rhythm, working at night is unhealthy for most of us.

If you challenge your circadian rhythms with shift work you face increased risk of heart attack, stroke and certain types of cancer.

In his book, When: The Scientific Secrets of Perfect Timing, Daniel Pink presents a clear example of how bio-rhythms affect health care.

He describes a medical facility which he calls, "The Hospital of Doom".

In this hospital, you are three times more likely to die from a fatal dose of anesthetic and many cancers go undetected, missed by specialists.

Internists prescribe 26 per cent more unnecessary antibiotics which creates drug-resistant super-bugs.

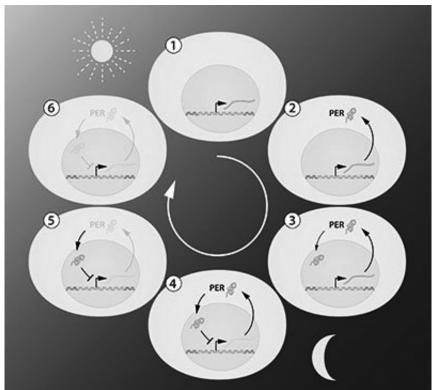
Medical and hospital staff are less likely to wash their hands between rooms which spreads infection to patients and visitors.

The Hospital of Doom is described by the author as any hospital, anywhere, if you are receiving treatment during the afternoon hours.

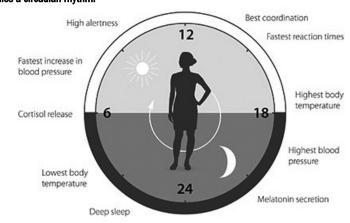
Afternoons are quite dangerous when compared to those highperformance morning hours - that's one bit of practical, circadian information we can all use.

Afternoon treatment increases the risk of unnecessary prescriptions, super-bugs, infection from staff, undetected cancer and anesthetic

I'm anxiously awaiting more circadian survival skills - important discoveries will likely be made in the morning or late afternoon.



HOW IT WORKS: The figure above shows the sequence of events during a 24-hour oscillation. When the period gene is active, period mRNA is made. The mRNA is transported to the cell's cytoplasm and serves as template for the production of PER protein. The PER protein accumulates in the cell's nucleus, where the period gene activity is blocked. This gives rise to the inhibitory feedback mechanism that underlies a circadian rhythm.



A look back in history Simon Dawson In 1857, an engineer named Henry Gladman was hired by the government to report on the best means of communication between Lake Superior and Red River. One of his assistants was Simon J. Dawson who was later instrumental in building the early sections of the THUNDER BAY immigrant road west.

HOW TO WRITE US:

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

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.

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THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Do you think U.S. President Donald Trump is a racist?

VOICE YOUR OPINION ABOUT THINGS THAT MATTER MOST.

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TOTAL VOTES: 718

OYES ONO ODON'T KNOW 71.73% 24.93%

3.34%

OPP officer cleared in Nipigon shooting

Victim advanced at police with a knife raised above his head

POLICEBy Leith Dunick - TB Source

An OPP officer will not face criminal charges in the 2016 shooting death of a 45-year-old Nipigon man.

An investigation conducted by Ontario's Special Investigations Unit revealed the victim, Daniel Legarde, who died of a gunshot wound to his abdomen, had refused to leave a Nipigon woman's residence on the night of Nov. 26, 2016.

Police were called and met the complainant up the street from her home.

Officers went to the home and the victim exited the residence carrying a kitchen knife. He was told to drop the weapon and refused, so police tazed him, to no effect. Legarde returned inside the home, slamming the door.

Moments later Legarde came outside again, this time with the knife raised and proceeded toward the officer, who fired one shot, hitting the man in the abdomen.

Emergency medical services were called immediately, but the man was pronounced dead upon arrival at the hospital.

"In my view, there are no reasonable grounds to believe that the (subject officer) committed a criminal offence in relation to the death of the complainant," said SIU director Tony Lopraco in the report absolving the unnamed officer of any criminality.

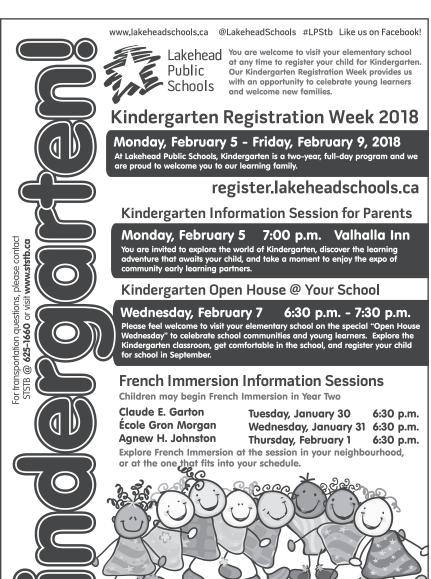
According to the report, earlier in the day Legarde had received a letter informing he owed more than \$100,000 in child support, which upset him. He then visited the complainant and the two started arguing after the victim began drinking.

"It is without question that the (officers) were acting in the course of their duty when they attended the (complainant's) house in response to her 911 call for assistance," Lopraco said in his report.

"The only issue necessary for me to consider is whether the shooting by the (officer) was justified. I am satisfied that it was pursuant to sections 34 and 25 of the Criminal Code. Section 34 provides the legal justification for the use of force in defence of self and defence of others.



GATHERING EVIDENCE: Police document the scene of a November 2016 shooting.



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HUGE GIFT: The cardiovascular surgery program at the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre got a significant boost on Monday when Tbaytel announced it will donate \$500,000. Pictured: Glenn Craig, president and CEO, Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Foundation (from left); Mark Henderson, executive vice-president, patient services, Jody Nesti, board chair with the TBRHSF; Dan Topatigh, president and CEO, Tbaytel; Eric Zakrewski, vice-chair capital campaign for the cardiovascular surgery program and Jean Bartkowiak, hospital president and CEO.

Tbaytel donating \$500K to hospital

"Cardiovas-

cular disease

is the No. 1

killer in our

region..."

Mark

HENDERSON

Money will help fund community's portion of the cardiac surgery program's costs

HEALTH By Leith Dunick - TB Source

an Topatigh, president of Tbaytel, on Monday said it was a great way for the municipally owned utility to give back to the community.

"Tbaytel is extremely proud to be providing such a significant gift to this much needed, long-awaited program. Having

access to care and services in our own neighbourhood of Thunder Bay and throughout Northwestern Ontario, is vitally important and partnerships are key to building what we need right here at home," Topatigh said in a release.

Under a deal with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, the province has committed to cover 90 per cent of the construction

It's up to the hospital and the community to come up with the

other 10 per cent, as well 100 per cent of the capital equipment costs.

It's believed the hospital foundation is

seeking in the neighbourhood of \$10 million. It's money well spent said executive vice-

president of patient services Mark Henderson.

"Our region is one where a large percentage of the population faces serious medical issues, Henderson said.

"Cardiovascular disease is the No. 1 killer in our region and our amputation rate is almost three times that of the rest of Ontario. This is specifically prevalent in our Indigenous community – meaning that local access to vascular surgery is critically important for our patients because they are losing limbs due to the lack of vascular surgery."

According to Henderson, once fully operational, the program will be able to service up to 1,000 patients a year, improving access to urgent and emergent cardiac surgery.

Thanks to Tbaytel, we will be able to move ahead with the program to bring cardiovascular surgery services to our Hospital and serve patients and families here

locally."

The vice chair of the fundraising campaign, Eric Zakrewski, says the money will transform and save

"We are exceptionally grateful to Tbaytel for providing their generosity and support of this program.'

"Tbaytel has been a part of our family of donors to the Hospital for quite some time. Today, they're actively ensuring that families across Northwestern Ontario can be

together - before, during and after surgery. Not only that, thousands of people in Northwestern Ontario will live longer, better lives thanks to the generosity they've shown today."

The program is expected to be up and running by 2020.



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Police adopting changes

Department will spend a year looking at how to improve relationships

THUNDER BAY By Leith Dunick - TB Source

he Thunder Bay Police Service is vowing to make changes in the way it operates.

The decision is a reaction to charges of systemic racism and a failure to act quickly enough on recommendations arising from the inquiry into the death of seven Indigenous students between 2001 and 2011.

Calling it a major, long-term undertaking and leaning on ideas gleaned from a trip to police departments in Saskatchewan, acting Police Chief Sylvie Hauth on Thursday said the Change Initiative will look at making improvements in four key areas, including diversity training, recruitment communications and community police.

The first step is to launch the Shaping our Future campaign, aimed at forming working groups both from within the police service and dedicated volunteers from the community to produce an initial vision for the initiative.

'We've obviously had a very busy year in 2017 in terms of a number of issues," Hauth said. "Not only have we been working on the inquest recommendations, but at the time the systemic review was called, we were also approached by the Human Rights

"At the time we agreed that we would be looking at our internal processes and identifying areas where we could start working and making improvements.

Among the goals is to restore relations between police and the greater community, particularly with the city's Indigenous popula-

Hauth said the plan will also respond to charges of systemic racism by restructuring the Aboriginal liaison unit, attempting to attract more Indigenous and other underrepresented groups to the Thunder Bay Police Service, offering diversity and culturally significant courses to employees and making



NEW DIRECTION: Acting police chief Sylvie Hauth says she's reacting to charges of systemic racism.

changes to internal and external communications to foster accountability through evaluations.

"We're hoping to have a working group in place by mid-February. The commitment we're asking people to commit to, both community members and internal members, is for a year, March 1, 2018 to March 1, 2019," Hauth said.

"Obviously we'll be reassessing as we go as we develop our next steps and our action

The project is a great step in the right directions, said Lakehead University professor and diversity initiative consultant Leisa Desmoulins.

"The vision for this new initiative is doable within the community and within the police service," Desmoulins said.

"In that way we are really expecting that it will have more ability to maintain that momentum.'

More information is available at www.thunderbaypolice.ca/change.

St. Joe's smokers mostly in compliance

By Gary Rinne - TB Source

even through a recent cold snap, St. Joseph's Hospital administration found that most smokers were complying with the recently-imposed prohibition against smoking anywhere on hospital property.

The ban went into effect in early December within the boundaries of the hospital property as well as the grounds of the Lakehead

Psychiatric Hospital. That was almost a full month ahead of a provincially-mandated ban that now covers all hospitals and psychiatric facilities in Ontario.

Janet Sillman, vice-president of addictions and mental health for St. Joseph's Care Group, said "the first month was to get us ready for the legislation...really, to get the message out

"Considering the very, very cold weather that we've experienced, it has gone very well. People have done their darndest," she said. Designated smoking areas established within the property lines of both facilities were eliminated under the ban. In the case of the LPH, that's forced smokers to take a long walk off the grounds in order to light up.

"We were all concerned about it because it's a bit of a hike, but our clients have done so well. They get dressed appropriately and make their way to the edge of the property, and smoke there," Sillman said.

TBLife

Farmer vs. machinery

Why is it always when the thermometer reads in the -25 C to -30 C range things go wrong? Or so it seems to Farmer Fred. Example: Saturday it was cold. Again. But still we had to deal with the equines that we'd brought into the barn out of the extreme temperatures for the night. Warm and safe, the horses munch away at their hay and have fresh pails of water from which to drink.

But as the cold came on and decided to remain each day and night, the main sliding door that separates the hay-storage area which is not insulated from the stable area wherein are located the stalls and which



is insulated, began to give me trouble when either trying to close or open. It got to the point that in the mornings when I wished to slide the door open so that we could lead out horses to their winter paddock,

having blanketed the two beasties most susceptible to the chill, I had to hit it with my shoulder. Ouch! Something popped and I still have a twitch of pain if I do anything strenuous on that side of my body ... like breathe (just kidding).

Ah, but then the thermometer rose and the door gave after repeated push-and-pull, me pulling or pushing and my wife, Laura, on the other end of the stuck door. It more or less released and for a couple of days opening and closing the door was not a problem. Until Jack Frost returned. Maybe I should push with the other shoulder.

Example Two: the cleaning of the stalls results in a mixture of horse 'apples', wood shavings that we use for bedding, and un-eaten hay, all of which is transported out to Mt. Crumpet and dumped. The carting of the stall leavings is done with quad towing a laden cart.

Over time, things break; they wear down. The starter on the quad has been rebuilt twice. A few months ago, before the cold set in, the gear shift began to misbehave. You would put it into reverse and while the gear shift moved back and forth, the gear itself remained in reverse. I soon learned that if I turned off the machine, I could put the gear into neutral to start the motor. Oh, and also the motor wasn't idling properly: it would just shut itself off. Ratz!

So, with the cart full of manure, I started the quad and drove out to, up and onto Mt. Crumpet. But I drove a tad too far off of the hard track that I had created. I put the quad into reverse and tried to back up. No go. The wheels just dug down into the soft snow. Ratz!

Well, perhaps (I thought) if I heave the full cart to the side to empty it, detach the cart and pull it aside, then without the weight, the quad will back up. Nope. With a big sigh, I walked back to the barn to tell Laura my tale of woe. "Get Doug (our son)," she ordered. I did and together we marched back each with a shovel to try and dig out the quad which was not hard to do. But now the quad wouldn't start or, it belched into life only to immediately die.

"How much fuel do you have in it?" asked Laura. Oops. "Er...it is slightly less than a quarter full," I replied sheepishly. "But you had the same problem with the tractor last week and you were told that you must always keep the fuel tank full during freezing temperatures," she said. Oh, yeah, right, sorry.

So, back I trudged to collect the fuel can and some gas-line antifreeze in the hopes that by repeated starting after filling the tank, it would fire up. It did, eventually. I put it in reverse and with Laura and Doug pushing, we got it free. But now I had the problem of the gears not wanting to go out of reverse. Now what?

I remembered Donny, our mechanic, hitting the gear lever located on the left side of the machine, with something solid. I found a heavy piece of metal in a storage box on the quad and managed to move the shifter into neutral so that I could start the machine. All I had to do was hitch up the cart and return the thing to the barn. Except that in the time it took to grab the cart and hitch it to the quad, the motor stalled. Now I had to start it again, rev the engine and take off back to the barn. New question: Will I ever learn?

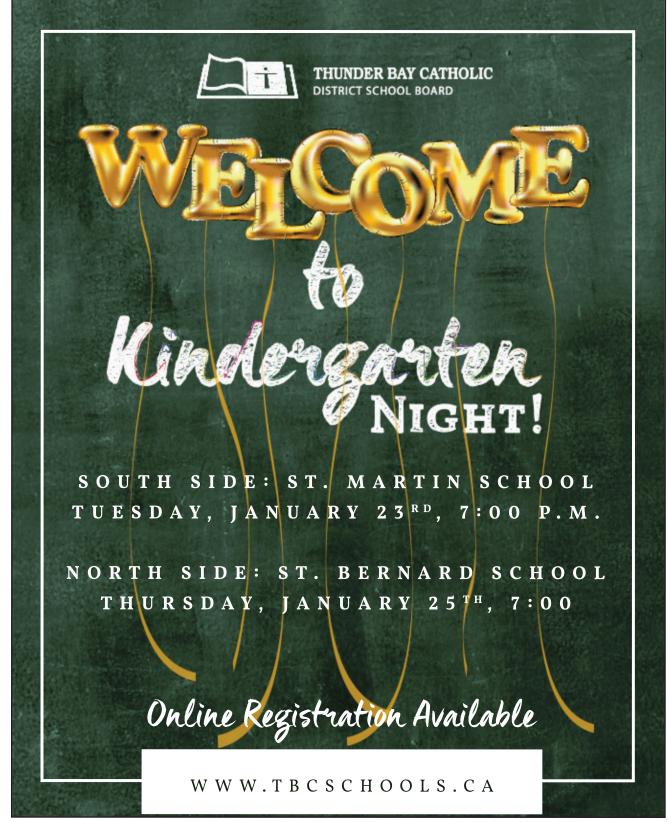
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Longtime Metis Nation senator dies

Bob McKay served in the political role from 1999 to 2015

OBITUARY By Leith Dunick - TB Source

ormer Metis Nation of Ontario senator Bob McKay has died at 82.A lighthouse keeper on the Great Lakes, McKay was a strong and trusted voice for the region, serving on boards and advisory committees for a number of organizations, including Lakehead University, the Northern Ontario School of Medicine, the City of Thunder Bay and the Labour Council for Aboriginal Youth.

McKay joined the Thunder Bay Metis Council in 1997 and was named

Thank you to our sponsors:

their senator in 1999, a role he'd fill for the next 16 years.

He was a 2013 recipient of the Oueen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubiliee Medal and has been called an inspiration to the country's Metis population.

"Senator Bob was such a beautiful man with such an amazing spirit. While we will feel this loss for a long time to come, we are blessed to have so many memories and prayers that he has shared with us," said Metis Nation Ontario president Margaret Froh in an obituary posted to the MNO website.

Jean Camirand, president of the MNO Thunder Bay Metis Council, echoed her thoughts.

"We will miss this amazing Metis elder, senator and citizen."

Gary Lipinski, former MNO president, called McKay an amazing person and a true elder.

"(He was) someone who was filled with historical and traditional knowledge and always willing to share. His

"We will miss

this amazing

Metis elder.

senator and

citizen."

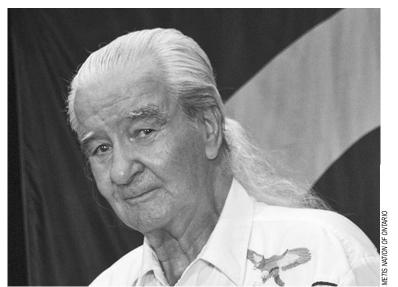
JEAN CAMIRAND

sense of humour was another gift and he knew just when to interject it to lighten the mood or keep a meeting on a positive track," Lipinski said on metisnation.org.

(He was) a true statesman, a gentleman, father, husband, and friend to all. He will be deeply missed but not forgotten in that he will

always remain with us in so many ways.'

McKay, who suffered from ALS in recent years, is survived by his wife Gloria and three daughters.



TRUE STATESMAN: Bob McKay was a lighthouse keeper for much of his life.



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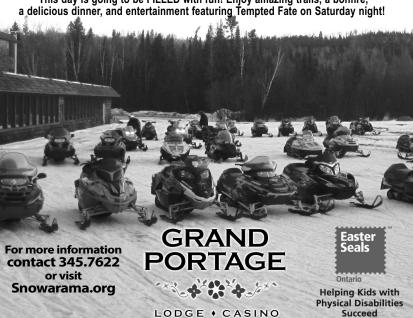
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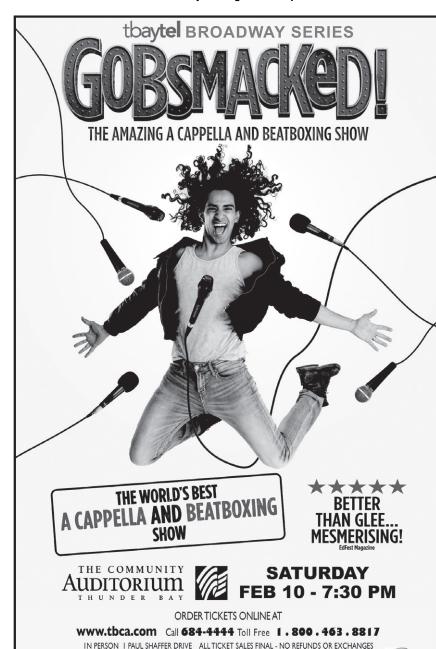
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The Chronicle Journal



Atwood thrills fans in visit

LITERATURE
By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Author Margaret Atwood keeps her promises. The Canadian icon, whose somewhat prophetic 1985 novel *The Handmaid's Tale* is sweeping the awards season after being turned into a highly acclaimed television show, on Wednesday said she had a choice to honour her commitment to come to Thunder Bay and speak or hit the red carpet in Los Angeles for the Golden Globe Awards.

"To tell you the truth, it was Thunder Bay or the Golden Globes. My prior commitment was to Thunder Bay," said Atwood, whose show picked up two trophies at Sunday night's ceremony, including best television drama.

Atwood, 78, spent more than an hour speaking with fans at Chapters local location, answering questions first from host Lisa Laco and then from the nearly overflow crowd that packed the store, where staff had won an internal corporate challenge by increasing sales of Atwood's books by 600 per cent.

Not surprisingly, much of the discussion centred around *The Handmaid's Tale*, a story of a dystopian future where the Church rules and women with the increasingly rare ability to conceive children are kept as breeding slaves for rich and powerful men.

Atwood, who also shared that in her younger days she helped arrange consumer taste tests for new food products like Pop Tarts and discussed thoughts on how to get rid of her corpse when she dies, said when she wrote her most famous novel she never ruled out the possibility parts of it might come true. There's a reason for that, she added.

"Some people think history is a kind of steady progression into a glorious future. I don't think that because I've read too much history. Things go and then you don't want them to go back, but sometimes they do," she said.

"When *Handmaid's Tale* first came out in 1985, some people said, 'Margaret, good story, but what an imagination you have,' and this would never happen. That's why I was very careful to put into it nothing that hadn't already happened – so nothing new on the human smorgasbord. I did not make it



GOOD TALK: Margaret Atwood spent more than an hour last Wednesday discussing her novel The Handmald's Tale.

up and what people have done they can do it again."

Atwood said Offred, the main character in the book, is not a heroine, but simply trying to survive the here-and-now, an attribute she ascribes to most people in the world.

Given the success of the television adaptation and the need for more material Atwood was asked the inevitable question, if she planned to write a sequel to *The Handmaid's Tale*, a book she said she wrote as a pushback against the right trying to regain ground lost in the protest movements of the 1960s and 1970s.

"I'm not telling," she said, the crowd laughing and simultaneously gasping at the same time.

"I never tell what I'm thinking of writing because what if I change my mind? I will be on record here with you and it will be on the internet forever that I said I was doing X and I didn't do it," Atwood said.

"We'll never tell anybody," Laco said.

"Yes you will," Atwood replied. "You'll tell everybody immediately."

Atwood, whose novels include *Alias Grace* and *The Robber Bride*, was also asked which one of her works is her favourite.

Again, she played it coy.

"I would never answer that in a million years. All the other books would rise up against me and be very angry," Atwood said. "I would never put myself in that position. All you can say about them is that each book is good at its own thing. You can't all be rocket scientists."

She did not address the #MeToo op-ed controversy that surrounded her later in the week.



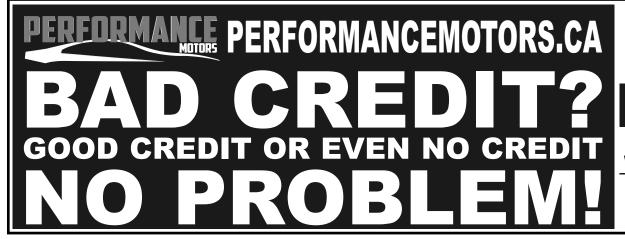




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Polar Plunge returning on April 7

Event took a one-year hiatus, will help local charities raise funds

THUNDER BAY
By Doug Diaczuk - TB Source

Jumping into one of the coldest lakes on the planet when it's still covered in ice isn't so bad, just ask Special Olympic athlete, Thomas Boyse, who has done it more than eight times.

"You kind of feel the coldness once you jump in, and you think: it's so cold, but once you get out, they have nice warm tents, so once you get out, you think: this is amazing," he said.

Boyes and many others are getting ready to brave the cold water once again during the return of the Thunder Bay Polar Bear Plunge. After a year hiatus, the popular fundraising event is returning this April.

"We are super excited to be back again this year," said event coordinator, Warren Giertuga. "We had one year taken off because we needed to realign things to make it a more community focused event and partner up with some charities that support us locally. All of the charities we are involved with now are all local."



READY TO TAKE THE PLUNGE: Organizers, volunteers, and participants are excited for the return of the Thunder Bay Polar Bear Plunge on Apr. 7 at the Marina Park Boat Launch.

This year the plunge will support the Thunder Bay Special Olympics, the 2020 Special Olympic Winter Games that is being hosted by Thunder Bay, and Roots to Harvest.

According to Giertuga, the last time the Polar Bear Plunge was held, more than 300 people and dozens of teams from the Cool Schools program participated and it raised more than \$82,000. With its return, Giertuga believes that total will grow, and he expects it to raise more than \$85,000.

"We have the opportunity to spread that out between three charities and I think it is better and I think the community is going to embrace it a little more, too," he said.

Erin Beagle, executive director of Roots to Harvest, said there was a lot of synergy between the community grassroots organization and the Polar Bear Plunge.

"Having this opportunity to partner at this level was really exciting," she said. "They were really adamant that they wanted all the fundraising efforts to stay local and that's a good message to bring more organizations on board to do that."

As a non-for-profit organization, Roots to Harvest relies heavily on fundraising and grants to provide programming throughout the community. Beagle said last year, more than \$160,000 was paid out in youth wages alone.

"This helps for all of our programming in schools, for all of our programming in kitchens, hiring youth throughout the summer, and all the outreach work we do in communities," she said.

For anyone who might be a little nervous, unsure, or just down right scared of jumping into a hole in the ice on Lake Superior, just remember, you're not doing it alone, which makes it one of the warmest events of the year.

"The people are there, hundreds of people come out to watch, and people are cheering you on," Giertuga said. "You are not necessarily going in by yourself, you are going with everybody else. The adrenaline and the excitement takes away that cold."

"It's a lot of fun and you see all these people on the sidelines cheering you on," Boyes added. "I would say who ever has never done it to give it a try and see what you think of it."

The Polar Bear Plunge will be held on Apr. 7, 2018 at the Marina Park Boat Launch, with an after party at the Prince Arthur Hotel. For more information, visit thunderbaypolarplunge.ca.



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Hollywood award season officially begins

From now through the Oscars, award shows rule on TV

ollywood has officially kicked off its award show season.

Yes, just like Canadians have brief seasons when fruits don't taste like cardboard, the entertainment industry has a brief socially-acceptable period of self-appreciation.

In fact, between last week's Golden Globes and the Oscars in March, there are 13 opportunities for celebrities to starve themselves and dress up in borrowed designer fashions. The awards shows include Critics Choice. NAACP Image, Producers Guild, Directors Guild, Writers Guild, Screen Actors Guild, and Independent Spirit just to name a few.

39 Dried up

42 Orbiting

Astronomical Observatory (abbr.) 44 Doctor of Library

(abbr.)

40 Commodore

Sciences (abbr.)

48 African native

56 Imitator 57 P.I. dyewood tree

58 Mineral deposit 59 System (abbr.)

60 Red dye root

61 Boat

50 Blockhead

51 Weapon



And the greatest discussion leading up to each event focuses on who is hosting said celebration of excess. I mean, success.

Not nominated

Big names are always on the marquee that night. But I can't understand how.

When you host an awards show, it basically announces to the world that

you weren't even nominated for anything. And awards shows are frankly, rather boring for the viewer unless someone streaks across the stage in their altogether or causes some kind of uproar during their speech. But that means you have to stay awake between those brief moments of excitement.

That also means it's up to the host to keep viewers interested, often literally breaking out in song and dance to keep the momentum going. And critics are rarely kind in grading their efforts.

Seth Meyers hosted The Golden Globes, the biggest "party" in which liquor flows freely and stars are often half in the bag. But this year's event was also the first award show after the sexual misconduct scandals. So I thought he walked the razor's edge rather well. Critics did not agree.

They rarely do. Jokes are considered

pandering to the elite in the room. Trying to make a social statement comes across as preachy or selfserving. And production numbers are ridiculed.

Doesn't always work

The biggest of them all, the Oscars, seems to have scarred its hosts the most. Seth MacFarlane was hired for his edgy humour which all-but-disappeared in front of the live audience. A disastrous Anne Hathaway and James Franco combination were the Academy's answer to the youth movement.

Post 9-11, Ellen DeGeneres was hired to bring her feel-good TV show to the night. Chris Rock was meant to prove that Hollywood wasn't "too white." Hugh Jackman presented "Oscars: The Musical" while Jon Stewart made a politically-correct,

self-deprecating Hollywood his punchline.

And their efforts were met with mixed reviews. So emceeing doesn't add much cache to one's Hollywood street cred.

Maybe it's the money. The paycheque varies from show to show. However, according to reports, it starts out mid-four and tops out in the midfive figures.

So why in the name of Kardashian would someone host an awards show? Is it the adage that any publicity is good publicity?

Last year, the Jimmy Kimmel-hosted Oscars made history by giving the Best Picture Award to the wrong movie. Consequently, nobody even thought to critique its host. Maybe that's why Jimmy's returning this March. Wonder what he'll do to avoid a report card again this year.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- Ancient race of Japan Ship's wheel Socialist Labor
- Party (abbr.)
 12 Ancient Gr. city
 13 Large lake
 14 Hawaiian
- assembly 15 Pirate (2 words) 17 Experimental
- (abbr.) 18 Corinthians (abbr.) 19 Barons
- 21 Here lies buried (abbr.)
- 24 Jap. fish 26 Border for a picture 27 Talk stupidly 29 Promise to pay
- 31 Dog salmon 34 Roman number
- 35 Celestial body 36 Scandinavian navigator 37 National (abbr.)
- 38 Multilateral Nuclear Force (abbr.)

DOWN Bronze money

- Capable of (suf.) Nat'l Intelligence Authority (abbr.) United States
- Reserve Corps Judaism
- Tarzan creator's initials



ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

- 8 Lake near Sea of Galilee Protected
- - 10 Extravagant 11 Playing card spots 16 Out (Scot.) 20 Roasts
 - 21 Ode Jackfruit
 - 23 Gear
 - 46 Descry 47 Cloud (pref.) 49 Mere 52 Narrow inlet of a river 53 Portuguese
 - territory in India 54 Man's name:

25 Demeter's other

28 Aviator

30 Unjustly 32 Twirl (Scot.)

33 Expert pilots 41 Doctor

43 African sorcery

(abbr.) 45 Sheep's cries

55 Relative (abbr.)

WORD SEARCH

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Idiotic Adviser Delinguencies Moose Sooty Annoy Demean Navel Spied Ashamed Dressed Stigma Needv Assignmen Ferier Outdoors Suede Beard Eiect Teeters Pecan Canoe Enforces Preens Tinged Cited Entry Racks Traces Civic Freed Ridae Tuners Waddles Contemptuous Sleeve

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TM Enigma cryptograms are created from quotations stands for another letter. Hint: "X" = "L

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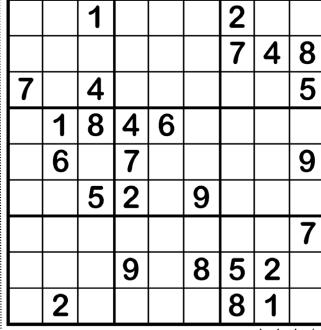
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Sudoku

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Sports news information | coverage



TOP SCORER: St. Ignatius forward Jared Kreiner (centre) works his way past Hammarskjold's Will McDonaough.

Falcons take title

"It wasn't

iust one

person, it

was the

whole team

who

contributed

to this W."

JARED KREINER

BASKETBALL By Leith Dunick - TB Source

ared Kreiner's got a few things left to accomplish before he decides where he's playing basketball next

For the St. Ignatius star on Saturday, the only goal was helping deliver a Falcons Invitational championship against their cross-city rival Hammarskjold Vikings.

After a slow start, they got the job done. It was Kreiner leading the way.

The son of Lakehead University women's basketball coach Jon Kreiner, the soon-tograduate youngster poured in 29 points to lead the Falcons past the Vikings 63-49 to capture the tournament championship, the school's second straight as hosts.

For his efforts, Kreiner was named tournament most valuable player.

"It wasn't really just one person, it was the whole team who contributed to this W. It feels great," Kreiner said.

Finished strong

It was a tale of two halves for both teams.

The second-place Vikings (7-1) kept it close for the first two quarters, leading by one after the opening

eight minutes after Liam Wrigley buried a turnaround jumper as time ran out in the first. The lead changed hands five times in the second quarter, but it was Kreiner who delivered the final blow,

draining the fourth of six three-pointers he'd hit on the

night to push the Falcons in front for good, 35-33.

St. Ignatius coach Matt Erdman, whose team tops the Superior Secondary Schools Athletic Association standings, said his troops made the necessary adjustments at halftime, in particular stopping Vikings star Roddy Wigwas, who had 13 at the half and finished with 19.

The Falcons allowed just 16 second-half points.

"I thought the guys picked it up as the tournament went on," said Erdman, who also serves as an assistant under Lakehead's interim men's basketball coach Ryan

> "I thought they did an unbelievable job of making the adjustments they needed to make in the second half to eliminate some of the easy looks those guys got – although they made some really tough shots in the first half."

Got hot

Jayme Koski, the Falcons 6-foot-6 forward, clearly found his form in the third and fourth, scoring 11 of his 13 points after the break.

"Coach just said stick to the game plan, keep working hard and play defence. That's pretty much it and it took care of itself," said Koski, glad his offensive touch finally came around in

the second half.

"I wasn't contributing too much in the first half, so I tried to step it up and score some points.'

St. Ignatius (8-0), who also got 14 from Alex Buset, extended their lead to 11 after three and coasted to victory in the fourth, a 7-0 run after the Vikings Will McDonough dropped back-to-back buckets to pull Hammarskjold within seven, down 50-43, sealing the triumph.

Ice racing returns to Lake Superior

ICE RACING

By Doug Diaczuk – TB Source

When racing on sheer ice with bare rubber tires through a cloud of snow that makes seeing even the hood of the car next to impossible, you have to be quick, and not just with the gas pedal.

"You gotta have fast hands," said driver, Amber Kelly.

"You have to have fast reaction time and know how to keep your car under control and just try to keep an eye on other cars that are coming past you or behind you," added driver, Chelsea Sacek. "It can throw you off if you are focusing too much on it and then you lose track of where you're driving."

Kelly, 18, has been participating in ice racing for the last three years, and Sacek for six, and on Sunday, they were out in the cold and ready to take to the track on

Mission Bay for the start of the 2018 Thunder Bay Autosports Club ice racing season.

Last year, the season got off to a late start and several races had to be cancelled because warm weather caused delays in preparing the track. Gary Adomko, president of the Thunder Bay Autosports Club, said he is very pleased to be kicking off this year's season on time.

"Mother nature being kind of back to normal, we did get the cold we normally get, which allowed us time to plow and get the track set up and start on our normal schedule of the second weekend in January," he said.

There were more than 20 cars out on Sunday in the rubber tire class and the studded tire class. And while the season is kicking off on time thanks to some very cold weather, the -15C temperatures can cause some problems for drivers.



ON TRACK: More than 20 racers took part in last Sunday's ice racing competitions.

Lakehead

"The cold weather does give us a little bit of a problem with ice dust, so it hinders a little bit of the visibility out there," Adomko said.

Kelly said being on the track in those conditions can be really challenging, and

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even though every car is fitted with a bright light on the back, sometimes it's difficult to even see five feet ahead.

But it's all part of the excitement, which is why Kelly and Sacek got involved in the sport to begin with.

"It's a lot of fun and you never know what to expect," Kelly said. "Every race is different and a lot of emotions start going. Either you're happy because you're winning or your car doesn't start. It's an adventure."

"It's mostly the adrenaline and it's a lot of fun competing against other cars," Sacek added. "We go to the dirt track in the summer time. It's a totally different setting, but it helps with normal driving skills out on the road."

And the skills picked up out on the track can really come in handy, added Kelly, who has only been driving for the last three years.







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- 07. Commercial for Sale
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- 09. Out of Town
- 10. Real Estate Wanted

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- 12. Apartments
- 13 Rooms 14. Room & Board
- 15. Shared Accommodations
- 16. Cottages
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- 19. Wanted
- 20. Condos
- 21. Miscellaneous

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- 24. Antiques
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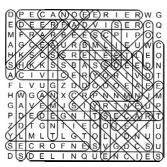


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