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THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2018

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Canadian Publications Agreement No. 0662445 Vol.15 No. 12

National champs

Lakehead goes undefeated in capturing their second straight ACHA women's hockey title /16



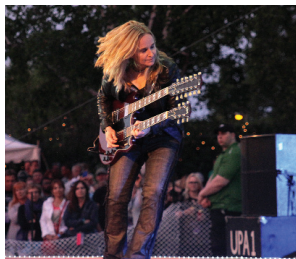
BACK-TO-BACK: Lakehead's women's hockey team took the ACHA women's Division 2 women's hockey national championship, downing Minot State University 5-1 in Columbus, Ohio on Sunday.

INSIDE ARSON SUSPECTED



Man arrested after fire kills house pets /4

LINEUP UNVEILED



Female singers dominate Blues Fest bill /12

SKIERS TAKE GOLD

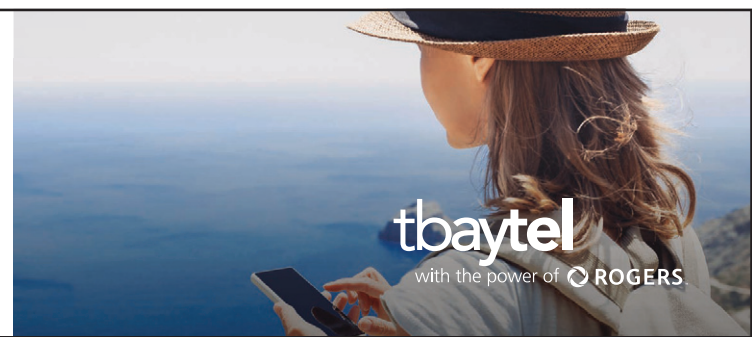


Local athletes dominate Ski Nationals /16-17

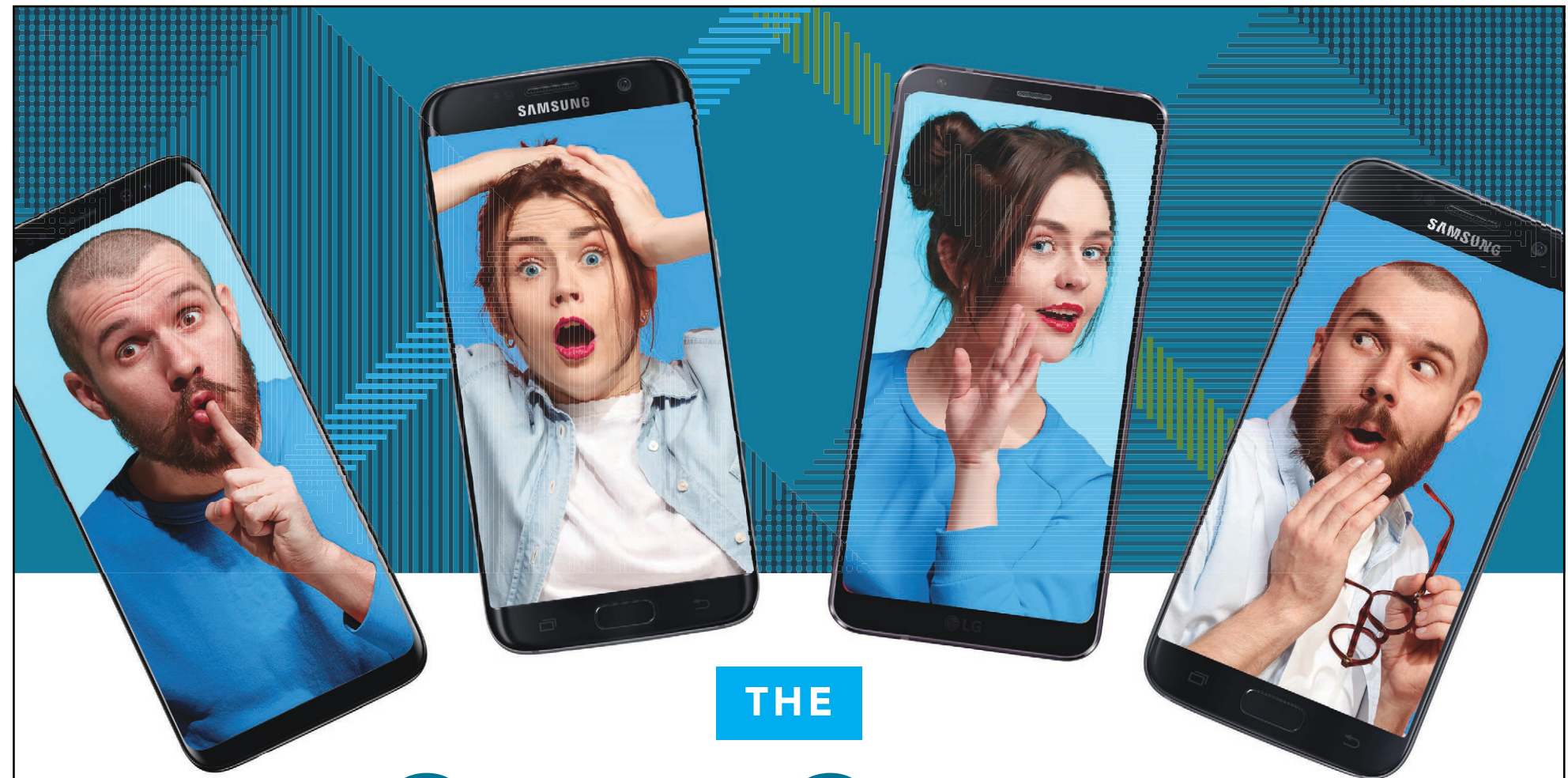
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LOCAL NEWS



MOVING SLOWLY: The proposed East-West Tie will stretch 450 kilometres along the north shore of Lake Superior.

Nextbridge committed to East-West Tie plan

CITY HALL
By Matt Vis – TB Source

The consortium that was originally selected to develop a 450-kilometre transmission line along the north shore of Lake Superior is intent on moving forward to meet a 2020 completion date, despite Hydro One's application to take over the project.

The Ontario Energy Board in 2013 designated NextBridge Infrastructure as the developer of the East-West Tie, which would connect the Lakehead Transformer Station just east of Thunder Bay to the Wawa Transformer Station.

A partnership was formalized last December between NextBridge and Valard, the general contractor tapped to build the line. It was also announced the project includes an equity stake for the six North Shore First Nations communities and the creation of SuperCom Industries, an economic development corporation to pursue contracting, procurement and training opportunities.

But earlier this year Hydro One filed a leave to construct before the Ontario Energy Board after the province directed the Independent Electricity System Operator to review all options after the cost of the NextBridge proposal had risen to \$777 million, significantly higher than their more than \$400 million bid four years earlier.

Ferio Pugliese, Hydro One's executive vice president of customer care and corporate affairs, last month said their Lake Superior Link concept would cut \$100 million and 50 kilometres off the project by using their existing corridor through Pukaskwa National Park, as well as \$3 million in annual savings in maintenance costs.

Speaking to Thunder Bay city council on Monday night, NextBridge project developer Jennifer Tidmarsh made it clear they are not backing down.

"We are 100 per cent committed to this project," Tidmarsh said. "We have been working on it for five years. We are the only project that will be able to make a 2020 in-service date. We've spent quite a lot of money – almost \$60 million – already investing in this project without any sort of recovery."

Coun. Iain Angus and Coun. Larry Hebert, co-chairs of the Common Voice Northwest Energy Task Force, wrote a letter to Hydro One expressing the advocacy group's position that NextBridge should receive approval and urged Hydro One to focus on improving three existing lines in Northwestern Ontario.

In a response letter to Angus and

Hebert, Hydro One vice president of transmission and stations Andrew Spence said the savings "more than offset the additional months delay in construction startup," adding Hydro One is confident it is "a gap we can bridge to ensure no significant interruptions to economic development plans."

The Ontario Energy Board has emphasized the importance of electrifying the line by 2020, Tidmarsh said.

"It was surprising that Hydro One about a month ago submitted their own leave to construct but for a 2021 in-service date," Tidmarsh said. "We had not had any indication from the Ontario Energy Board besides some rumours and scuttlebutt as you do in the industry that they were considering something like this."







NextBridge is planning to have shovels in the ground beginning this November to meet their 2020 targets but that is dependent on their final plans getting the greenlight.


"We are relying on the Ontario Energy Board to provide us approval for our leave to construct in July of this year," Tidmarsh said, adding the application was made last July. "We need the Ontario Energy Board to approve our project so we can continue to construct it."

"We are 100 per cent committed to this project. We have been working on it for five years."

JENNIFER TIDMARSH

Weather Forecast

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <p>Mainly sunny</p> <p>Probability of Precipitation: 20% HIGH 1 LOW -10</p>	 <p>Mainly sunny</p> <p>Probability of Precipitation: 20% HIGH 0 LOW -10</p>	 <p>Mainly sunny</p> <p>Probability of Precipitation: 20% HIGH -4 LOW -12</p>
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
 <p>A mix of sun and clouds</p> <p>Probability of Precipitation: 20% HIGH -4 LOW -5</p>	 <p>Mainly sunny</p> <p>Probability of Precipitation: 10% HIGH 1 LOW -3</p>	 <p>Light snow</p> <p>Probability of Precipitation: 70% HIGH 3 LOW -3</p>



Vitamin C for Collagen?

W. Gifford-Jones, MD (age 94)

Everyone is talking about collagen these days, and with good reason. As we age, the body's production of collagen slows down, which can result not only in aging skin, but also contributes to osteoarthritis, osteoporosis and many other conditions, including declining cardiovascular health. This is where vitamin C comes in.

Vitamin C is the single most important water-soluble antioxidant in the human body. Aside from supporting immune health, vitamin C is needed to manufacture collagen, the major component of the body's connective tissues, including cartilage, tendons, ligaments, bones and most importantly, blood vessels.

High doses of vitamin C, combined with lysine, support healthy arteries and overall cardiovascular health. Vitamin C is required to manufacture healthy collagen, the glue that holds coronary cells together, just like mortar is needed for bricks. Lysine, like steel rods in cement, makes collagen stronger. Together they provide healthier arteries and reduce risk of heart attack and stroke.

Coronary arteries are under more pressure than any other artery in the body. The heart beats 100,000 times every 24 hours and 2.2 billion times if you live to 70 years of age. Without healthy arteries, this constant pounding causes minute cracks in collagen, resulting in atherosclerosis, blood clots, or rupturing of a weakened artery, resulting in a stroke.

As we age, the key to healthy collagen for cardiovascular health, joint health, teeth, gums, wound healing, and more is vitamin C combined with lysine. If that doesn't convince you, all the beauty experts will also tell you that collagen helps keep skin looking youthful.

I've been taking high doses of vitamin C and lysine for 20 years following my heart attack. I still enjoy travelling, writing my columns, and I also rappelled down Toronto City Hall to help raise funds for Make-A-Wish® Canada. I turned 94 this year - not bad!

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- W. Gifford-Jones, MD



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VITAMIN C & L-LYSINE FORMULA

LOCAL NEWS

IN BRIEF

Stabbing injures victim

A man was sent to hospital following a stabbing outside a north side bar early Monday morning.

In a media release issued Monday morning, Thunder Bay Police said officers responded to a 911 call at approximately 1:30 a.m. at the corner of Court Street and Bay Street.

A 51-year-old man was found with stab wounds and treated by paramedics at the scene. He was transported to the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre where he is still receiving treatment.

A 42-year-old man was arrested by Thunder Bay Police and charged with aggravated assault.

The investigation is ongoing and police are asking anyone with any information regarding this incident to contact them at 684-1200 or Crime Stoppers at 800-222-8477.

City not dangerous

Despite the negative attention Thunder Bay has received from some national news media in recent years, the latest data from Statistics Canada shows the city's reputation as a hotbed for crime may not be completely deserved.

Maclean's magazine analyzed

police-reported crimes across the country in 2016, and determined that, in respect to all crimes, Thunder Bay is the 58th most dangerous community in Canada.

With a Crime Severity Index of 89, Thunder Bay's CSI is far below that of numerous communities in western Canada.

The CSI is a rating that takes into account the volume and the seriousness of criminal offences.

North Battleford, Saskatchewan leads the list with a CSI of 353. Among cities with populations similar to Thunder Bay, Prince George, B.C. has a CSI of 154, putting it 11th on the list.

Thunder Bay's crime rate looks much less favourable in separate ratings for homicides—where the city is 8th—and for violent crime, where the city is listed in the 22nd position.

In the rankings for robbery rates, Thunder Bay is 12th. Winnipeg, Edmonton, Saskatoon, Regina and Toronto are among the cities with worse robbery rates.

Unlike some other reports on crime rates which have focused only on selected cities, the *Maclean's* report includes data from 229 communities across the country.

Arson suspected in fire

A 28-year-old man arrested after pets die in Banning Street fire

THUNDER BAY
By TB Source staff

A man has been charged with arson following a fire that destroyed a Banning Street home and killed three dogs.

According to a Thunder Bay Police Service media release, officers were called to a home on the 100 block of Banning Street late Sunday evening after receiving reports of a man acting irrationally.

Upon arrival, police discovered the home fully engulfed in flames and Thunder Bay Fire Rescue were called to assist with extinguishing a fire.

All residents were evacuated and there were no reports of injuries, but three dogs inside the home were found unresponsive and attempts to resuscitate them were unsuccessful.

Police arrested a 28-year-old man under the Mental Health Act a short time later on Bay Street. He was transported to the Thunder Bay Regional



SUSPICIOUS BLAZE: Police hold the scene Monday at the site of a Banning Street fire.

Sciences Centre and remains there under police custody.

The man is facing charges of arson and killing an animal. He made his

first court appearance on Monday and has been remanded.

Police remain on the scene as the investigation continues.



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LOCAL NEWS

Local man snowmobiles to Alaska

Hugh Cummins took the trip to fundraise for diabetes research

THUNDER BAY
By Gary Rinne - TB Source

A Thunder Bay man celebrated a milestone birthday—his 60th—far from home and well into the second leg of a marathon snowmobiling expedition from Maine to Alaska.

Along the way, Hugh Cummins was raising money for diabetes research.

Cummins returned to Thunder Bay on Saturday from Fairbanks, Alaska after finishing an 8,000-kilometre-long trip that spanned two years.

He was part of a 10-member team from Canada and the U.S. who rode their machines from Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan to Fairbanks, finishing the fundraising expedition that saw them ride from Maine to Michigan last year.

Cummins says he will always remember the way the group was treated by strangers they encountered during the trip.

"I'm really proud of the people that we ran into. What absolutely floored me was the openness of the people across the prairie provinces. When we rode to a restaurant we'd go in and buy lunch and maybe spend a couple of hundred dollars, then the restaurant owner would hand us a cheque for maybe a hundred dollars," Cummins recalled in an interview



UP NORTH: Hugh Cummins in the Klondike goldfield during his trek to Alaska.

Monday with *Thunder Bay Source*.

"I'm really proud of the people we ran into."
HUGH CUMMINS

"Or we'd buy gas at a gas station and, after paying, the owner would come out and put \$50 in our pockets."

Cummins said that in one community they were greeted by a young boy with juvenile diabetes who showed up at lunch so he could meet the team and donate \$30 to the cause.

"These were people that we knew nothing about, that were inspired by what we were doing, or just so happy that we were raising awareness, that they wanted to say 'thanks for giving back.' Those are the people that I really want to thank for supporting a cause that's dear to me."

One of the reasons Cummins supports diabetes research is that such a large percentage of northerners, especially Indigenous people, suffers from the disease.

None of the donations the group received will go toward their expenses, he said. "We pay for our own trip. They're our snowmobiles, our gas, our food, our lodging."

The snowmobilers, for the most part, used groomed trails during the journey and were careful to maintain a "safety first" attitude throughout.

One of the highlights was following the route of February's Yukon Quest sled dog race between Whitehorse and Fairbanks.

"We requested that they leave the stakes in for the route that marks that trail.

"We hired local guides for that section so we could use their expertise," Cummins said.

He described himself as an infant in this kind of snowmobiling.

"Seven years ago I ran into a guy who talked about doing 7,000 or 8,000 kilometres in a year and I looked at him, I think, as if he had horns coming out of his head. I was just used to going along a bumpy northern Ontario trail to go ice-fishing."

Cummins, who plans to retire from the workforce this year, expects to take part in more adventures next year and in the years ahead.

He's left his machine in Alaska, and hopes at some point to join several of the team members on a ride from Fairbanks to Nome, on the Bering Sea.

"Then we can say we rode coast-to-coast, from Maine to Nome."

Donations to Diabetes Canada can be made through the website MichCanSka.com, or by emailing Cummins at hughcummins@shaw.ca.

Do you have an opinion to share?

E-mail the editor at ldunick@dougallmedia.com

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Inside the Picture Store

Editorial

EDITORIAL

2018 election season here

Election season is in full swing in Ontario.

How can you tell?

It's not that tough, just look for the political leaders promising the world to anyone who will listen.

The NDP's Andrea Horwath on Monday said if she's elected her party will institute universal dental care and pharmacare program.

That same day, in what might be her final throne speech as leader of the province, Premier Kathleen Wynne offered up a number of platform planks, including improvements to child care, health care and home care.

Oh, and dental care and pharmacare too. It seems like our leaders are a caring bunch of politicians.

Progressive Conservative Leader Doug Ford, who has promised to halt a planned minimum-wage hike to \$15 an hour, has also pledged to slash hydro rates, replace the sex-ed curriculum and lower wait times at hospitals. He's also discussed privatizing medical marijuana sales.

Over the course of the next 11 weeks, all three leaders, and the Green Party's Mike Schreiner, will commit to billions of dollars in new spending or pie-in-the-sky ideas that play well to the base, but don't really accomplish anything for the taxpayer.

Or in Ford's case, he'll promise to slash spending, with no real plan to accomplish his goal.

Buckle up and hang onto your wallets, it's going to be a wild ride.

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Gravelle responds to Ford

To the editor:

At a time when Ontarians need a government that chooses to invest in our hospitals, mental health, long-term care and child care, Doug Ford and the Conservatives are instead only offering an agenda filled with massive cuts to hospitals, schools and other important public services.

Doug Ford wants to roll back the \$15 minimum wage, and by abandoning their own plans for a conservative carbon tax, Doug Ford is walking away from taking any action on climate change.

His reckless scheme to kill a price on pollution and rush to balance the budget will put as many as 40,000 public sector jobs at risk too. That means less nurses and less teachers. It means higher class sizes, longer waits for healthcare and fewer community supports.

It's too little, too late for Doug Ford and the Conservatives to claim they have Northern Ontario's back now.

They voted against boosting our Northern Health Travel Grant by \$10 million to help people traveling long distances to access specialized medical care.

They voted against increasing funding for the ONTC bus service to buy more buses and increase service to more communities.

They voted against establishing a basic income pilot in my hometown of Thunder Bay. And they voted against our \$1 billion commitment to get shovels in the ground and build all-season road access to the Ring of Fire.

The Conservatives have a consistent record of voting against what matters most to Northerners.

Our Ontario Liberal team has three cabinet ministers, including myself, who call Northern Ontario home and we're at the table for every discussion and every decision.

Thanks to our input and the premier's belief in the importance of the region, Northern Ontario always has a voice.

I know that input will continue under an Ontario Liberal government and that we will continue to fight for what's best for families and will continue to invest in care.

Michael Gravelle,
Minister of Northern Development
and Mines

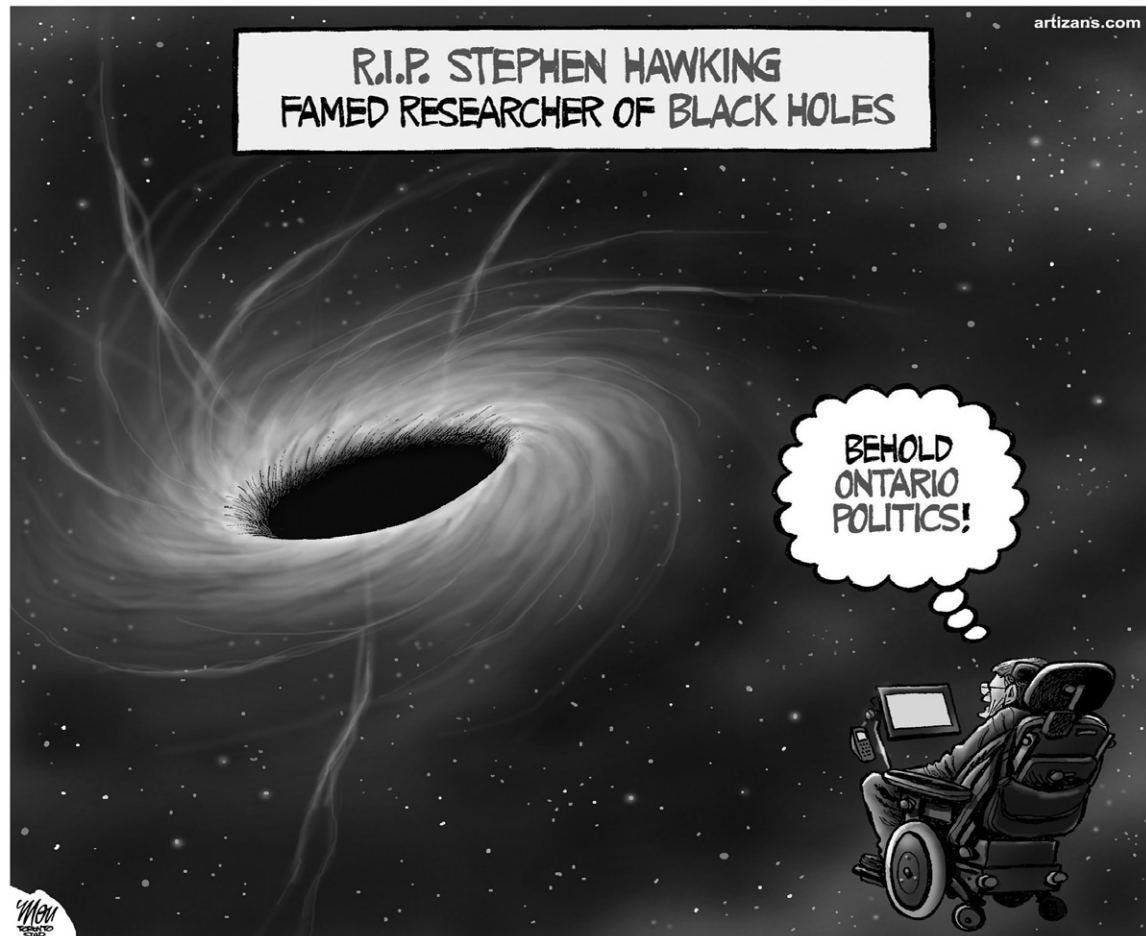
Firefighters work hard

To the editor:

Few members of the community experience the traumas that police, EMTs and firefighters have to deal with while on the job.

Death and injuries due to traffic, fires and other incidents that people who are not involved just don't see.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Every fire team holds an after-action review after an incident.

It is held in a safe room. Each member knows that "what is said and what is done in the safe room stays in the safe room."

There is no rank, each member of the team has a chance to discuss, one, what happened; two, what did we do right, and three, what could we have done better.

We all have to get rid of the stress of the job.

Some use coffee, others tobacco and others need a drink.

Dryden, no one on your fire team is going to respond to a call if they have been drinking.

Give them a break, The job is tough enough and getting and hanging onto volunteers is hard to do.

Ask the people who are complaining to join the team and the answer you will get "I don't have the time to volunteer."

Vince Patcheson
Nolalu Emergency Services Team.
Nolalu

Decrease bus waits

To the editor:

Spend the transit money on having more frequent stops instead of once every 30 to 40 minutes.

Also, we need to look at designing

our main south-north corridors in a way that allows space for designated bicycle lanes and bus lanes.

Tanner Harris,
Thunder Bay
Via Facebook

Gardens or bust

To the editor:

You are losing a lot of money by having the Grand Slam of Curling's Tour Challenge at the Tournament Centre. What is wrong with Thunder Bay?

A big event like this should be run at the Fort William Gardens.

Dennis Pacquette,
Thunder Bay
Via Facebook

No new subdivision

To the editor:

No, we don't need another subdivision on the outskirts of town. We complain and complain about our taxes going up yet we support these developments.

They do not pay for themselves, period. Someone should remind Councilor Giertuga of the definition of "infill".

Our population hasn't really grown in over 50+ years yet our cities foot

print continues to expand. It seems council fails to understand that all growth is not good growth.

Shaun Ellithorpe
Thunder Bay
Via Facebook

Say no to Hedley

To the editor:

I can't believe anyone would still want to see Hedley after all these women have come forward with their accusations against Jacob Hoggard.

Michael Porter,
Thunder Bay
Via Facebook

Teach screen safety early

To the editor:

Devices with screens are going to be part of their entire lives whether we like it or not. Instead of parents regulating their kids' time on them, how about we teach self-regulation and moderation.

Let them know what it does to their bodies and minds at an early age. Don't make it the forbidden fruit. People hoard forbidden fruits.

Travis McGrath,
Thunder Bay
Via Facebook

Perspective

Hawking's legacy

Famed physicist was a giant in the scientific world

OPINION
By J.R. Shermack
Special to TB Source

Some things really are one of a kind, some things only happen once and some people will never pass this way again.

Sometimes when good people die they take things with them that can't ever be replaced and the whole world mourns the loss.

We miss the human compassion of Mother Theresa now that she's gone and the passionate poetry of Leonard Cohen, recently silenced.

Their loss is difficult enough and now we must cope with the loss of yet another triumphant citizen of the Universe.

Stephen Hawking spent his adult life contemplating the mystery of black holes and relativity and the future of the human race.

He didn't avoid unpleasant conclusions and while some of his predictions are grim, they are often softened by his flair for sassy science.

Smart and funny

He was widely known to have a good measure of common sense and a good sense of humor which served him well.

Eddie Redmayne, who portrayed Hawking in film, called the physicist "the funniest man I ever met".

Benedict Cumberbatch played Hawking in a TV movie and remembers well his "wickedly funny sense of humor".

As he was contemplating the universe I wonder what Mr. Hawking saw that made him appreciate a good laugh.

I once saw footage of Stephen Hawking floating weightlessly inside "G-Force One" in 2007 and his childish grin is what I remember.

While he was spinning and twirling inside that Boeing 727 he was momentarily freed from the physical constraints of his crippling disease.

That zero-gravity ride was as close as he would ever get to space flight (until now?).

This genius of wit and wisdom had a unique ability to overcome barriers and connect science to the general public.

The three Hawking children put it this way, "His courage and persistence with his brilliance and humor inspired people across the world."

Overcoming severe physical limitations, Hawking was a great communicator - his appeal and influence extended beyond the scientific community.

His best-seller, *A Brief History of Time*, made the complicated world of astrophysics a little easier for the rest of us to understand.

I was one of millions who read the book although I should have started with his children's book, *George's Secret Key to the Universe*.

Hawking clearly had a flair for show-biz and used popular media to display his bizarre mix of astro-

physics and one-liners.

In another life he could have been the world's smartest stand-up comic - did you hear the one about the black hole and the singularity?

His TV appearances on *The Simpsons*, *Star Trek*, *Futurama* and *The Big Bang Theory* made him a pop culture star and media celebrity.

I'm really going to miss that wise-cracking rascal and believe it or not, I'm also going to miss the physics.

Hawking was a serious scientist and made us consider our own human existence in the fullness of space and time.

Warnings

It boggles the mind, even his, to anticipate Humanity's demise and he never hesitated to point out some obvious dangers.

For one, it's OK to search for alien life but maybe we should keep our location a secret.

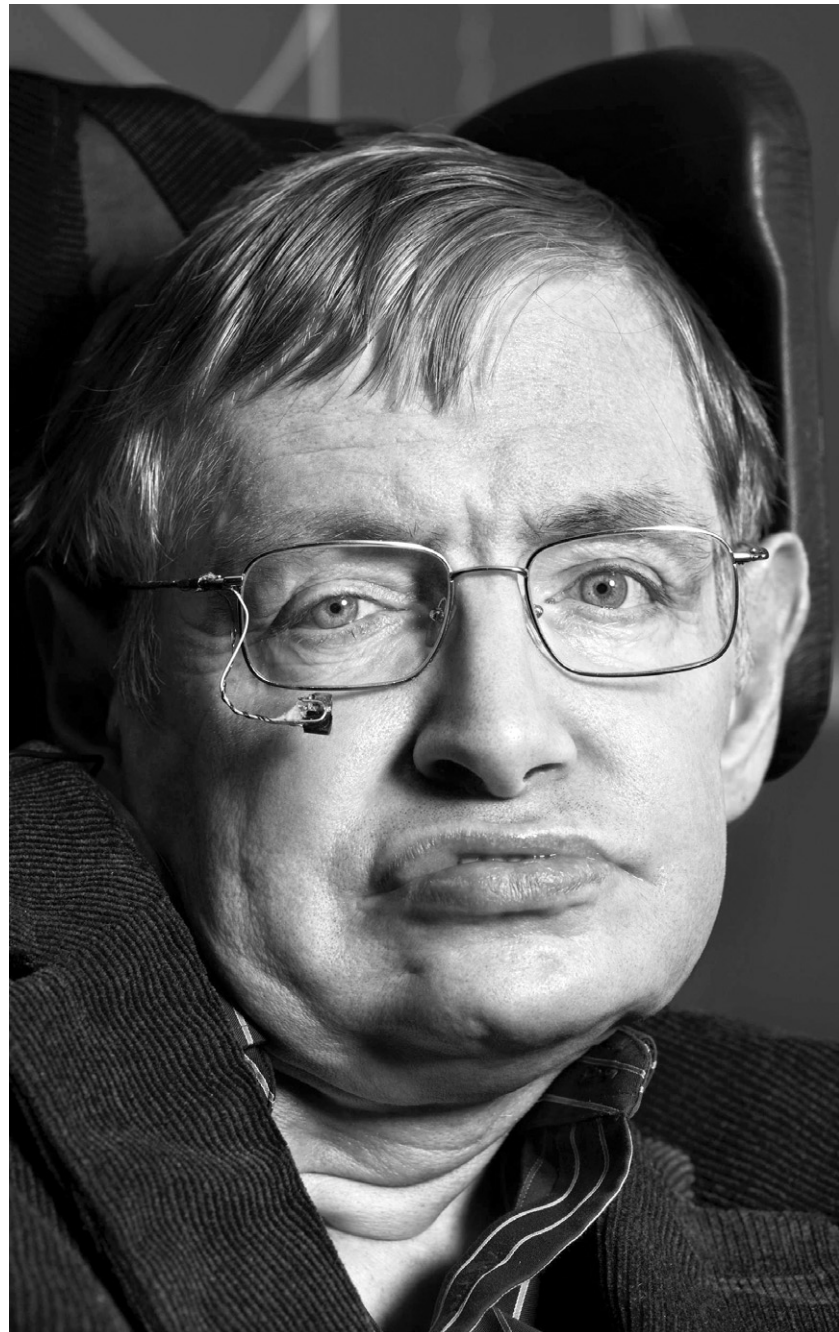
They might be friendly but it's just as likely they will eat us, take Earth's resources and move on.

Also, we pursue artificial intelligence at our own peril and by the way, never underestimate the power of human stupidity.

As for Stephen Hawking, he studied the cosmos back to the beginning of time and made this simple, astute observation.

"It wouldn't be much of a universe if it wasn't home to the people you love."

I think he would be happy with that epitaph.



SCIENCE STAR: Physicist Stephen Hawking died earlier this month at 76.

REDDIT

A look back in history:
19th Century Newspaper man

During the isolated winter months of the mid 1870s two handwritten newspapers were started in Thunder Bay, one in Fort William (The Perambulator) and one in Prince Arthur's Landing (the Thunderbolt). They poked good-natured fun at each other, a practice that turned nasty in the decades to come.

THUNDER BAY MUSEUM

HOW TO WRITE US:

Letters 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.

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YES NO DON'T KNOW

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LOCAL NEWS

Plan could net \$60M for local transit

POLITICS
By Matt Vis – TB Source

A new infrastructure partnership between the federal and provincial governments will bring millions in public transit funding to Thunder Bay over the next decade.

Thunder Bay is eligible to receive a maximum of \$33 million from Ottawa and an additional \$27 million from Ontario over the next 10 years through the new bilateral agreement, the federal government announced after it was officially signed by federal Infrastructure Minister Amarjeet Sohi and his Ontario counterpart Bob Chiarelli on Friday.

An effective public transit system can make a big difference, said MP Patty Hajdu (Lib., Thunder Bay-Superior North).

“People take the bus to work and they need to get to and from appointments. They need to be able to access services,” Hajdu said.



BIG MONEY DEAL: Bilateral agreement could help pay for public transportation needs.

“When we have a transit system that works, is accessible and that people want to take, that’s when we see people being able to more easily manage their lives.”

Hajdu said decisions about how to spend the new dollars will be made by the city but mentioned new buses and additional routes could be possibilities.

The city is currently developing a new transportation master plan, a 20-year roadmap guiding future policy decisions to develop and improve Thunder Bay’s entire transportation network.

It’s been more than 20 years since Hajdu first utilized the city’s public transit but she said there are issues today for riders.

“People still struggle with transit,” Hajdu said. “They struggle with the times of the buses. They struggle with the routes. They struggle with waiting outside in really cold weather. For many people it’s the only mode of transportation. We are a car-intensive city.”

The announcement is expected to be the first of multiple funding envelopes shared by the federal and provincial governments, which will likely include green infrastructure, community, cultural and recreational infrastructure and rural and northern community infrastructure.

Hajdu said there is some overlap between public transit and green infra-

structure.

“Part of the focus of ensuring cities had access to funding for increasing transit access was about greening of Canada and of communities. We know when more people take public transit it’s better for the environment,” she said.

Other area municipalities are receiving funding over the next decade, including a combined \$355,000 for Fort Frances, \$33,000 for Greenstone and nearly \$30,000 for Schreiber.

That money creates new opportunities to address challenges in those communities, Hajdu said.

“There are people for various reasons that struggle getting back and forth to the city. That might be one way municipalities choose to use their money, looking at solutions that could transport people to medical appointments to centres within the region,” Hajdu said. “There are a number of other things they may be able to support in terms of transporting kids to activities.”

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Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre

The Board invites interested Northwestern Ontario residents to consider serving as members of the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre Board of Directors or its Board Committees. Successful candidates are expected to participate actively in governance activities for a three year term.

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LOCAL NEWS

Mauro seeking fifth term in June 7 vote

Long-time Liberal cabinet minister says there's more work to do

POLITICS

By Matt Vis - TB Source

Bill Mauro is seeking another term at Queen's Park 15 years after he was first elected to provincial office.

The four-term MPP again secured the Liberal nomination to represent the party in the Thunder Bay-Atikokan riding in this June's Ontario election when he was acclaimed on Monday night.

Mauro, who secured nearly 53 per cent of the vote when he retained his seat in 2014, said he believes the region has progressed since he was first elected in 2003, but was quick to add there is more work to be done.

"When the community is doing well, you feel good about the work you're doing," Mauro said. "Thunder Bay, by and large, is in a pretty good place. We feel like we moved the yardsticks forwards on a number of files - health care, infrastructure, highways."

Mauro has served as the minister of municipal affairs since 2016 after previously holding the natural resources and forestry portfolio following the Liberal's majority victory four years ago.

Sitting high on Mauro's local agenda is bringing the comprehensive cardiovascular surgery program that was announced by former health minister Eric Hoskins last year across the finish line.

"That's top of mind for me, building on the angioplasty that's been so successful. Thousands of people have been treated here at home," Mauro said. "The Thunder Bay Expressway is another one.



DRIVE FOR FIVE: Bill Mauro (right) speaks with supporters on Monday night.

From Arthur Street to Balsam, lots of work going on there."

The province-wide race has come into clearer focus after the Progressive Conservatives selected populist favourite Doug Ford to lead their party into the election, pitting the former Toronto city councillor against Premier Kathleen Wynne and NDP leader Andrea Horwath in the contest to govern Ontario.

"There is a stark contrast between the candidates now and the parties now. It's a very clear choice," Mauro said. "It will be interesting to see where people land. From my perspective, my focus as an MPP has been on the riding."

Polls released within the last couple of weeks show Wynne with the lowest approval rating of the three leaders with the Liberals trailing the

Progressive Conservatives by a sizeable margin.

Mauro is optimistic public opinion will shift as the June 7 election date draws near.

"Between elections people tend to focus on the government. That's expected and understandable," Mauro said. "But I think as the election gets closer people, voters, potential voters tend to begin to focus on all the parties, including the opposition parties."

Both the Progressive Conservatives and New Democrats have yet to name candidates in the riding. Both riding association president Brandon Postuma and former Thunder Bay-Rainy River federal Conservative challenger Moe Comuzzi have expressed their intent to seek the PC nomination while Judith Monteith-Farrell has stepped forward for the NDP after illness forced John Rafferty to withdraw from the race.

"It will be interesting to see where people land."

BILL MAURO

Salvation Army in need of blankets

THUNDER BAY
By TB Source staff

If you can spare blankets, towels or bedding the Salvation Army wants to hear from you.

The Salvation Army earlier this week issued a public appeal asking for donations of twin sheets, bath towels and blankets as their supply is running low for their shelter.

Major Lori Mitchell said the supplies required to run a shelter are substantial.

"For us to buy everything, it does add up. It adds really to our operating costs so as much as we can get donated is really welcomed and we're very grateful," Mitchell said on Friday.

Mitchell said the shelter housed its maximum of 42 overnight Thursday into Friday and has been consistently averaging 35 people a night over recent months.

"When the sheets, towels and bedding are being used every night then it definitely takes wear and tear,"

Mitchell said.

People can drop off items at the Salvation Army's headquarters on Cumberland Street at any time. Mitchell said anyone looking to make a financial contribution would be asked to contact the organization to make arrangements.

Mitchell said any assistance is greatly appreciated.

"We can always use any kind of practical items like toiletries and that kind of thing," Mitchell said. "We can use anything really."

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FINN FUN: Adam Nousiainen takes on the role of Saint Urho for the third year and leads the parade on Saturday with his son, Jukka and daughter, Essi.

St. Urho tradition continues

THUNDER BAY
By Doug Dlaczuk – TB Source

He is a saviour of Finland and all its delicious wine, bravely chasing away the grasshoppers ravaging the grapevines wielding only a rake. St. Urho instills inspiration and pride in the hearts of Finlanders and continues to bring all people together. And he's not even real.

Last weekend, the streets were alive with St. Urho celebrations, including the annual St. Urho's Day parade on Saturday.

"It's a really ridiculous concept," said Heleena Stephens, one of the St. Urho festival coordinators. "It's a saint that doesn't exist chasing grasshoppers away."

The story of St. Urho is a uniquely North American one. It began more than 50 years ago in northern Minnesota and has been held in Thunder Bay for the past 30 years.

Veijo Maki has buttons from nearly every St. Urho Day he has attended, and the hat is weighed down with almost 30.

"Just count the buttons plus a couple more times," he said. "I come just to relax, come out and meet friends, and listen to the entertainment."

"It's just a sense of community," added Kaija Maki. "This is not a true story, it's something that started in Minnesota, so it

doesn't even originate in Finland. Finland doesn't even have grapevines. But a lot of our friends come here too and it's a way to see everybody."

And that is what makes St. Urho's Day so special, particularly in a city like Thunder Bay with such a strong and active Finnish culture.

"I think it's so inclusive," Stephens said. "It is a North American tradition. You don't have to be a Finn to enjoy this awesome holiday that we made up."

"It's a really ridiculous concept. It's a saint that doesn't exist chasing grasshoppers away."

HELEENA STEPHENS

Every year the holiday expands and this year festivities stretched on for four days and included the parade and variety show on Saturday, a market on Sunday, and performances on Thursday and Friday by Finnish comedian, Ismo Leikola.

"I think it's getting more popular because some of the younger people are having kids who grew up marching in the St. Urho Day parade, and now we want our kids to do the same thing," Stephens said. "So it's sort of a generational

thing."

Once again, St. Urho's shoes were filled by Adam Nousiainen, who has taken on the role of the legendary saint for the past three years.

"If it's possible, I would like to do it every year," he said. "It's just entertaining and fun to me and I just like the Finnish tradition,

trying to get it out there, get new people involved. The bigger we get the better."

And there's no added pressure leading the parade, Nousiainen said, or recounting the story of St. Urho during a sketch at the Finlandia.

"I like the attention," he continued. "It's just fun to get out and cheer and seeing everybody enjoy themselves and just seeing all the different generations together and trying to bring new people in. It's about bringing everybody together for happiness and fun, and some exercise. We get a walk out of it."

Nousiainen said it was his son's idea to have him take on the role of St. Urho, and it looks like it might be something that will stay in the family.

"He goes: Dad, I want to take Urho's position after you retire," Nousiainen said. "It's going to be a little bit to go, but you can do it. I just have to pass the rake on to you. Seeing the enthusiasm in his eyes, my daughter this year wanted to be in it. It's just encouraging them to come out and try new things."

And even though Saturday was also St. Patrick's Day, city streets were filled with people dressed in purple and green, rakes waving in the air, and one giant, dead grasshopper.

"There is no St. Patrick Day's parade, but there has been a St. Urho's Day parade for the last 30 odd years," Stephens said. "I think that says it all."

Birds are a certain sign of spring

There were two of them: white dots bobbing up and down in a flight path across the road. "Ah," I thought, "something in the bird world has returned, something I haven't seen since the summer." A sign of spring. My birding knowledge will always be fledgling, as it were. Most times, to me, they are either little grey or little brown jobbies



FRED JONES
RURAL ROOTS

He wrote that snow buntings were sighted recently, a sure sign of returning birds. Yup, that is what I saw when driving to our local store.

The ravens have also been gracing the bird feed we leave on the wood pile.

"I think that they are hungry," Laura said.

They are nesting now, grabbing any horse hair, or, for that matter, deer hair,

to pad their domiciles into which they will be laying their eggs.

I have written before that we like our resident ravens, Edgar and Lenore, and hope that unlike last year with that horrible ice storm, their progeny this year survive. We have seen them at the compost pile out by the vegetable garden picking through the scraps.

The snow is slowly evaporating. What is revealed beneath is ice. The yard in places is now very treacherous over which to traverse. I have slipped a couple of times.

Since we don't have any gravel that I can scatter using the bucket of Big Red, my aged tractor, it now requires skillfully negotiating a path from house to barn and back again. Now all steps are tentative. (Note to self: next

year buy a load of gravel and cover it with a tarp so that it doesn't freeze when you need it.)

But if the warmth that is slowly creeping in during the days increases, the ice will disappear and walking won't demand total focus.

Even Baxter, our pooch, has been known to occasionally slip on the surface.

Another sign of spring: I came home Sunday from a meeting in town to discover mother and daughter busily planting veggie seeds in trays to be nurtured on the shelves in front of the big picture window.

Furniture that normally resides in that space had been moved to accommodate the shelves.

I was thrilled to see daughter, Beth, avidly interested in gardening.

She ordered Heritage Seeds ("You ordered how many different varieties of Heritage tomatoes? Six?") and plans to convert our round pen where, when we ran a horse business, new horses were stashed before being introduced to the herd.

We no longer use it for equines. Thus, the soil may be perfect for what Beth intends to grow.

Oh, and another sign of spring: while driving home from town on Sunday afternoon, I spotted a 'Pepi Le Pew' (skunk) waddling by the side of the highway. And so, it begins.

My Lady Spring is sending the advanced guard to prepare for full-fledged thaw, growing things, returning birds, and, eventually, green grass.

Oh, and waddling Pepis.

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IN THE bay

arts | entertainment | culture

Female festival fun

Sarah McLachlan, Sheryl Crow, Pat Benatar, Melissa Etheridge top Blues Fest bill

MUSIC

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

The all-Canadian Thunder Bay Blues Festival is a thing of the past, at least for 2018. But that's OK, especially if legendary female vocalists are your thing.

Organizers of this year's festival, scheduled for July 6 to July 8 at Prince Arthur's Landing, have outdone themselves with the talent at the top of the bill, landing the likes of Canadian hit-maker Sarah McLachlan and a trio of legendary songstresses from south of the border, including '80s rocker Pat Benatar, '90s favourite Sheryl Crow and returnee Melissa Etheridge, who blew the lid off the Marina Park band-shell when she made her Blues Festival debut in 2014.

The lineup also includes a strong undercard, including Big Wreck. Sass Jordan and Thunder Bay's all-female Rolling Stones tribute act The Angies, who will pre-headline for Etheridge on Friday, the Arkells taking the stage before McLachlan and Crow on Saturday, and festival regular Alan Doyle and Mapie Salute – basically the Black Crows minus Chris Robinson – rocking out the festival's final day.

Trevor Hurtig, the manager of marketing and development at the Thunder Bay Community Auditorium, which books the annual event, said they'd thought about continuing the all-Canadian theme this summer, but the opportunities like Sheryl Crow, Pat Benatar and Melissa Etheridge don't come along every day.

It was an easy call.

"The bands really just fell into place to make what I considered to be a dream lineup," Hurtig said prior to its release.

McLachlan, who turned 50 in January, was one of the first to sign on and one of the most popular Canadian singer-songwriters still performing today.

Best known for her albums *Fumbling Towards Ecstasy* and *Surfacing*, for which she won a pair of Grammy Awards in 1998 for her songs *Building a Mystery* and *Last Dance*.

The Halifax native has sold more than 30 million albums in her career.

Crow found international success in 1994 with her debut album *Tuesday Night Music Club*, a record that included the global smash and rock radio staple *All I Wanna Do*.

Hurtig said he expects her name on the bill will excite a lot of attendees at the festival, which sold out the past two years.

"We've been trying to land her for several years," Hurtig said. "She's always been one of the acts we've wanted. The cards just never fell in place."

Benatar, with chart-toppers like *Hit Me With Your Best Shot*, *Love is Battlefield* and *Heartbreaker*, helped write the soundtrack of the 1980s.

Hurtig said it was go big or go home after 2016 and 2017.

"We knew we had to set the bar high," he said. "And



COME TO OUR BLUES FEST: Rocker Melissa Etheridge performs at the Thunder Bay Blues Festival in 2014.

THUNDER BAY BLUES FESTIVAL 2018 LINEUP

FRIDAY, JULY 6	TIME
Melissa Etheridge	9:30 p.m.
Big Wreck	8 p.m.
Sass Jordan	6:45 p.m.
The Angies	5:30 p.m.
Arley Hughes	4:15 p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 7	TIME
Sarah McLachlan	9:30 p.m.
Sheryl Crow	7:15 p.m.
Arkells	5:30 p.m.
Mindi Abair and the Bone Shakers	4:15 p.m.
The Blue Brotherhood	3 p.m.
Spencer MacKenzie Band	1:45 p.m.
Boardroom Gypsies	12:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, JULY 8	TIME
Pat Benatar	9:30 p.m.
Magpie Salute	7:15 p.m.
Alan Doyle	5:30 p.m.
Mary Bridget Davies	4:15 p.m.
Blackburn	3 p.m.
The Chain	1:45 p.m.
Southern Comfort	12:30 p.m.

it ended up being all female headliners."

In addition to The Angies, there's plenty of local talent, including Southern Comfort and The Chain on Friday, The Boardroom Gypsies on Saturday and Arley Hughes on Sunday.

Other acts include Blackburn, Mary Bridget Davies, Mindi Abair and the Bone Shakers and The Blues Brotherhood.

Weekend and VIP passes are on sale on Friday at 11:30 a.m. at the Auditorium box office.

While the pass price has gone up about \$38 in 2018, Hurtig said it remains a great value.

"It's still only about \$9 an act," he said.

IN THE bay

Lakehead student art on display

ART
By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Blake Evans has always taken inspiration from the environment and used it to create his artwork.

It's seen in both of his works being showcased between now and April 15 at the Thunder Bay Art Gallery, part of the Lakehead University's fourth-year art students annual Major Studio Exhibition.

The first, Unity, is a self-portrait depicting the connection between plant and animal life and the human world, and the effects man-made chemicals are having on the planet.

"So I drew corn growing out of my arm and used copper wire to form the roots that are connected from the plants into the sternum of the figure," Evans said.

"It is a self-portrait due to the memories I have growing up in south-western Ontario, around agricultural fields and the effects that I'd seen from



WORKS WITH WOOD: Marielle Orr poses with her sculpture at the Thunder Bay Art Gallery.

different planes and different tractors spraying chemicals on the plants. Now that I've grown up and learned about the hazards I want to broadcast that to a

different area, so they're aware of all the effects that go through the life cycle when you're eating those plants."

His other work, Cormorant in

Canada, is a sculpture made from the innards of an old VHS tape, drawing similarities between the inability for the tape to break down when thrown away with the effects of the bird's guano on the environment.

"Its waste excrement is very nitrogen rich, so it kind of burns the land," Evans said.

"They nest in large areas with large populations, which can have a damaging effect on the land."

Courtney Davis, who specializes in first impressions and voyeurism, said she chose a striking self-portrait as one of her entries, breaking away from the first impressions and emotions she usually incorporates into her work.

"I like the idea of telling stories through portraiture. It's one of those things, when you see people's faces you automatically think about what they could be thinking or what they're doing," she said.

"This portrait, in particular, was kind of a reversal of roles. My whole thesis

is about looking into other people's stories, but I started thinking about how I would feel if someone were invading my space and wanting to go deep into my story without even knowing me."

It's aptly titled, *What the F*** Are You Looking At?*

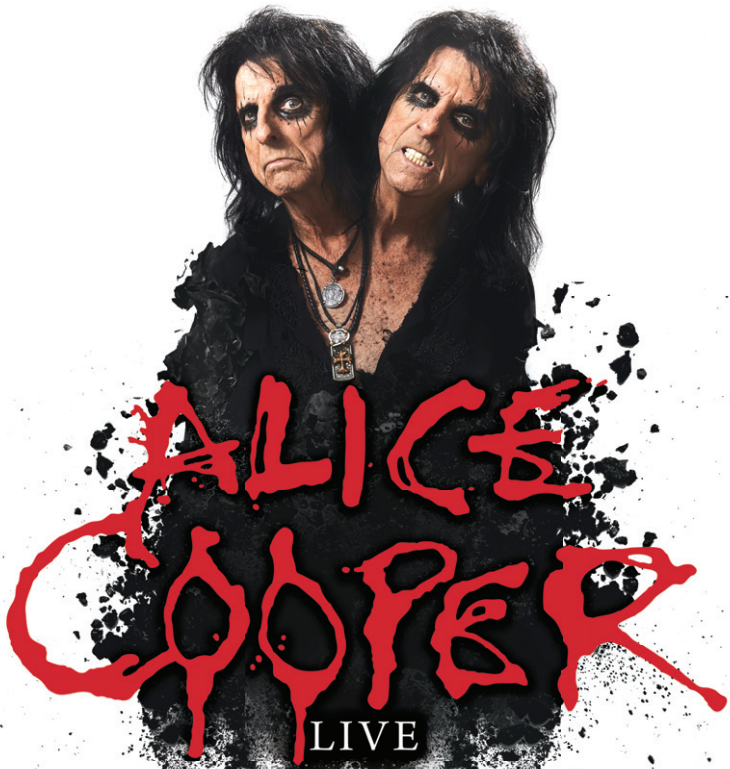
Marielle Orr, who has also taken part in the Gallery's juried art show during her LU tenure, chose to tackle urban sprawl with her sculpture.

"It's made from metal, wood and burning and carving components. It has to do with the idea of the relationship that humans have with nature. There are carvings on the back of it of nature scenes as well as cityscapes," Orr said.

"It basically explains how the city is taking over nature as well as the impact nature has on man-made objects and the city."

On display now, the opening reception for the Major Studio Exhibition is scheduled for March 22 at 7:30 p.m.

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IN THE bay



LEITH DUNICK

BACKLASH: Hedley singer Jacob Hoggard has come under fire after he was targeted by sexual misconduct allegations.

Small protest greets Hedley concertgoers

MUSIC

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Hedley's concert Friday night at the Thunder Bay Community Auditorium went off without a hitch, despite the threat of protests greeting the popular Canadian band's presence in the city.

About half-a-dozen sign-toting demonstrators marched quietly outside the venue, warning concertgoers not to go on the tour bus with the band and that women deserve to be heard.

The band, and lead singer Jacob Hoggard, have come under fire in recent weeks, after several women came forward with accusations of sexual misconduct.

An Ottawa woman accused Hoggard of sexually assaulting her and several others said band members have a history of groping women inappropriately, including some who claim they were as young as 14 when the alleged incidents occurred.

Last Friday, Toronto police revealed to several media outlets that Hoggard is being investigated by their sex crimes unit, but that no charges have been laid.

Sherrie-Leigh Petrie was among the protesters, and said the band and its members have been accused of exhibiting unacceptable behaviour toward women over the course of their career, and she just wanted those attending the Thunder Bay concert to be fully aware of the accusations being made.

"They've been accused of a number of things that fall under sexual violence. They've been accused of doing a lot of things without consent, doing a lot of things while people are intoxicated and if someone's intoxicated, they cannot give consent," Petrie said.

"We're just trying to maybe educate some concertgoers that consent is something that's important and

sexual violence is a problem and that we have a banner right now that says we believe survivors."

Local fans of the band seemed impervious to the controversy, lining up more than two hours before the show kicked off to secure their seats at the Auditorium, after losing out on guaranteed seats when Hedley, citing technical issues with the venue, moved the show across town from its originally scheduled location at Fort William Gardens.

Earlier in the day, when tbnewswatch.com confirmed the protests, several fans defended Hoggard and Hedley.

"I personally still listen to their music. I'm a fan of the band itself. They put on amazing live shows as well!! The whole situation is really just upsetting. I believe in innocent until proven guilty though. We literally know nothing about the situation as outsiders," said one Facebook user named Ashley Belleri.

Hoggard in February denied any claims of sexual misconduct, but did admit Hedley has lived the rock and roll lifestyle and not treated women with the type of respect they deserve.

"I understand the significant harm that is caused not only to the women I interacted with, but to all women who are degraded by this type of behaviour," he said. "I have been careless and indifferent and I have no excuse. For that I am truly sorry."

Hedley, who had a concert cancelled in Windsor and were booted from a planned Juno performance after the allegations arose, have said they plan to take an indefinite hiatus following the current Cageless Tour, scheduled to end March 23 in Kelowna, B.C.

About 1,000 people attended Friday's show.

None of the allegations have resulted in charges.

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IN THE bay

Scientology network skirts FCC rules

Scientology has finally found a way to promote its religion publicly without answering any questions from the media.

This past week, they launched their own TV network that somehow manages to avoid those pesky Federal Communications Commission (FCC) regulations.

That's right. The Church of Scientology, who outsmarted the IRS and got a non-profit designation to avoid paying taxes, runs its new television network without a license. And that's OK because it uses the Internet and satellite transmissions, not regular broadcast TV.

Consequently, it can be found on DirecTV as well as numerous web platforms and apps.

And why? Scientologists are directed not to speak directly to the media for fear that they might actually



be questioned about their practices. For some devotees, this is to protect their potential interrogators from certain death lest they share the secrets of the universe which non-Scientologists are not emotionally and mentally prepared to behold.

So they could tell you, but it would kill you. Whoops.

Others are simply following the doctrine that suppressive persons (SP)

should be avoided.

An SP includes someone who speaks negatively about Scientology, leaves the church or tries to get others to leave the church. (No surprise there.)

However, an SP also includes reporters, psychologists, psychiatrists, and anyone who uses psychology or psychiatry.

Then there are those who speak out against or question the church's management, don't improve during their expensive Scientology courses, speak to suppressive persons, and refuse to disconnect from suppressive persons.

Consequently, Scientologists simply cannot talk to the media in any meaningful way about Scientology.

So what's an organization to do when disenfranchised former members are publicizing their horror

stories?

Obviously, they use their millions of tax-free income from their classes and start a television network of their own to control the flow of information. And their commercials are slick. They're welcoming. Inspiring. And just a little terrifying in their benignness.

Chairman of the Board of the Religious Technology Center, David Miscavige – a.k.a. Scientology Grand Poobah – claims the Scientology Network “isn't here to preach to you, or to convince you, or to convert you.”

Of course not.

They're just running back-to-back documentaries, infomercials, and commercials about Scientology 24 hours a day, seven days a week. No influence there.

No, Miscavige doesn't want

anything from you.

He just spent \$50 million for a production studio and \$4 million a year for carriage fees to DirecTV for the good of their existing followers.

If other viewers want to pony up to join, who's he to stop them?

Of course, it could be argued that other faith TV channels air similar focused content.

And specialized channels always target a specific market and topic, like golf or cooking.

But nobody's trying to brainwash a planet full of nine-iron wielding chefs.

The difference is that without any FCC oversight to protect viewers, the Scientology Network can become a mecca of fake news for their own purposes.

And is this the kind of new television the world needs?

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

- ACROSS**
- 1 Andes' cold higher region
 - 5 Broad structural basin
 - 9 Federal Trade Commission (abbr.)
 - 12 Cork
 - 13 Ass or donkey (Ger.)
 - 14 Poetic contraction
 - 15 Moon
 - 17 Sheep's cry
 - 18 Nothing (Fr.)
 - 19 Musical beat
 - 20 Amer. Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (abbr.)
 - 23 Arabic letter
 - 24 Pipe (Scot.)
 - 25 Image
 - 30 Wing
 - 31 Pole in Gaelic games
- DOWN**
- 1 Additional postscript (abbr.)
 - 2 Diminutive (suf.)
 - 3 Cola
 - 32 Alas
 - 33 Time
 - 35 Wild pig
 - 36 Fr. pronoun
 - 37 Doctrine
 - 38 Explorer
 - Ericson
 - 40 Goodbye (Fr.)
 - 43 Siamese twin
 - 44 Sinuous
 - 48 Amer. Dental Assn. (abbr.)
 - 49 Braz. heron
 - 50 Lade
 - 51 River to the Sea of Azov
 - 52 Shak. contraction
 - 53 Quod _____ demonstrandum

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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

- 4 Means
- 5 Web
- 6 Hindu month
- 7 Balto-Slav
- 8 Beer
- 9 Gilt (2 words)
- 10 Tree
- 11 Supporter (suf.)
- 16 "Brave Bulls" author
- 19 Prepare leather
- 20 Academy (abbr.)
- 21 Philippines archipelago
- 22 Grouse
- 23 The (Ger.)
- 25 Fr. medieval tale
- 26 Kwa language
- 27 Barbie's boyfriend
- 28 Visible juncture
- 29 Fermented palm juice
- 31 Cents (abbr.)
- 34 Amer. Expeditionary Forces (abbr.)
- 35 Inlaid decoration
- 37 River into the North Sea
- 38 Head
- 39 Within (pref.)
- 40 Wild ox
- 41 Carplike fish
- 42 Religious image
- 44 Fast jet
- 45 Comparative (suf.)
- 46 "The Jungle Book" python
- 47 Eastern daylight time (abbr.)

WORD SEARCH

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

- | | | | |
|------------|-------------|------------|--------------|
| Abide | Handier | Option | Scene |
| Accept | Hormone | Overthrow | Shored |
| Bands | Idols | Oxide | Speed |
| Curly | Incline | Peeps | Stems |
| Dunes | Journalists | Primp | Techniques |
| Elite | Mapped | Reigned | Tedious |
| Ether | Memos | Relativity | Topic |
| Filch | Motor | Riled | Typed |
| Greenbacks | Onset | Rinks | Undercurrent |
| Grimy | Opposite | Roasted | Unmarked |

ENIGMA™ CRYPTOGRAM

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

"YECS ZMC UJJ QUKRWOCMCMK YEZY
 YEUDF YECMC UK DW JZDQ, XECD
 YECS RZD KCC DWYEUDP THY KCZ."
 — LMZDRUK TZRWD

PREVIOUS SOLUTION: "To be exempt from the passions with which others are tormented, is the only pleasing solitude." — Joseph Addison

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Sudoku

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

7								5	8
5	8	6				7	3		
	1	3							
	7			4					
		8				4		3	
	4		6	9					1
		9	3			7		5	
6	5				4	9			

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See page 17 for this week's answers

Skills for Life On & Off the Field
LEX RECREATIONAL SOCCER
2018 Outdoor House League



Registration Date

Uniform sizes will be taken @ registration

Saturday, March 24: 10 am - 4 pm

IN-PERSON REGISTRATIONS: Intercity Mall near the Food Court

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 for our Rep Program Try-outs**

Thunder Bay

source

Your Community Newspaper

**Our Office is
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 March 30, 2018.**

**Open Monday
 April 2, 2018.**

*Happy Easter
 Everyone*



Sports

local sports news | information | coverage

Palmer-Charrette golden

SKIING

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Evan Palmer-Charrette wasn't happy with how his race week had gone.

The Thunder Bay skier did win bronze in the 1.2-kilometre short sprint race on Wednesday, but he was hoping for more in his earlier race.

The wait was worth it.

On Saturday, on the final day of competition, Palmer-Charrette outduelled former National Team Development Centre-Thunder Bay member Scott Hill to capture the senior men's 50-kilometre classic race at Lappe Nordic Centre, taking the crown jewel of the 2018 Ski Nationals competition.

"It feels awesome," Palmer-Charrette said, moments after raising both poles to the sky as he crossed the line in 2:16:44.1, a final charge giving him a 9.8-second cushion over hill at the end.

"The skate distance race I was pretty disappointed with. I felt like I had what I needed that day, I just didn't play my cards right. It was nice to actually get onto the podium in the sprint, but I felt like the body was feeling strong today. Scott Hill skied an amazing race. He was for sure the strongest athlete in the field, but unlike on Tuesday in the skate race, I feel like I skied a smart race."

That meant bidding his time, content to run with the pack for as long as necessary.

Palmer-Charrette said Hill, who captured the skate race, made a move around the 30-kilometre mark, narrowing the lead group to the two of them, Barrie, Ont.'s Ryan Jackson - who ultimately finished third - and Thunder Bay's Andy Shields.

Another move eliminated Shields from the chase, leaving three skiers to fight it out for medal positions.

"Over 50 K, skiing in the draft, you're probably skiing 10 per cent easier than the person leading. I just picked a few critical points to lead, but for a lot of the race I just tucked into the pack and hung out and rode along and skied away with the group."

Palmer-Charrette made his move toward the end, in the final kilometre, taking advantage of a climb to surge ahead.

"On the second last one it's not as steep and you're able to stay in the track. I was able to just open it up, saw what they had compared to me and that's really what made the difference," he said. "It's been a bit of a tough year, but it felt awesome to finish things off on a high note."

It was a bittersweet day for Thunder Bay's Michael Somppi, who along with Olympian Jesse Cockney, was skiing his final race at the national level.

Somppi finished fifth, behind NTDC-TB racer Julian Levi Nadlersmith took sixth.



LEITH DUNICK

TOPS PODIUM: Evan Palmer-Charrette celebrates winning gold at Ski Nationals in the 50-kilometre classic race.

Smith, in a race he won in 2015, the last time the event was held at Lappe Nordic Centre.

While the finish wasn't what he'd hoped for, he's happy with the result, knowing he gave it his all in his final race.

"It was a hard-fought race," said Somppi, greeted with a giant hug from his girlfriend at the finish line.

"Even coming out toward the front of the group I was skiing with felt like an accomplishment, because that was a hard pace.

"It's been 11 years of racing at an elite level in Canada and the States and internationally. I've put a lot into it, so it really is emotional at the end."

Still panting, he did say it's not as hard walking away as he thought.

"I'm going to miss it, for sure, but I'll stay involved in the community. My body at this point, I'm struggling to find the motivation to dig that deep."

Quebec's Antoine Cyr took the junior men's 30-kilometre race in 1:20:44.9. Thunder Bay's Graham Ritchie was fifth and Lappe Nordic's

**"It was a
 hard-fought
 race."**

MICHAEL SOMPPI

T-Wolves repeat women's D2 title

UNIVERSITY HOCKEY

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

The Lady Beavers of Minot State University were no match for the Lakehead Thunderwolves.

The Wolves on Sunday captured their second straight ACHA Division

2 women's hockey championship, downing the Lady Beavers 5-1 in the championship game in Columbus, Ohio.

Michelle Carlson scored three times Sunday afternoon and Azia Vass had a goal and two assists to lead LU to the win. Alexandra Sawyer also

scored for Lakehead, who were undefeated in the tournament.

Sami Jo Henry had Minot State's lone goal.

The Wolves outshot their opponent 30-15.

Vass, a defenceman, led all scorers with 15 points.

Tour Challenge set for November

Homan, Koe among world's best curlers expected at Grand Slam event later this year

CURLING
By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Six-time provincial women's curling champion Krista McCarville is keeping her fingers crossed her squad will be in the top half of the Pinty's Grand Slam of Curling's Tour Challenge when it arrives in Thunder Bay in November.

If not, she's more than happy to duel it out on the Tier 2 side of the event.

In total, 60 of the top teams on the planet - 30 men's and 30 women's - will descend on the Tournament Centre later this year to compete in the event, the most prestigious of seven on the Grand Slam of Curling schedule.

McCarville, expected to get a sponsor's exemption into the main field and compete for its \$100,000 purse, said she's thrilled to take part regardless of where she, lead Sarah Potts, second Ashley Sippala and third Kendra Lilly, are placed.

"We haven't really officially heard anything yet, but we know we will be in the Tier 2 for sure," McCarville said.

"It's always a really good thing to play against those top teams and see how you hold up against those teams, playing their strategy and the five-rock rule and everything like that, that they're so good at. Definitely you're going to learn from the event.

"And if we're not in the Tier 1 event and are in Tier 2, there are some great teams in the Tier 2 event as well and hopefully we'll bring some crowds in to the Tier 2 event."

McCarville was the runner up in the Tier 2 event in 2016 in Cranbrook, B.C.

If she does get into the championship tier, the 35-year-old skip will be in tough,

faced with the likes of Olympic champion Anna Hasselborg of Sweden and Canadian Olympian Rachel Homan of Ottawa. On the men's side, American Olympic gold medalist John Shuster, Canadian Olympic skip Kevin Koe and Brier champion Brad Gushue are expected to be in the field.

McCarville can't wait for the competition to begin.

"It's exciting to be in Thunder Bay and playing in your hometown in such a great event," said McCarville, who led her team into last year's Olympic trials in Ottawa and then went on to lose the Northern Ontario championship to the now dissolved Tracy Fleury foursome in Sudbury.

"To have your family and friends and hopefully the school will be there cheering us on, is always exciting."

Former two-time world champion Al Hackner, who will seek a Canadian senior men's title later this month and coached the Americans in PyeongChang, said it's a great way to boost the sport in Thunder Bay.

It's great for the city too.

"It's been a while since we've hosted a national or big event like this, so to put ourselves back on the map as a host or potential host for future event is big - especially this event here because it involves so many more teams."

Organizers said they're working to secure an exemption for Thunder Bay's Dylan Johnston, adding they may host a local qualifier for another spot in the fall.

The Nov. 6 to Nov. 11 event, which will play out on the twin ice surfaces of the Tournament Centre to accommodate the number of teams, is expected to have an economic impact of \$2 million for the city.

The event will also be broadcast on Sportsnet.

Only about 800 tickets will be sold and they will only be available on the Grand Slam of Curling website.



KRISTA MCCARVILLE

Skiers take gold

SKIING

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Individual gold had eluded Katherine Stewart-Jones all week.

As Saturday arrived, the National Team Development Centre-Thunder Bay star had one chance left, the marquee senior women's 30-kilometre classic race at Lappe Nordic Ski Centre.

She made the most of the opportunity.

Stewart-Jones, 22, found a burst of energy in the last 500 metres of Saturday's race, her final competition at the 2018 Ski Nationals, to outlast Alberta's Annika Hicks and NTDC-TB teammate Alannah MacLean and grab top spot in a time of 1:33:50.7, three seconds faster the Hicks, who settled for silver.

It was the second gold medal for Stewart-Jones, who teamed with Zoe Williams to capture the open team sprint competition last Saturday, the opening race of the eight-day competition. She also grabbed bronze in the five-kilometre classic interval start race.

"I really, really wanted to win today," Stewart-Jones said. "I was so close all week and just wanted to win that gold medal. To get it in the 30 K is obviously amazing."



LEADING THE WAY: Catherine Stewart-Jones (194) and Alannah MacLean (196) are amongst the leaders at Ski Nationals last Saturday at Lappe Nordic Ski Centre.

For MacLean, the NTDC veteran, it was a chance at one final medal, having announced she's walking away from competition.

The Walden, Ont. native led much of the event, but was outgunned down the stretch and settled for third, her third bronze medal of the 2018 Ski Nationals.

She's just glad she stuck with it.

"I haven't been racing as well the past two years. I herniated a disc a year-and-a-half ago and it's been a long ride to try to get back to full

health and to be able to do it at the very end of the season, the last set of races of my racing career ... is a pretty incredible way to realize my potential.

It was more of the same for Kenora's Lisle Compton in the junior women's race, a 20-kilometre trek.

Compton pulled away late to edge Whitehorse, Yukon's Natalie Hynes by five seconds, completing the three-lap race in 1:05:15.1 to earn her second individual gold.

Read us online:

www.tbnewswatch.com

Classified

ANSWERS TO THIS WEEK'S PUZZLES

PUNA	TALA	FTC	7	9	4	1	3	6	2	5	8
PLUG	ESEL	EER	5	8	6	4	2	7	3	1	9
SATELLITE	MAA		2	1	3	5	8	9	6	4	7
NEANT	TAKT		1	7	5	2	4	3	8	9	6
ASPCA	DAL		9	6	8	7	1	5	4	2	3
CUTY	LIKENESS		3	4	2	6	9	8	5	7	1
ALA	CABER	HEU	4	2	9	3	6	1	7	8	5
DURATION	BOAR		6	5	1	8	7	4	9	3	2
MES	DOGMA		8	3	7	9	5	2	1	6	4
LEIF	ADIEU										
ENG	SNAKELIKE										
ADA	SOCO	LOAD									
DON	TAEN	ERAT									

PREVIOUS SOLUTION: "They are ill discoverers that think there is no land, when they can see nothing but sea." - Francis Bacon



PRESENTS

* HOPS FOR HEARTS *

ON BEHALF OF THE THUNDER BAY REGIONAL HEALTH SCIENCES FOUNDATION, A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE THAT ATTENDED OUR NEW EVENT "HOPS FOR HEARTS" IN SUPPORT OF THE CARDIAC FUND

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- REAL ESTATE**
01. City Homes
02. Rural Homes
03. Mobile Homes
04. Lots / Acreage
05. Condos For Sale
06. Cottages
07. Commercial for Sale
08. Investment Property
09. Out of Town
10. Real Estate Wanted

- FOR RENT**
11. Houses
12. Apartments
13. Rooms
14. Room & Board
15. Shared Accommodations
16. Cottages
17. Commercial
18. Storage/Space
19. Wanted
20. Condos
21. Miscellaneous

- MERCHANDISE**
22. Bargain corner
23. Misc. For Sale
24. Antiques
25. Music
26. Office Equip.
27. Machinery
28. Pets & Livestock
29. Food
30. Misc. Wanted

- VEHICLES FOR SALE**
31. Cars
32. Trucks
33. Vans
34. Motorcycles/ATV's
35. Campers/Trailers
36. Motor Homes
37. Marine Equip.
38. Snowmobiles
39. Parts & Repairs

- YARD SALES**
40. Current River
41. Northward
42. Southward
43. Westfort
44. Rural

- MISCELLANEOUS, NOTICES, TENDERS**
45. Auctions
46. Health
47. Travel
48. Financial
49. Lost & Found
50. Personal
51. Notices
52. Tenders

- BUSINESS & SERVICES**
53. General Services
54. Home Improvements
55. Bus. Opportunities
56. Training Courses

- EMPLOYMENT**
57. Help Wanted
58. Careers
59. Child Care
60. Health Care
61. Employment Wanted
62. Students For Hire

- ANNOUNCEMENTS**
63. Coming Events
64. Craft & Flea Markets
65. Happy Ads
66. Cards of Thanks
67. In Memoriam
68. Death/Funerals

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30. MISC. WANTED
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50. PERSONAL | **50. PERSONAL**

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50. PERSONAL

50. PERSONAL

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AAA INCOME TAX/E-FILE SINCE 1989. Take advantage of Tax Entitlements for any year between 1997-2017. Personal/small business. 807-344-2886 from 9am-6pm. After hours, leave message.

Christina's Home and Garden, yard clean-up, flowerbeds, trimming, reno's, handyman, siding, drywall, painting, flooring housecleaning, fences, decks, much more, quality work & great customer service, 621-1505

Fences, decks, sheds, skid-steer work, or any outside project built for you by Octagon Contracting. Call 633-4488 for quick services.

My 3 Wives Tax Service. 35+ years experience. Dedicated to your unique situation. Call 355-4893

Norm's Northern Auto Body and Paint, 903 Northern Avenue. Pricing between 11am-5pm MON-FRI! Weekends by Appointment only. All work done on hoists For better coverage on all lower areas! 632-3323.

PHIL'S YARD CLEAN doggy clean-up, Lawn cutting and garbage dump-runs! 683-0486.

SPRING CLEAN-UP! Large trailer for rubbish, WE RECYCLE! No items too big or small! Yard & interior maintenance. Eavestrough cleanout, repairs, and new installation. Parging & cement repairs. Tree and shrub removal! General Handyman Services. We are Seniors Helping Seniors! 472-6371, gapace@lakeheadu.ca

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

53. GENERAL SERVICES

Looking for Tree Removal?



Fast, Safe & Efficient
With Our Unique 34" wide 100ft reach man-lift, we cut higher than anybody in town.

626-3542

53. GENERAL SERVICES

PERSONAL INCOME TAX SERVICES. Reasonable rate, E-FILED. Call Ron 767-4944.

54. HOME IMPROVEMENTS

#1A CWR CONTRACTING INC. Quality you can Count On! Now offering wide range of professional Services including custom modular homes, steel buildings, and renovations. Call us for a quote today! 577-0068 and visit us online at www.cwrcontracting.ca French and English services available!

63. COMING EVENTS

New to TBay
April 27th - 29th

It hurts.
We get it.

Find healing from the pain of abortion at a weekend retreat.

www.RachelsVineyard.org

Contact Mary Jo 252-7420 or Terry 476-4715

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

54. HOME IMPROVEMENTS

AFFORDABLE and QUALITY RENOVATIONS! Kitchens, bathrooms, painting decks, windows, doors, and drywall! Insurance compensation. FREE ESTIMATES! 35yrs exp. Call Ron 632-6671

DAN'S HOME SERVICES Renovations - Drywall, plaster, tape, painting, decks, fences, small jobs, FREE ESTIMATES! Professional Service 344-8092 or 627-5713

Flooring: laminate, ceramic, hardwood, competitively priced and installed by Octagon Contracting. Call 633-4488 for your free quote.

INTERIOR HOUSE PAINTING, fully equipped to do all repairs! 20 years experience, old school quality work. FREE ESTIMATES. Call Dave and Diane 621-3560

PENSIONED PAINTERS looking to stay active. Very reasonable rates. Neat, fast working, former housing authority professional painters. Also drywall repairs & small renovations. Call or Text 626-6926

63. COMING EVENTS

54. HOME IMPROVEMENTS

Renovations: Working Carpenters/Partners with extensive renovation experience. We're reasonable and reliable. PC Construction. 252-9114

Renovations: bathroom, kitchen, basement or any part of your home or cottage, drywall and tile installation. Call Octagon Contracting at 633-4488 for your free quote.

63. COMING EVENTS

EVERY SATURDAY from 10am-3pm. Beginning February 17th ENJOY A NEW MARKET in Downtown FW. Located in The Hub Bazaar 507 Victoria Ave. E. Live Music, free hot chocolate, a kids craft table, and over 25 vendors weekly! Free admission. Vendors welcome \$29.00 +HST, or book any 6 Saturdays for \$100 +HST. 632-3881 or lorijparas@gmail.com

Read us online @ www.tbnewswatch.com

63. COMING EVENTS

Good Reasons to Recycle

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

63. COMING EVENTS

Thunder Bay Bluegrass Concert
Saturday March 24, 2018
featuring
The King's Highway Brenda & Bram
\$10 at the Doors
Doors Open at 6:30pm
Oliver Road Recreation Centre
653 Oliver Road
Presented by Thunder Bay Bluegrass and Old Tyme Music Association

Dulux Paints
Better Quality - Better Service - Better PRICES
Largest in-stock WALLPAPER selection in town!
784 Memorial Ave. (Next to McDonalds) 344-0784
Worth Doing? Worth Dulux
HunterDouglas Carpet & Flooring
WINDOW TREATMENTS Giftware and Décor
Locally owned & operated to better serve you

Lakehead Stamp Club
Fri., Mar. 23rd to Sun., Mar. 25th, 2018
at **Thunder Bay Art Gallery**
Confederation College Campus
STAMP EXHIBITION
12 noon to 5 pm Fri. & Sat.
12 noon to 4:30 pm Sun
FREE ENTRY - Donations to Gallery Appreciated
FREE PARKING STAMPS FOR SALE

Mazda's

SHIFT INTO SPRING

E V E N T



**BEST SMALL UTILITY VEHICLE
IN CANADA FOR 2018**

AUTOMOBILE JOURNALISTS
ASSOCIATION OF CANADA



GT model shown

2018 CX-5 GS AWD

LEASE FROM **\$169**[†] at **3.49%** APR
bi-weekly for 60 months, with \$2,695 down. Excludes HST.

Includes **\$400** Lease Cash

0 PURCHASE FINANCING*
ON SELECT NEW MAZDA MODELS



NO-CHARGE IN-DASH NAVIGATION*
ON ALL NEW MAZDA MODELS

**BEST SMALL CAR
IN CANADA FOR 2018**



GT model shown

2018 Mazda3 GS WITH AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION

LEASE FROM **\$119**[†] at **1.00%** APR

bi-weekly for 60 months, with \$2,495 down. Excludes HST.

Includes **\$1,200** Lease Cash

GT model shown with available roof rack and Thule cargo box accessories



2018 CX-3 GS AWD WITH AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION

LEASE FROM **\$129**[†] at **1.50%** APR

bi-weekly for 60 months, with \$2,695 down. Excludes HST.

Includes **\$1,575** Lease Cash

**BEST LARGE UTILITY VEHICLE
IN CANADA FOR 2018**



GT model shown

7-PASSENGER SEATING 2018 CX-9 GS AWD

LEASE FROM **\$199**[†] at **1.49%** APR

bi-weekly for 60 months, with \$3,195 down. Excludes HST.

Includes **\$675** Lease Cash

Mazda

CANADA'S ONLY



MILEAGE WARRANTY

STANDARD ON ALL NEW MODELS.

DRIVING MATTERS

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**Thunder Bay's
Fastest Growing
Dealership in 2017**

**Half-Way
Motors**



▼0% APR Purchase Financing is available on select new 2017 and 2018 Mazda models. NOTE: 0% Purchase Financing not available on 2017 MX-5 and 2018 MX-5, CX-5 and CX-9 models. Terms vary by model. Based on a representative agreement using an offered pricing of \$23,629 for the new 2018 Mazda3 GS 6AT (D4SK88AA00) with a financed amount of \$23,760, the cost of borrowing for a 72-month term is \$0, monthly payment is \$330, total finance obligation is \$23,760. Offer includes freight and P.D.E. of \$1,695, \$10 OMVIC fee, \$17.75 Tire Stewardship Fee, \$100 Air Conditioning charge and \$106.39 PPSA. Offer excludes HST. ▲No-Charge, In-Dash Navigation offer is available to qualifying retail customers who cash purchase/finance/lease a select new, in-stock 2017 (Note: navigation not available on Mazda5 models) or 2018 Mazda model Half-Way Mazda between March 1 and April 2, 2018. Note: In the event the selected model is pre-equipped with navigation, or selected model is not equipped with navigation, customer may substitute a cash discount. Cash discount substitute applied before taxes. If Navigation is not available at time of purchase, Navigation will be provided at a future date. Limited quantities apply. Cash discount substitute applied before taxes. *Offer available on retail leases of new 2018 Mazda3 GS 6AT (D4SK88AA00)/2018 CX-5 GS AWD (NXSN88AA00)/2018 CX-9 GS AWD (HXSK88AA00)/2018 CX-9 GS (QXSM88AA00) with a lease APR of 1.00%/3.49%/1.50%/1.49% and 130/130/130 bi-weekly payments of \$199/\$169/\$129/\$199 for 60/60/60/60 months, the total lease obligation is \$17,931/\$24,659/\$19,457/\$29,079, including down payment (or equivalent trade-in) of \$2,495/\$2,695/\$2,695/\$3,195. As shown, Offered Pricing for new 2018 Mazda3 GT (D4TL68AA00)/2018 CX-5 GT (NXTN88AA00)/2018 CX-3 GT (HXTK88AA00)/2018 CX-9 GT (QXTM88AA00) with a lease APR of 1.00%/3.49%/1.50%/1.49% and 130/130/130 bi-weekly payments of \$135/\$189/\$161/\$249 for 60/60/60/60 months, the total lease obligation is \$20,100/\$27,328/\$23,579/\$35,593, including down payment (or equivalent trade-in) of \$2,495/\$2,695/\$2,695/\$3,195. NOTE: 2018 Mazda3 lease offers include \$1,200 lease cash, 2018 CX-5 lease offers include \$400 lease cash, 2018 CX-3 lease offers include \$1,575 lease cash and 2018 CX-9 lease offers include \$675 lease cash. Lease payments include freight and P.D.E. of \$1,695/\$1,895/\$1,895/\$1,895, \$10 OMVIC fee (all models), \$17.75 Tire Stewardship Fee (all models), \$100 Air Conditioning charge (all models), \$150 Lease Dealer Service Fee (all models) and PPSA of \$90.95/\$90.95/\$90.95/\$90.95. First monthly payment is due at lease inception. 20,000 km per year mileage allowance applies; if exceeded, additional 8¢ per km applies (12¢ per km for CX-9 models). Offers exclude HST. Licence, insurance, taxes and down payment (where applicable) are extra and may be required at the time of purchase. Dealer order/trade may be necessary on certain vehicles. Offers for a limited time only and may end without notice, while supplies last. *To learn more about the Mazda Unlimited Warranty, go to mazdaunlimited.ca