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Hobbs still considering a third term

POLITICS By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Mayor Keith Hobbs says he's strongly considering running for a third term this fall.

Hobbs, 65, on Friday confirmed he hasn't ruled out putting his name on the ballot in 2018, saying there are still some things he'd like to accomplish at city hall.

"I'm looking at the number of candidates for mayor so far and it's impressive that that many people want to take on the top job," Hobbs said at a media launch at the Lake Superior Centre for Regenerative Medicine. "I haven't ruled it out 100 per cent. I said earlier I wasn't going to run."

Hobbs pointed to economic success stories, as the main reason why he might consider changing his mind.

"I think in the last eight years we've done a great job and I wouldn't mind maybe carrying that on. I just don't know yet where life is going to take me," he said.

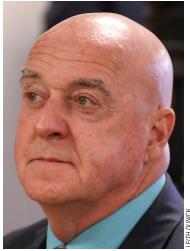
The mayor still faces legal issues, including an extortion charge, related to an incident surrounding convicted ex-lawyer Alexander (Sandy) Zaitzeff, who alleged Hobbs, his wife and another woman attempted to force him to buy a home for the woman.

Those charges have not been proven in a court of law.

Hobbs said if he doesn't run for mayor, he might consider putting in his name for an at-large councillor bid.

"There is a thought of that because at least three at-large councillors are running for mayor. I understand Coun. (Frank) Pullia will probably throw his hat in the ring again. I still think we need some experience on council," he said.

"I'd hate to see a new slate of people coming in, because they'd have to



WEIGHING IT OUT: Mayor Keith Hobbs was first elected in the 2010 municipal vote. learn everything all over again. They'd have to carry on what we've been working on. A lot of them would be

Pullia, who four times in the past has run unsuccessfully for mayor, is keeping his plans close to his vest. He's been giving a lot of thought to his political future, but has no plans to reveal them anytime soon, he said.

"Nothing is imminent," Pullia said on Friday.

Pullia has served three terms on council, from 1994 to 1997, from 2006 to 2010 and from 2014 to present.

Coun. Iain Angus and newcomers Kevin Cernjul and Mariann Sawicki have already submitted their nomination papers at city hall to run for mayor. Coun. Larry Hebert has indicated he plans to do so.

One veteran councillor who did reveal his plans on Friday was Red River Ward representative Brian McKinnon, who said he'll seek a fourth term in the Oct. 22 vote.

"I'm going to run in Red River and

I'm going to focus on some of the things I've already started. There are three or four things I'd like to see come to fruition," he said. "Certainly in my own ward there are one or two things.

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"I want to see the conclusion or finish of Junot (Avenue), which was taken off the books this year - and Balmoral as well, the same thing. There's some roads that need to be done, so those kind of infrastructure things."

McKinnon had early on in his current term suggested he was not going to run again, but said there's still work left to accomplish, which is why he had a change of heart.

David George Noonan, who finished runner-up to McKinnon in 2014, filed his nomination papers in Red River Ward on Thursday.

Candidates have until July 27 to file to run.



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Dr Alan Cranton DC, ND (Ret) is a Chiropractor and retired Naturopathic Doctor practicing in Thunder Bay for 33 years at the Cranton Wellness Centre, now Thunder Bay Wellness Centre.

LOCALNEWS **Indigenous leaders** slam Smith's hiring

Interim Lakehead law school dean jailed KI6 in 2008 **EDUCATION**

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Nishnawbe Ask Nation leadership is slamming Lakehead University for its appointment of Justice Patrick Smith as interim dean of the Bora Laskin School of Law.

Deputy Grand Chief Derek Fox, in a release issued on Friday afternoon, called the move an insult to First Nations to allow Smith to head an institution that prides itself on advancing Indigenous interests and called on the university to immediately rescind its decision.

"I question the university's claims of his expertise in Indigenous legal issues when he does not recognize First Nations jurisdiction over our lands. The university should have accepted the recommendations of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee delivered last week, which (specifically) requested that no positions at the law school be filled without input from Indigenous partners."

Smith's appointment came under fire because in 2008 he sentenced Chief Donny Morris and five other members of the Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug council to prison during a

lengthy fight to

keep mining

activity off their

traditional

"I do not

agree with the

recognition of

Justice George

dean. When we

look inside our

and

lands.

the

hearts

"I question how Justice Smith can be an expert in Indigenous law when he doesn't understand where we came from." **DEREK FOX**

minds we believe that this is our land. I question how Justice Smith can be an expert in Indigenous law when he doesn't understand where we came from," Morris said in the release.

Smith's appointment, announced to Lakehead staff on Thursday and to the public on Friday, comes weeks after former dean Angelique Eaglewoman quit, citing systemic issues, including racism, at the Thunder Bay school.

The university declined comment on the controversy, but did release a statement earlier in the day to



Patrick Smith as NEW POST: Justice George Patrick Smith is Lakehead's interim law school dean. interim

announce the hiring.

Acting provost and vice-president academic David Barnett says Smith's appointment will allow the school to move forward in a seamless manner.

"The success of our students is our priority," said Barnett.

"The appointment of Justice Patrick Smith, whose judicial career includes significant experience in civil and criminal **DEREK FOX** jury trials, family matters

and many cases involving First Nations, allows us to continue our university's commitment to the

ongoing evolution and success of our faculty of law and its three core pillars."

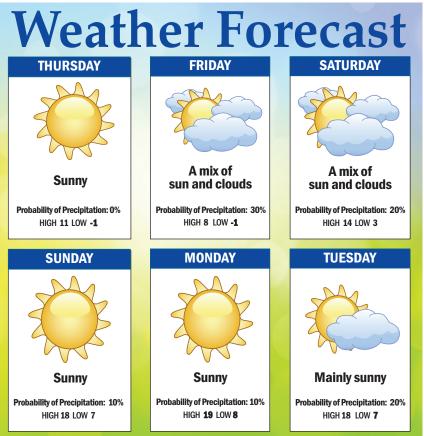


Smith was called to the bar in 1976 and appointed to Ontario's Superior Court of Justice in 2001

and says he's ready to take on the challenge.

"I was very honoured to be invited to step into this role on an interim basis, whose focus will be to work with the faculty's students, faculty and staff as we close the academic

year and celebrate the graduates at our convocation ceremonies," Smith said.





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Horwath unveils NDP's northern plan

Opioids among her top priorities, says would-be premier

POLITICS By Leith Dunick – TB Source

The opioid crisis in Ontario's First Nations communities needs a new approach, says NDP leader Andrea Horwath.

And the solution has to be made jointly with Indigenous leaders, she said on Friday during a campaign-style stop in Thunder Bay, less than a week ahead of the expected dropping of the writ signaling the official start of the fourweek provincial election campaign.

"Anything we do is going to have to be working closely with First Nations leadership in the communities. I don't believe it's appropriate for me as NDP leader and premier to say this is how we're going to fix things in your community," Horwath said to a packed house at In Common on the city's north side.

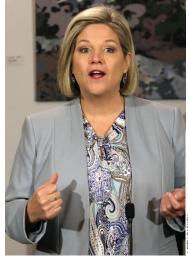
"That's extremely disrespectful. But being at a table and saying what can we do to fulfill the vision you have on how to help your people to get rid of the opioids, not only the addictions, but the access – how the drugs are coming into the community – that's the kind of goforward that I would expect."

It can't be the province coming up with an idea and trying to sell it to First Nations leaders.

"That's something where I think the government has gone wrong so far," she said.

Horwath's answers were met with more questions from Fort William First Nation Chief Peter Collins, who wants it to start at the top of the distribution change.

"In B.C. the NDP filed a lawsuit against pharmaceutical (companies),



NORTHERN PLATFORM: NDP Leader Andrea Horwath says the North is important.

for putting such a highly addictive drug on the market. What are you going to do if you become premier of Ontario? How will you deal with that? How will you deal with the over-prescribing of that highly addictive drug?" Collins asked.

Horwath responded she was disappointed to see how Ontario handled the oxycontin epidemic, calling the deal that was struck irresponsible.

"Unfortunately the Liberal government has already cut a deal, but I'm not beyond having a look at whether that deal needs to be reviewed," she said. "It's unacceptable that companies, international drug companies, make profits off the pain and anguish and destruction of people's lives.

"It is not acceptable and no dollar amount will ever make up for it, but let's at least hit them where it hurts, for them, because all they care about is the money."

The NDP leader was in town to unveil her Northern Ontario platform, which includes a \$19-billion injection into new health-care facilities, bringing winter road maintenance and Hydro One back into public hands while lowering energy costs 30 per cent, a regulated gasoline market and a promise to spent \$1 billion to bring the Ring of Fire to reality.

Horwath also promised to keep northern schools open and improve relations with Indigenous people while ensuring their communities have safe drinking water and top-notch education.

Fixing the broken health-care system topped her remarks.

"How many times has this hospital in Thunder Bay been in gridlock. It's still in a gridlock situation. And it's not new. It's been years that this hospital has been dealing with gridlock. And it's not fair," Horwath said, flanked by Thunder Bay-Atikokan candidate Judith Monteith-Farrell and Thunder Bay-Superior North hopeful Lise Vaugeios.

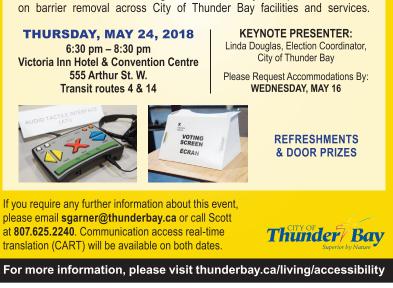
The provincial election is June 7.



Accessible Municipal Elections

INFORMATION SESSION:

Ontario municipal elections are scheduled for October 22. In preparation for this important date, the Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee invites the public to learn about accessible voting options for people with disabilities; the way local government works; and how to run for City council and school board trustee positions. As well, you can meet the AAC members, learn about general accessibility and provide feedback on barrier removal across City of Thunder Bay facilities and services.





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Emergency Homes: Foster parents open their home up for emergency, short-term foster care.

Agency-operated Foster Homes: Foster parent(s) live in a home owned by Tikinagan. Youth come to the home for short-term care.

More information is available at www.tikinagan.org/thunderbayfosters or by calling Intake at 1-800-465-3624



MAMOW OBIKI-AHWAHSOOWIN everyone working together to raise our children

LOCALNEWS **Tissue bank awarded**

BUSINESS By Leith Dunick - TB Source

t won't be long before all donated tissue in Ontario is stored and processed in Thunder Bay.

Officials with the non-profit Lake Superior Centre for Regenerative Medicine on Friday announced in conjunction with the province that the company will become the new tissue transplant hub, creating 27 new jobs in Northwestern Ontario.

The planned expansion is also expected to generate nearly \$10 million in economic activity during the construction phase.

David Stezenko, the executive director at Regen Med, says it's an exciting day for the city, one that's been many years in the making.

"We've been chosen to host and house Ontario's consolidated tissue processing and distribution centre, so we will be processing muscular skeletal heart-valve tissue and skin for burn tissue right here in

Thunder Bay and sending them out to surgeons across the province," Stezenko said.

The decision means the company will have to expand its existing laboratory, which opened for business in 2009.

"It's going to mean, even in the early years, about 30 full-time positions for skill jobs in Thunder Bay," Stezenko said.

He's thrilled the company landed the designation. "This has been so long in coming.



THRILLED AT NEWS: Dave Stezenko is the executive director at RegenMed.

I've only been here for four years,

but for many of my colleagues and our board, they've been here for so many years," he said. "This is the goal we've been shooting for, for a

decade." It's also a sign the

province is starting to show faith in the abilities of the Northwest. "For all of us in Thunder

Bay, we know that doesn't happen very often. We fought hard that we were

the right place to house this processing centre. It's been proven and we're just delighted to bring this to Thunder Bay," Stezenko said.

MPP Bill Mauro said it's an example of what the city can do when it comes to job creation for knowledge-based work and economic diversification.

"It's really a strong testament that Thunder Bay can do anything and I would say I learned very clearly early on through the angioplasty experience that there is an inherent resistance from southern Ontario to some of this work ending up in places like Thunder Bay," Mauro said.

"That's been the fight for a very long time. We had to prove it and we've managed to do that."



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been shooting for. for a decade." **DAVE STEZENKO**

"This is the

goal we've

Editorial

EDITORIAL

Patio pilot is a winner

A two-year pop-up patio project proposed by the powers-that-be at city hall is a fantastic idea.

It's about time Thunder Bay embraced the patio lifestyle, popular in summer hot spots around the world.

Essentially, successful restaurants and bars apply to the city for the right to build a temporary patio during the summer months, utilizing sidewalks and on-street parking spaces to house their seating areas.

Yes please.

Patios other than Bight Restaurant on the city's waterfront and Kelsey's in the Intercity area, are few and far between in Thunder Bay.

Faced with an endless winter, those of us who live in the city want to spend as much time outside during the summer as possible to maximize our limited exposure to great weather.

The patios will also create a more cosmopolitan feel in each of the business improvement areas in which they're built, a welcoming site to tourists looking for a fun place to dine or drink.

Anyone who's been to Halifax's Argyle Street will understand just how popular and busy – great news for restaurant owners – seasonal patios are.

The owners bear the cost of building the patios and the temporary sidewalks, so it's win-win for everyone involved. Summertime just got a whole lot better in Thunder Bay.

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Tenants pay too much tax

To the editor: Tenants living in multi-residential buildings in Thunder Bay are currently being overcharged a tax ratio 2.5 times higher than homeowners. About 5,500 tenants are being overcharged up to \$1,200 a year.

Thunder Bay Coalition Against Property Tax Discrimination understands the financial challenges facing the City of Thunder Bay when it comes to setting taxation policy.

We know that caps to commercial tax rates and reassessment of the grain elevators, Resolute, Canadian Tire and other tax losses in the industrial sector due to the recession have adversely affected the tax base and City operating revenues.

Our goal is not to further burden the tax base but to make this a fair and attractive place to live and invest for all people so that it can grow and prosper. We believe we can work together in cooperation to achieve this goal.

The province has directed the reduction of multi-residential tax rates over the next four years from the current ratio of 2.47 to 2.0. These reductions are already planned and budgeted for by the City of Thunder Bay.

You should know that with this gradual four years reduction, most tenants in Thunder Bay will not receive any financial benefit. These benefits will be absorbed by the landlords as the percentage reduction is too minimal to pass on to tenants.

Tenants in Thunder Bay will only benefit if the reduction is expedited from four years to two years. Landlords are mandated by Section 131 of the Residential Tenancies Act to pass down any tax decrease greater than 2.49 per cent.

A faster decrease will positively impact the Thunder Bay rental market in many ways; it will reduce rent rates for tenants; it will make living standards more affordable; it will increase competition among landlords to reduce rents and improve quality of housing; it will improve the quality of life of local people by reducing their monthly living expenses thereby giving them more disposable income.

It is also important to remember the positive impact it will have on NonProfit Housing in Thunder Bay by reducing the waiting lists.

Thunder Bay Property Tax Coalition urges city councillors to consider a reduction from 2.47 to 2.25 in the current taxation.

We also recommend a reduction from 2.25 to 2.00 in 2019 so the greatest impact will benefit the Tenants of the City of Thunder Bay.

> Mary Creed, Maxine Lorentson, Thunder Bay Coalition Against Property Tax Discrimination



Government overreach

To the editor:

Andrew Nikiforuk, journalist and contributing editor to The Tyee (an online news magazine covering issues of primary concern to British Columbians) poses several questions in a recent article entitled "Kinder Morgan's Blackmail"; one of which is..."aren't democracies supposed to challenge projects that impose unprecedented economic and environmental risks on their citizens?"

I think most would agree that it is every Canadian's right under our Constitution to speak out against, actively protest, and even push back on issues that are perceived to be illconceived ideas. It is also our right to do so without fear of mean-spirited threats, bullying or aggressive retaliation.

No matter what the issue, under no theory is it OK to blackmail, threaten, harass or malign anyone who chooses to challenge it.

Not so, according to our federal government and the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan. In the case of the Kinder Morgan pipeline, ongoing rhetoric from the Premier of Alberta has been vitriolic, unrelenting and riddled with lies and inaccuracies in her bid to win this case. Along with the Premier of Saskatchewan, Ms. Notley has also recently introduced legislation designed to impose crippling economic sanctions on British Columbia, making life for the people there (and perhaps the rest of the country as well) very difficult indeed. Now we are told that the Prime Minister, along with Ms. Notley, is prepared to invest potentially billions of taxpayers' dollars in Kinder Morgan Inc. itself to encourage that company, in response to its decision to suspend work on the controversial \$7.4 billion pipeline, to forge ahead.

There are those who would argue that governments have the right to undertake whatever projects they see fit, particularly when deemed to be in the nation's best interests "economically", and to fight back, aggressively if necessary, against any and all opposition.

This is highly questionable, however, when there is strong evidence to indicate that, in fact, there is little to no economic benefit to be had, that said projects also pose dire risks to the environment, that aboriginal inclusion has been overlooked, lies and half-truths are needed to sell them to the people, and when "social license" has been denied. But it is especially infuriating when major foreign corporations attempt to override proper process and manipulate our governments with respect to the "what" and "when" of those projects.

Most concerning of all is Justin Trudeau's failure to provide responsible leadership in this matter by continuing to pursue a seriously flawed agenda that has only served to divide Canadians across the country. As eloquently stated by Mr. Nikiforuk, "in a normal world, governments concerned about fiscal prudence and the public interest would let Kinder Morgan abandon (this) non-viable project. In a moral world, Canadian governments would admit that pipelines and tankers export refinery jobs and greenhouse gas emissions on a disastrous scale. In a just world, Alberta would...admit it has allowed industry to overproduce bitumen due to low royalties and bad governance. But Canada, like (our) southern neighbour, is having trouble behaving normally, morally or justly these days ... and ... Canadians should be more than ashamed. They should be alarmed."

> Louise Fisher, Thunder Bay

Perspective

Dealing democracy

Canadians have plenty of ways to strengthen way of life

OPINION By J.R. Shermack Special to TB Source

What can ordinary citizens do to make the most out of their democracy?

We should all be very happy to live in a democratic country, especially one as rich and bountiful as ours.

But there is dissatisfaction across the land because our way of life and system of government are being seriously questioned and tested.

Recent world events have shown how vulnerable our rights and freedoms can become, how "fragile" our democracy can really be.

Fortunately, Canadians have plenty of opportunities to strengthen and defend the life we love and the freedom we share.

Although it is sometimes taken for granted and even ignored, one of the pillars of democracy is the right to an elected government.

A good way to get more out of your democracy is to get more involved in the democratic process.

Not only that, people who vote are more active in their communities, talk to their neighbors and are generous volunteers.

When exercised properly with due thought and critical thinking, voting can have a dramatic effect on the well-being of all Canadians.

We have three important decisions coming up and need to elect three separate levels of government. On June 7, less than a month away on our first trip to the polls we will be voting for a new (or not) provincial government.

I have chosen to ignore all the hype, spin and misinformation because I chose my candidate weeks ago based on facts and performance.

It is clear that this campaign will be branded by childish bickering, rude insults and maybe even some Russian meddling.

I have no appetite for that foolish behaviour and they can carry on without me because I won't be listening.

"I haven't

alwavs voted

responsibly,

but I have

always

voted..."

And now, I can ignore the Provincial campaign circus and concentrate on democratic opportunity number two.

It is often said that "all politics is local" and for local voters the municipal election this fall is up close and personal.

The well-being of our city and its citizens is largely influenced by decisions made during city council meetings.

Council is responsible for the vitality of the entire community and sets policy for leisure, culture and recreation in the city.

City Hall is in the best position to influence democratic engagement by providing the leadership and direction needed for a challenging future.

The results of municipal elections (school boards too) often have dramatic effects on our community, good, bad or otherwise. Decisions made by elected officials affect community well-being in education, public health and the environment.

Candidates need vision, courage and responsibility if they intend to tackle pressing social problems like racism, housing and violence.

Did I forget to mention our crumbling infrastructure?

They will also need a well thoughtout plan to share with voters before the election on October 22nd (if you haven't started, you better get busy).

As voters, we share a democratic responsibility to be properly informed, keep the candidates honest and to cast an intelligent vote.

This applies provincially this June, during the Municipal election this fall, and later next year when the feds take the stage.

All three levels of government have our wellbeing in their hands.

I haven't always voted responsibly, but I have always voted and even though I try to avoid the political BS, I also try to stay informed.

I have often voted enthusiastically for the candidate of my choice and I have sometimes chosen the lesser of two evils.

I have intentionally spoiled my ballot in disgust and I have declined my ballot in protest.

What else can I do - I'm just trying to make the most of my democracy.

JSEUM

CLEAN-UP TIME



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ADDRESS THE MESS: The city has ordered the Canadian Lakehead Exhibition to clean up the site of the former Sportsdome, which collapsed in November 2016. The deadline is the end of May.

HOW TO WRITE US:

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

The Thunder Bay Source reserves the right to edit submissions for content and clarity. All attempts will be made to preserve the core argument of the author. Address them to: Thunder Bay Source 87 North Hill Street, Thunder Bay, ON P7A 5V6

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Sawicki, Cernjul file to run for mayor

First-timers say they bring fresh views to municipal politics

POLITICS By Leith Dunick & Matt Vis – TB Source

ariann Sawicki wants to bring the city together as one.

She feels the best way to accomplish her goal is to do it from the mayor's chair.

The 52-year-old nurse last Thursday marched into Thunder Bay city hall, plunked down her registration fee and joined Iain Angus and Kevin Cernjul as the third officially declared candidate in the 2018 mayor's race.

Sawicki, who was pondering jumping into municipal politics a decade ago before beginning a battle with chronic Lyme disease, said she can help make the city a better place.

"I love the city. I've lived here all my life, other than two years and I just want to do what's best for Thunder Bay and bring the community together as one and spread the love," Sawicki said.

"There's so much potential here in our city and we have so much to offer and such beauty naturally ... We can make a big difference and have what we know we can have in our city."

A nursing instructor at Lakehead University, Sawicki said public safety is among her top priorities.

There's no question things have to improve, she said.

"Crime has been a big issue and I feel that maybe by having police officers walking the beat – not that they haven't already – but maybe more so, that might deter people," Sawicki said.

She wasn't alone in joining the

mayor's race.

NY Kevin Cernjul believes his age sets nut him apart from others who have publicly declared their intent to become ne the city's next mayor.

The 31-year-old first-time political candidate officially declared his candidacy in Thunder Bay's mayoral race, filing his nomination at city hall early

last Tuesday afternoon. "I think Thunder Bay's youth need a voice and I want to be that voice for the city," Cernjul said.

"I want to listen to our young community. A lot of friends and colleagues feel

that city council doesn't listen to their needs and issues. I want to be the one that sits down with them, takes the extra time to listen to those concerns and voice the opinion to city council."

Iain Angus has also filed to run.



MARIANN SAWICKI: Wants to bring the community together as one as mayor.



For your daily news visit www.tbnewswatch.com

Thursday, May 10, 2018



Murder charge withdrawn

COURT By Doug Diaczuk- TB Source

woman charged with second-degree mur-Ader in connection to the 2017 death of 31year-old Kevin Roundhead has had the charge against her withdrawn by the Crown. Crown prosecutor, Rob Kozak, said the Crown withdrew the charge of second-degree murder against 23-year-old Jessie Chapais during a preliminary hearing that took place on Monday in a Thunder Bay Courtroom before Justice Dino DiGuiseppe.

"She provided a statement to police outlining what occurred and we believe that statement," Kozak said following the hearing. "On the basis of that, the Crown has withdrawn against her."

Chapais was one of three people facing second-degree murder charges in the death of Roundhead. Emma Masakeyash and Skylar Masakeyash were also charged with seconddegree murder.

Roundhead was found unresponsive under the North Cumberland Street bridge at McVicar Creek on July 5, 2017. He was transported to hospital where he was pronounced dead.

Chapais was arrested on July 8, 2017 along with Emma Masakayash, while Skylar Masakeyash was arrested the day before. Chapais has been in custody since the time of her arrest.

Fort William Next **Early Bird Rotary Canada Day** May 16th, 2018 **House Lottery.** For \$5,000



- · George's Market
- JB Evans
- RBC (all branches)
- Thunder Bay Regional Health
- Sciences Foundation
- Wanson Lumber

All Proceeds to Local and District Charities Fort William Rotary Club of Thunder Bay

Cash Early Bird Draws

IN BRIEF



High Street work to force road closures

igh Street South between John Street and Bay Street, and Cornwall Avenue above High Street South will close starting on Monday, May 14 to finish work on the High Street Retaining Wall. The work is expected to take up to six weeks.

Street access is allowed for local traffic only. Detour signs will be posted.

Motorists are asked to use extra caution and obey all posted signage when travelling near the construction area.

Collision kills Schreiber fire chief

The fire chief of Schreiber was confirmed the victim of a pedes-trian-vehicle collision in Etobicoke early Saturday.

Pat Bourguignon, 63, was struck while crossing the road during a power outage at the intersection of Attwell Drive and Dixon Road.

"Pat was an amazing man, and was passionately dedicated to his family and work," Schreiber mayor Mark Figliomeni said in a press release.

Bourguignon had served as the township's fire chief since 2009.

City orders Sportsdome cleanup

The Canadian Lakehead Exhibition has its clean-up orders in hand and its board of directors is hopeful the former Sportsdome site will be cleaned up by the end of June.

Board president Al Law last Thursday confirmed the City of Thunder Bay's bylaw enforcement office has ordered them to clean-up the mess left behind when the dome collapsed in November 2016, giving them until the end of the month.

That's not realistic and city officials are aware they'll likely need more time to complete the request for proposal process and have the work begin.

Pop-up patio pilot planned

The City of Thunder Bay will be launching a two-year pop-up patio pilot beginning this summer to allow local businesses to build temporary, seasonal patios and seating areas using sidewalks and on-street parking spaces.

The scope of the pilot is to permit a limited number of patios in each of the BIA and BA areas. The city will be seeking input from the public and successful applicants around the success of the pilot after the first summer season.

Interested restaurants are invited to submit an application with the endorsement of the relevant BIA or BA for consideration. Businesses will be given approval for their applications early-tomid June, and patios will be installed in late June or early July.

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At NOMA, Wynne defends her record

Premier says Liberals back committments as election day nears

KENORA By Matt VIs – TB Source

Kathleen Wynne stands firmly behind Liberal commitments that include free pre-kindergarten child care and the beginning steps of government-paid prescription drugs and dental care, though regional municipal leaders question why that money isn't going to infrastructure renewal.

The premier was the final party leader to address the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association conference in Kenora late Thursday afternoon, capping a two-day stretch where Progressive Conservative leader Doug Ford and Ontario NDP leader Andrea Horwath also made pre-campaign visits ahead of next month's provincial election.

Wynne emphasized her government's record of spending to improve care and provide opportunity across the province, including free post-secondary tuition for students from lower income families and drug coverage for youth under 25 and seniors over 65.

"Government has the responsibility to step up and do the things that people can't do for themselves and to make sure we're looking for those ways to help people to take part in the economy, to make sure they have the care they need, to make sure they are supported so they can be at their best," Wynne said.

"Not to do everything for people and I don't think government can do everything but we should be there to support and make sure we facilitate communities and individual families to be the best they can be."

The new commitments introduced in the budget tabled earlier this year direct the province's budget back into a multibillion deficit.

Kenora mayor Dave Canfield thanked Wynne for previous measures that have allowed municipalities to upgrade the backbones of their communities but said there is more work to be done.

"We still have a massive, massive infrastructure deficit," Canfield told Wynne during an open question and answer period. "How can you afford all these new programs when we can't even fund the stuff we need today?"

Wynne, who earlier during her speech referred to the party's budget as a "bold but not radical" plan, responded that the support is essential.

"How can we not continue to invest in infrastructure? How can we not invest in people whose kids can't find mental health supports? How can we not invest in people who can't pay for prescription medication," Wynne said.

"These are people in your community. These are not people just in Southern Ontario. These are people in Northwestern Ontario who are having a hard time making ends meet. If we don't invest in them now, they are going to be worse off and they are going to need more supports from your municipality."

Canfield asked Wynne whether the Liberals would support a one per cent HST hike advocated for by the Association of Ontario Municipalities, with that revenue directed solely to rebuilding infrastructure.

Wynne earlier cited the province's continued expansion of the Northern Highways Program and increased funding to the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund as examples of how her government has come to the table.

"We're going to keep investing in infrastructure. I get how important that is. I know how many bridges you've got and how much support you need but I also know you have people in all of your communities who are the future who have present need and we need to invest in them as well."



IN NORTH: Premier Kathleen Wynne speaks last Thursday at NOMA in Kenora.







PAVING THE WAY: PC Leader Doug Ford promises he'll build the road to the Ring of Fire if elected.

Ford for North

Conservative leader promises aviation fuel tax cut

KENORA By Matt Vis – TB Source

Doug Ford continues to lay out his vision for Ontario as his campaign to be the province's next premier took him before regional municipal leaders.

The Ontario Progressive Conservative leader addressed the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association annual spring conference in Kenora on Wednesday, announcing a few promises specific for the region if his party prevails in next month's provincial election.

Those platform pieces included a pledge to cut the aviation fuel tax on all flights to and from Northern Ontario, which is currently a 6.7 cent per litre burden on all commercial air travel and cargo delivery.

"This will make it cheaper to travel and will make it more affordable to ship goods in and out of Northern communities," Ford said. "We recognize that for many parts of the north flying is not a luxury. It's a necessity."

In a 17-minute opening speech largely reminiscent of the well-worn talking points heard at his rallies, Ford reiterated his "cap taxes and trade Kathleen Wynne" goal to do away with the carbon tax and took the governing Liberals to task over their proposed budget that would put the province's budget back into the red.

The former Toronto city councillor also promised the gathering of elected municipal officials that they would have more flexibility and authority on how to spend money their communities receive from the province.

"Nothing drove me more crazy than the government of Ontario saying, 'here's X amount of dollars, but by the way, you're only going to get that money if you spend it here. And if you don't spend it here we're going to take that money away," Ford said. "We have a different philosophy. We're going to give you the money. Who knows better how to support their community and community needs than each and every municipality?" SARAH McLACHLAN

MELISSA ETHERIDGE

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MELISSA ETHERIDGE

BIG WRECK

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THE ANGIES

ARLEY HUGHES

Ford also touched on plans for the natural resources, which serve as the lifeblood of many Northwestern Ontario communities. The road to the Ring of Fire will get built,

Ford added. "When I talk to the forestry or the mining

industry the No. 1 issue they're facing is the red tape and bureaucracy," Ford said. "That's all I hear from mining and forestry. Let them do their job and get the government out of business and let businesses thrive."

The PC leader also repeated his announcement, originally made Tuesday in Timmins, to introduce resource revenue sharing for northern communities, including Indigenous communities, on mining, forestry and aggregates.

He pledged to cut hospital wait times and eliminate "hallway health care."

"We're going to open 15,000 new longterm care beds in five years and an additional 15,000 – totalling 30,000 – over the next 10 years including beds that are needed right here in Northern Ontario," Ford said.

During a limited question and answer session with leaders, Thunder Bay Coun. Iain Angus asked Ford to commit, if he reduced government spending by four per cent, to not have it result in any further downloading onto municipalities.

"We can find efficiencies. When I crisscross Ontario and I go to crowds and the public and say, 'do you think we can find four cents on every dollar this government spends,' they break out laughing at me. Only four cents," Ford said.

"We have to start running this government like a business."

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Ash borer infestation small, spreading

CITY HALL By Matt Vis - TBSource

Confirmed finds of the emerald ash borer in Thunder Bay remain relatively low, which the city's forestry supervisor largely attributes to its difficulty identifying until the beetle reaches maturity.

The tree-destroying invasive species, which was first detected with eight findings in Thunder Bay in 2016, had an additional 12 located last year through 100 traps set up throughout a variety of areas in the city.

"It is a very difficult insect to find when it's young. It's very small and it's only when the adults come out and enter the pheromone traps we put out that gives us a snapshot of where it is in the city," city forestry supervisor Mike Dixon said to Thunder Bay city council, which on

Monday night received an update on its management strategy.

"Right now it's a very small infestation but it's definitely there."

"It's a very

difficult

insect to find

when it's

young."

MIKE DIXON

The first confirmed finding of the emerald ash borer was made at the corner of Memorial and Fourth avenues. Along with those two roadways, the beetle was also found on First Avenue, Sixth Avenue, High Street, Frankwood Avenue and Norah Street South.

One year later those locations spread to include the surrounding area of the original find, as well as north of the Thunder Bay Expressway and

multiple successful traps in Westfort. "It has been noted that the bug itself is pretty lazy. It will hitchhike on cars,

buses, bicycles, whatever is moving throughout the city," Dixon said.

The city's climate - particularly having a period of warming followed by an immediate cold snap - seems

to be having an impact on the emerald ash borer's growth. "The insect appears to be

following a two-year lifespan as opposed to the one year that was found in Southern Ontario," Dixon said, adding similar observations have been made in Duluth.

"We're fortunate we were able to find the insect at its early stages in the ground zero in the Intercity area. It is spreading across the city. We

are finding more trees that have evidence of the (emerald ash borer) in them but it's not spreading at a large rate at this time."

City council in October 2016 approved an active management strategy, a \$6.3 million plan over 10 years to address Thunder Bay's 6,300 boulevard and parks ash trees. The strategy includes treating 50 per cent of the 3,400 eligible mature trees -1,700 trees - and the removal and replacement of the remaining 4,600.

Trees selected for treatment are applied with a biopesticide every second year. Last year 835 trees were treated. Another 114 trees were removed and 198 were replaced.

"This is a terrible, terrible thing that's happening to the city. It's going to cost us millions of dollars," Coun. Andrew Foulds said.

"I hope that given it's a two-year cycle that gives us the opportunity to do the analysis and the work we need to. I don't think we should be taking the foot off the pedal at all in terms of this strategy. Maybe this is an opportunity to get out in front of it. Maybe two, three, four, five years from now we can save more than we originally forecasted."

City administration said residents can contact the forestry department and request having a public tree treated and saved, though they would be doing it at their own cost.

Bay Street resident Anneli Tolvanen presented a letter to council, along with a petition of nearly 150 signatures, calling for trees on the corridor between Secord Street and Hillcrest Park to be saved.

"That's a well trafficked neighbourhood and enjoyed by everybody around Thunder Bay coming up and down Bay Street going to the Hoito for pancakes and running up to Hillcrest Park,' Tolvanen said. "That street would be very unattractive without those trees.'

small ads can







Bells for Battle of Atlantic

Allies and Axis fought for control of the North Atlantic during the war **THUNDER BAY** By Doug Diaczuk- TB Source

Asolemn bell rang out across Prince Arthur's Landing on Sunday and sea cadet chief petty officer, Joshua Grasley, knew what every toll of the bell he rang represented, and how it continues to echo through time.

"I felt like it was an important task," he said. "It is the symbol of all those ships who were lost at sea. To toll the bell it was like I was tolling for all those people who passed. It meant a great bit to me to be able to ring that bell and represent all those who have gone before."

The tolling of the bell at the Anchorage was part of a ceremony to commemorate the Battle of the Atlantic, one of the longest battles during the Second World War.

Every year in May, *HMCS Griffon* hosts the commemoration, along with members of the cadets from the naval, army, and air service, as well as veterans of the Second World War.

"Today is a good feeling amongst Second World War veterans," said Roy Lamore, who served with the Royal Canadian Navy during the Second World War. "The younger cadets coming up, we have to be proud of those cadets. They can't take war as some kind of a game. You have to be serious. The veterans realize how many shipmates they lost or in the army in the trenches. These are the ones we are thinking about."

Fewer sailors

Lamore recognizes that the number of veterans participating in these kinds of commemorations is shrinking, but it makes him proud to see young cadets standing at attention to remember the young men and women, who were often just a few years older than they are, who went off to war.

"In one way, it's a privilege," he said. "To see the younger cadets, it just feels good that our system is working. Our younger kids are in these services and I really like to see that. They are our future."

This role that younger generations have to play was not lost on 17year-old Grasley, who said part of being a cadet is showing support for veterans of past conflicts.

"It means a lot because for me to see people who aren't that much older than I am and going to war and some of them not coming home, to spend

a few hours a day, and to be here just to



SOUNDS FOR SAILORS: 42 Vindictive sea cadet chief petty officer Joshua Grasley rings the bell for every ship lost during the Battle of the Atlantic in a ceremony at Prince Arthur's Landing last Sunday.

support them," he said.

"Our younger

kids are in

these

services and I

really like to

see that.

They are our

future."

ROY LAMORE

The Battle of the Atlantic raged in the North Atlantic from 1939 until the end of the war in 1945. Allied convoys sailed the treacherous waters and battled German U-Boats to provide England with the vital supplies needed to continue the war effort in

"It was the lifeline for the U.K. while Europe was getting gobbled

up by the Germans," said *HMCS Griffon* Lt.-Cmdr, Robert Cooke. Throughout the battle, Canada

emerged as one of the largest navies in the world, providing merchant vessels and the valuable protection needed to escort them across the Atlantic.

"Bit by bit the fleet grew and it went from a very small navy up to

300 ocean going ships," Cooke said. "The convoy support grew and grew and by 1943,

it turned in favour of the allies."

But it was not without sacrifice, with members of the Royal Canadian Navy, Royal Canadian Merchant Navy, and the Royal Canadian Air Force suffering more than 4,500 losses over the course of the war.

Time passes

"When you see our naval veterans, there used to be at least a hundred sitting there, but now there is only three or four, but that's because they've gone beyond the horizon," Lamore said.

And while the ceremony is meant to commemorate the sacrifices of the men and women who fought in one of the longest and most important battles of the Second World War, Lamore said it is important to remember that there is something else very important to remember when the bell tolls.

"The one word is peace," he said. "Remember peace and keep it that way."



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FRANCHISE AVAILABLE

Thunder Bay - Superior North & Rainy River

This time spring chores for real



jumped the gun. I was a tad early. I had a gate post to replace. The post was broken and the gate lay on the ground. How did the post break?

No doubt (although I have no memory of doing so...) I broke it with Big Red, my elderly, diesel tractor and the ungainly snow-blower attached to Red's rear.

The snow must have kept the gate upright until the thaw. We will never know.

We call it "Trail Gate" since it separates the riding trail from the main yard.

Replacing a gate post or any post, for that matter, requires attaching the auger to the back of the tractor. T'is a task I intensely dislike because the auger is very heavy and awkward and I am no longer eighteen. Thank goodness I have a strong son who is eighteen to help me do the deed.

Still frozen

We have a stash of cedar posts and I grabbed one to ferry to where we were going to drill a new hole for the new gate post. Considering how quickly the snow disappeared, I hoped the ground would have thawed, at least down far enough for us to sink the new post. Hah! We soon learned that only the first six inches of dirt was soft.

I sent son, Doug, to fetch a pail of hot water in the hopes that by pouring in a bit at a time, the auger would work. It did for an inch or two and then Doug would have to shovel the earth that the water had softened.

Well, eventually we got the hole deep enough to put in the post. I had grabbed some gravel to tamp in around the sides of the post to make sure that it was solid.

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This chore was the first time Doug had helped me with fence posts. "It normally doesn't take nearly this long, son," I spluttered, "honest." There are several more fence posts to be replaced. Most of the fencing was done twenty years ago and the posts and fence rails have seen better days. But this gate post was a test-case determining if the ground had thawed sufficiently to make the job easy. It obviously had not.

Meanwhile, Daughter Beth and my wife, Laura, the keen gardener, set about preparing an area that is usually used to pen a horse. In fact, we call it the 'Round Pen' and it was used when we ran a horse riding business. Not anymore. Beth wishes to start her own vegetable garden with all kinds of different tomatoes, many of them heritage varieties.

Yard work

Laura was busy on the weekend raking the flower beds, cleaning up all the detritus from over the winter, lots of birch bark the wind had blown from the wood pile, as well as doggy leavings and for the first time, deer droppings.

The family of four were regular visitors to the bird seed and to the compost pile, resulting in no compost.

Back inside of Casa Jones - the view through the picture window in the living room is blocked by a jungle of green. Shelves are festooned with trays of plants all started from seed by both Laura and Beth.

And while the garlic was planted in the vegetable garden during the fall, soon Laura will be out there planting carrots and other goodies that can go in the ground, that don't have to be started indoors.

The warmer temperatures and rapid thaw have only just removed the ice off of the swimming pool and the beaver pond, but Laura is keen to connect the new pool pump and solar heaters ASAP.

Gosh, swimming in May? And the ice not even off the lakes?

Yard, leaf waste collection will be delayed this spring

THUNDER BAY By TB Source staff

eaf and yard waste curbside collection dates for spring 2018 have been pushed forward due to the slow start to spring.

Leaf and yard waste collection will now take place between Tuesday, May 22 and Friday, June 1, on the regular recycling day indicated in residents' 2018 garbage and recycling collection schedules.

Homeowners are reminded that residential leaf and yard waste must be stored in kraft paper bags only for curbside pickup. Plastic bags are not accepted. Kraft bags are available at most hardware and grocery stores.

Leaf and yard waste materials are taken to the City of Thunder Bay Solid Waste and Recycling Facility and made into soilenriching compost.

Spring up to Clean Up event a success

THUNDER BAY By Michael Charlebois – TB Source

Residents around Thunder Bay are teaming up to make things cleaner for the next month.

The 22nd annual Spring Up to Clean Up event kicked off on Wednesday with 100 local businesses taking part in a 20minute clean-up of the Barton Street area.

Volunteers took time away from work, put on fluorescent vests, grabbed their garbage pickers and helped clean up the city.

"Litter can have a terrible effect on the way people feel about their city," said EcoSuperior program co-ordinator Shannon Costigan. "A clean city makes people proud, and people enjoy using public spaces. It's really important to put this collective effort together and make

Thunder Bay

Thunder Bay beautiful."

Costigan is encouraging people in every corner of Thunder Bay to help beautify the city.

"There are events happening all throughout the month of May," Costigan said. "Every year we see about 10,000 people jump on board."

And despite its long annual tradition, Costigan still sees fresh faces every year.

She's also encouraged by the involvement of surrounding communities, including the Municipality of Shuniah, which is doing its first-ever clean-up this month.

"It's great to see that energy after a cold winter that everybody gets out and gets to spend some time together," said Nathan Lawrence, who hosted the day's event.

Scheduling of subsequent events can be found on the EcoSuperior website.



KEEPING THE CITY TIDY: Dave Facca looks on last Wednesday as local business workers help clean up Barton Street area.



Request for Proposal # 2018-001

Request for Proposal Name: REPAIRS AND UPGRADES TO DAVE'S ROAD BRIDGE

Proposals will be received not later than: 6:30 p.m., Local Time June 4th, 2018

Delivery Address: RFP 2018-001 c/o Jenna Hakala, Clerk Gillies Municipal Office 1092 Hwy 595, RR1 Kakabeka Falls, Ontario P0T 1W0

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All inquiries must be copied to gillies@tbaytel.net

Electronic tender documents can be provided by The Township of Gillies – contact Jenna Hakala, Clerk by email (gillies@tbaytel.net) or phone (807-475-3185).

Inquiries must not be directed to other Municipal employees or elected officials, or anyone other than the above-mentioned contact person. Directing inquiries to other than those designated may result in your submission being rejected.



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by Robin Hawdon

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IN THE bay arts entertainment culture



CULTURES ON DISPLAY: Crowd favourite Harleen Dhillon performs anually at the Folkiore Festival and she was back on the main stage again on Saturday at the Fort William Gardens.

Diversity on display

The 45th Folklore Festival draws more than 14,000 people THUNDER BAY

By Michael Charlebois - TB Source

arleen Dhillon says she no longer gets nervous when she hits the stage.

"I used to be, but now I'm just so used to it."

The 13-year-old took to the stage Saturday at the Folklore Festival in what has become an annual event. "She's going to be a star," one observer told Harleen's mother following her performance.

Dressed in vibrant pink and gold cloth, Harleen's self-taught routines are a highlight of the weekend, and a fantastic opportunity to represent her Punjabi roots.

"It's so cool because it's like we're all one big happy family here... all sharing our culture," Harleen said.

The sentiment is echoed by longtime organizer Jeanetty Jumah who has been a volunteer at the festival for more than 25 years.

Jumah oversees all that the Folklore Festival has to offer. Performances such as Harleen's are spread throughout the weekend and showcase more than 40 countries from all over the world.

From Middle Eastern belly dancing, to Chinese erhu

renditions, the show never stops.

Neither does the food court.

"You can go to Slovakia and have some cabbage rolls, or to Syria and enjoy some delicious donair. The Greeks are here. The Carribeans are here..."

Booths from local spots such as Thai Kitchen, Monsoon, and even the Hoito are all open for hungry customers.

"Thunder Bay is a great place. People may not be kind to each other because they look different... Their colour is different," Jumah said. "But when they come to Folklore Festival they see in our hearts we're all the same. No matter the creed, colour, or religion."

The melange of cultures is reason enough for Alfonso Faringo, an Ecuadorian Hamilton resident, to come back for 18 years running.

"I feel very happy here. Everybody's culture has something different to offer, and I love meeting people from different parts of the world."

The festival ran on Saturday and Sunday and organizers estimate attendance this year was more than 14,000.

IN THE **bay**

The twisting, turning path to perfection

THEATRE By Linda Maehans - TB Source

A perfect day. With the perfect person on the dewy fresh morning of a wedding. Easy? No, it isn't. No, it definitively is not. Deep breath, I can do this. Quivers, no I can't.

Okay, let's describe this morning another way. The age-old adage "perfection is hard to find" might best be expressed like this. Why settle for just plain difficult when, with a little effort, you could make it impossible?

As in impossibly silly, farcical, and as perfectly disastrous a day as, well, you can fill in the rest for yourself as the curtain rises on Magnus' season finale *Perfect Wedding*. Playwright Robin Hawdon's script is furiously fast and funny; he's concocted all the twists and turns and absurd fabrications only we his audience are privy to. Trust me, you'll have lots to choose from as the clock ticks closer to that blissful moment of "I do" for bride and groom.

What elevates this production to near if not absolute perfection are the actors: each of them easily a knockout on individual merit. Experiencing the six of them together, watching them



IMPOSSIBLY PERFECT: The cast of A Perfect Wedding from left to right: Jo-Ann Waytowich, Kate Madden, Tom Finn, Jennifer Dzialoszynski, Jesse Nerenberg.

buffeted around on the whirlwind morning of the wedding is one wicked roller coaster ride for the audience. Hilarious, and complicated too. Just as our focus settles on one key conversation, we veer away in another wacky direction, tense with trepidation over what could possibly happen next and choking with mirth. Okay, not actually choking but it is that funny.

The countryside hotel where the wedding party is staying used to be tranquil, but no more. O no. It's where actor Jennifer Dzialoszynski works as a chambermaid. Jennifer makes her Magnus debut as a sparkling spitfire; love those red sneakers! Samantha Piper as Judy, or is it Julie, is winningly pale in the bed where we first encounter her; ever more alluring when she emerges from the bathroom in a short crinoline dress that accentuates her shapely legs. How we long to know who she is; in time she shows us exactly.

Thunder Bay's Jo-Ann Waytowich glides into her role as mother-of-the-

bride with perfect panache and enough verve to send a flock of dizzy bluebirds skittering skyward to get out of her way. Too bad we don't get to meet her better half; imagining the man married to Jo-Ann's Daphne threatens to bring on a bout of irrepressible giggles, or maybe hiccups.

Kate Madden returns to Magnus (Of Human Bondage last season) as a bride with no idea what she's in for. She knows what she wants, doesn't she? Kate's Rachel is a wonderful mix of confidence, naivety, distrust and ideals. Nicely played. And tell me, how does someone look so fetching in sponge-y hair curlers and bathrobe; only a slip and veil?

Tom Finn's best man is truly a tour de force. Well he has to be, doesn't he; to survive the whirlwind, the centre of which he often finds himself.

Last but not least, in fact I've saved the best for last, is our fearless groom with the quivers. No more sincere and true-at-heart man has existed before actor Jesse Nerenberg's Bill first opens his eyes on the morn of his wedding.

Perfect Wedding delights until May 19: go grab some merriment and enjoy!

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TV's changing definition of mom

My mother and I have always been close. However, as I've grown older, the word "Mom" has had different connotations. Some I've experienced personally. Some I've discovered on TV.

In the early days of television, June Cleaver was the paragon of Momhood. However, she was a little difficult to live up to for most women. Fortunately, I barely had a passing awareness of this particular Mrs. C.

Now *Happy Days*' Marion Cunningham was the stay-at-home mom that I sometimes longed for in my own house. She always had something ready when the kids got home.

My mother worked full time. So on the surface, they had little in common. But they both had that deceptive backbone of steel beneath a soft and gentle veneer.

I also grew up with the *Partridge Family*. My mom played piano but



she didn't quite match Shirley Partridge's cool band vibe and never bought us a painted tour bus.

Family Ties' Elyse Keaton was another matriarch I watched carefully. While my mother was hardly a former '60s radical – nor I an egghead Republican child – both women had that ever-present "go with the flow" mentality regardless of what their kids threw at them.

Then I met Mrs. Clair Huxtable. She

was the epitome of the woman who had it all: a loving family, a thriving career, and plenty of time for both of them. I couldn't quite understand why my mom was so tired all the time. Clair did it with five kids and mom only had three.

For a few years, it seemed that television shows were killing off moms left and right. From *Full House* to *Party of Five*, every second father was a widower or a brother raising his siblings. But it allowed me to see the possibility of maternal support in other people. Apparently, mom didn't have anything to do with biology or DNA – a lesson that served me well in later years.

As a young adult woman, *Growing Pains* and later, *Gilmore Girls* showed me a different mother/daughter relationship. Maggie Seaver, the closest I'd found to me own ma, was certainly someone I'd like to hang out with. And former teen mom, Lorelai Gilmore, actually talked TO her daughter – not at her.

These were relationships that, as an adult, inspired me to be my mother's friend. So much so, that after graduating university, the two of us travelled through Europe and visited family in Sweden for four whole weeks without killing or even maiming each other.

But now, my mother and I have moved into a new stage. She's retired, living in a senior's residence and leaning on me for help. There's not much on TV now for inspiration but I do remember *The Golden Girls* and their message: a mom is always a mom even if the roles get a little reversed now and then.

So Mom, I mean it when I say you may not be an iconic matriarch, but I wouldn't trade you for anyone on TV. Not even Miss Ellie.



FIFTIES MOM: Marion Ross played Marion Cunningham on Happy Days.

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Chill seek playoff redemption in 2018

SOCCER By Leith Dunick - TB Source

here was no way Pedro Adan was walking away There was no way reuto Auan was many from the Thunder Bay Chill with the bitter taste of last season's Premier Development League championship loss to the Charlotte Eagles still fresh in his mouth.

The 29-year-old midfielder says he desperately wants to deliver a second PDL title to Thunder Bay before he hangs up his cleats.

On Saturday the San Diego State graduate and 2015 Chill most valuable player was front and centre as the team kicked off training camp, four weeks prior to the start of their 19th campaign.

The Chill are looking to improve on last year's 9-3-2 regular season record that captured top spot in the Heartland Division. "We've gone to the final in 2013 – I was

there - and lost it. Last year we lost it, so I think with the team coming in, hopefully we go to the final again and this time we

win it. The big decision was that, losing the final," said Adan, who had three assists in 11 games for the Chill in 2017.

It's a similar motivation for Thunder Bay's Evan Sawula, one of a growing contingent of local players the Chill will rely on this summer – and one of just a handful of returnees from last year's squad, a group that includes former PDL most valuable player Sullivan Silva and defenders Luca Mastrantonio and captain Mitchell Osmond.

"Obviously we were happy with the season last year,

but we didn't get the job done in the final, so we have high expectations for this year," said Sawula, a sophomore at Michigan's Oakland University this past season.

"(Coach) Gio (Petraglia) always gets a good group of guys out here. We're just waiting for some of them to get into town to start to get to work."

Among the late arrivals expected is Spanish striker Sergio Campano Franco, who played for the Chill in 2013 and 2015 and most recently suited up for SD Tenisca in Spain's Tercera Division.

Campano Franco, better known as Sota, is a huge addition up front, Adan said.

"I played with him in 2013 and he was an unbelievable player. I loved playing with him. He's very technical, a very smart player. It's going to be big for the team, especially after losing a few other guys from last year," Adan said.

"Hearing he was coming back was good to hear.'

Petraglia, back for a fourth season coaching the Chill, said the team was trying to re-sign veteran Abraham Villon, but couldn't get a firm commitment. When Campano Franco expressed an

interest in coming back, the team leapt at the chance. "We needed a player with his creativity, who can decide a game in the last 30 yards," Petraglia said. "Last year we had Abraham Villon, but we couldn't confirm him, so we needed these kind of players who can be a little bit more unpredictable and we know what we can get from him. And he's part of our group, part of our family and we're looking forward to seeing



CAMP OPENS: Pedro Adan (left) is chased down by Thunder Bay Chill teammate Marco Colistro.



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"The big decision was losing the final." PEDRO ADAN, **ON HIS DECISION TO RETURN**



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