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Thunder Bay J. C.E.

THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 2017

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

INSIDE ROBBED TWICE



Store held up at knifepoint once again / 12



Annual festivities kick off in Thunder Bay / 13



Evan DeGrazia earns way into Staal Open again /22

Police say no crisis

Thunder Bay Police defend investigations of recent deaths of Indigenous teens found in local waterways /3



NEAR MISS: Thunder Bay Chill forward Brandon Swartzendruber (left) attempts to head home a corner kick in Saturday's 2-0 win over the Des Moines Menace. See story on Page 25.

Smartphones and data plans your wallet will love





Police board chair was suspended

By Matt Vis - TB Source

The chair of the city's police services board was suspended for nearly two weeks last month related to the criminal investigation against police chief J.P. Levesque, but has been reinstated after it was determined her actions did not violate code of conduct but did represent an "error in judgment."

The Ontario Civilian Police Commission launched an investigation against Thunder Bay Police Services board chair Jackie Dojack on May 19, four days before the OPP announced Levesque was charged with obstructing justice and breach of trust.

"The OCPC became aware that the chair may have had knowledge of some of the circumstances relating to the criminal charges laid against the chief of the Thunder Bay Police Service," reads a response from the Ontario Civilian Police Commission to an inquiry sent by tbnewswatch.com.

"The OCPC wanted to clarify what information Ms. Dojack had been aware of, what actions she took upon receiving it, and to ensure that there was no ongoing conflict of interest in her role as

Chair and as a possible witness in the criminal case."

The commencement of the investigation automatically required Dojack to step aside from her role as a member of the police services board and was not allowed to exercise her powers or duties while it was ongoing.

Dojack was reinstated on May 31, allowing her to resume her role as chair of the board

"Based on information received by Ms Dojack, the OCPC concluded that while her actions represented an error in judgment, she had not breached the code of conduct," the statement reads.

The response did not provide details about her alleged actions nor identify the specific error in judgment.

Levesque stands accused of disclosing confidential information relating to Thunder Bay mayor Keith Hobbs last December. The charges have not yet been proven in court. Levesque is scheduled to appear in court on June 13.

Indigenous leaders on May 31 called on the Ontario Civilian Police Commission to "investigate and inquire into the administrative failures" of the police services board after the deaths of teens Tammy Keeash and Josiah Begg.



BACK ON THE JOB: Jacqueline Dojack, chair of the Thunder Bay Police Services Board, has been reinstated after a short investigation.

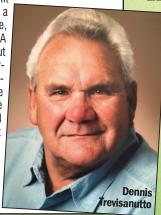


"If it wasn't for my father, I wouldn't be where I am today"

- Dennis H. Trevisanutto

As a young man, Dennis discovered his love of gardening, working alongside his parents on their farm. It was his father, Buck, who encouraged Dennis to build his own greenhouse and sell

bedding plants. Together they built Creekside's very first greenhouse, a small. 24'X 48', wooden structure. which opened for business in 1974. A lot has changed over 4 decades, but Dennis' steadfast commitment to growing quality plants and providing excellent customer service has remained the same. Quality and service. These were the things his father taught him and Dennis is forever grateful. "If it wasn't for my father, I wouldn't be where I am today," says Dennis. So, every year around Father's Day, Dennis honours his father, Buck, with an extra special sale, namely "BUCK DAYS".



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Police insist there

is no crisis within,

in aftermath of

Indigenous deaths

n the wake of several First Nation youth death investigations, an ongoing review looking into possible systemic racism and growing mis-

trust from First Nation chiefs, leader-

ship with the Thunder Bay Police say

"I don't see the situation as a crisis,"

said acting Thunder Bay Police Service Chief, Sylvie Hauth. "I see it as a current situation we can work through and something that involves all the community members. We are part of the community as a police

"To say we are in challenging times would be an understatement," added Thunder Bay Police Service Board chair Jacqueline Dojack. "We recognize that we are in challenging times,

that's different than being in crisis." Hauth and Dojack made the state-

ments during a media conference last

Wednesday hosted by Thunder Bay

there is no crisis.

service."

police force.

a job to do."

By Doug Diaczuk - TB Source

Weather Forecast Business as usual

THURSDAY

Chance of a shower

Probability of Precipitation: 40% HIGH 23 LOW 12



Chance of a shower

Probability of Precipitation: 40% HIGH 21 LOW 12



A mix of sun and clouds

Probability of Precipitation: 20% HIGH 20 LOW 12

SUNDAY

Light rain

Probability of Precipitation: 20% HIGH 17 LOW 12



Probability of Precipitation: 40% HIGH **16** LOW **11**



A mix of sun and clouds

Probability of Precipitation: 30% HIGH **17** LOW **10**

NO QUICK FIX: Acting Police Chief Sylvie Hauth and acting Deputy Chief Don Lewis.

director on this manner."

In order for the RCMP to take over the investigations, a request would need to be made by Thunder Bay Police leadership, something Hauth said is not being considered at this time.

LOCALNEWS

"We currently have a review process underway," she said. "NAN leadership itself has expressed that they have confidence in the OIRPD review and that we will continue to

cooperate with the director and follow that course of action."

According to Hauth, the Thunder Bay Police has a strong relationship with the broader community. including First Nations people, and she said the call to bring in the RCMP came from the Nishnawbe Aski Nation leadership.

"The leaders themselves

are insinuating the trust is permeating all aspects of our community," she said. "I'm not sure to what extent that is coming from the NAN leadership. They have come forward and that is their position.

"It's not what I see in our daily interactions. We do have a lot of public support and a lot of positive interactions.'

Hauth added that the police service is working to improve relations with all aspects of the community and the people they serve.

She pointed to the police's participation in the Unity Walk last week as the most recent example of working to strengthen relationships.

"I would like to continue on that momentum," she said. "We have been working for the last year on a number of inquest recommendations. We've built some strong partnerships within the community.'

Can't do it alone

However, Hauth said the police service cannot solve all the issues and problems facing the city of Thunder

"We can't fix all of the underlying issues," she said. "We are a partner at the table and we are committed to working with those partners and making our community safe."

Dojack added the police service board will accept and follow all recommendations from the OIPRD review when it is completed.

The Police Services Board is under investigation by the Ontario Civilian Police Commission.

"The service board in this city, along with many other organizations, agencies, the city of Thunder Bay, all need to work together in our respective roles on those boards committees, and agencies, and as citizens of Thunder Bay," she said.

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Fractured

One of the challenges facing the police service is its relationship with First Nations people and leadership. Following the deaths

negating the fact that there

are challenging times. We

have a lot of things on our

plate right now, but its

business as usual, we have

of 17-year-old Tammy Keeash and 14-year-old Josiah Begg, who were both found dead in local waterways last month, First Nations leaders called on the RCMP to take over the investigations.

"At this time, we do not believe this is a practical or necessary action to take," Hauth said. "The OIPRD will be reviewing these two death investigations as part of their current review and we are fully co-operating with the

Police to address the realities and challenges currently facing the local "We have a job to do and a community to serve and protect and we will continue to do so," Hauth said. "There are a lot of challenging events. ... If the community sees this as a crisis, that's their perception. I'm not "To say we are in

challenging times would be an understatement." JACQUELINE

DOJACK

LOCALNEWS

City looks for help on recommendations

CITY HALL By Matt Vis - TB Source

The city's one-year response to recommendations from the seven youth inquest was unanimously backed by council, though many are calling on the federal and provincial governments to come to the table.

Administration on Monday presented council with an overview of the 31 recommendations directed to the city from the coroner's inquest in the deaths of seven students between 2000 and 2011 from remote Indigenous communities who died while attending high school in Thunder Bay.

The inquest, which examined the deaths of Jethro Anderson, Reggie Bushie, Robyn Harper, Kyle Morrisseau, Paul Panacheese, Curran Strang and Jordan Wabasse, produced a total of 145 recommendations. One recommendations was for all named parties to produce an annual report updating the province's chief coroner of the status of implementing the recommendations, which are not legally binding.

A number of councillors noted a significant number of the recommendations – especially the ones targeting



LOOKING FOR HELP: The coroner's inquest into the deaths of Jethro Anderson, Curran Strang, Paul Panacheese, Robyn Harper, Reggle Bushie, Kyle Morriseau and Jordan Wabasse produced 145 recommendations.

major systemic changes such as equity for Indigenous education – are directed to senior levels of government with Ottawa and the province urged to assist the city and Indigenous organizations with funding to help fulfil various recommendations.

"I think we need to know when Canada is coming to the table, we need

to know when Ontario is coming to the table," Coun. Joe Virdiramo said.

"We can't do it alone."

A similar opinion was voiced by Coun. Rebecca Johnson, who said the city needs to start pushing that "it's not just Thunder Bay."

"It's identified as a national issue and we've got to start saying that we're going to go back to the basics, find out what those problems are and have a solution for when young people come to Thunder Bay there are no issues because it's been dealt with in the northern communities," Johnson said.

"I just don't want to keep spending money to band aid. I'm tired of it because it's not helping us in the long run of where we need to go."

One recommendation was to conduct a safety audit of the city's watercourses. The bodies of five of the seven youth that were the subject of the inquest were found in Thunder Bay waterways and Indigenous teens Tammy Keeash and Josiah Begg were both found dead in water last month.

The audit was performed last month with more than 50 participants representing all named parties. The group conducted day and night audits of the Kaministiquia River between Kam River Heritage Park and the Thunder Bay Rowing Club, the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway from Balmoral Street to the rail tracks east of Fort William Road, and McVicar Creek from Algoma Street to Lake Superior.

City strategic servies director and inquest lead Karen Lewis, along with Thunder Bay Police Service Insp.

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Sharon Komar, crime prevention council coordinator Lee Ann Chevrette, and Northern Nishnawbe Education Council executive director Norma Keijick, presented preliminary findings.

Suggested actions include installing barriers underneath bridges and tunnels, along with motion activated lights and surveillance cameras.

Keijick described the safety audit process as an "eye opener."

"Looking at the parks and looking at the walkways after the training we received, I don't feel safe after what I learned," Keijick said.

A full report with implementation costs is expected to be put before council in August.

Komar said city police are working with the LCBO and Beer Store to try to curb alcohol purchases for youth, with police wanting to include a message to those suppliers – also known as runners – that providing alcohol to underage youth can have fatal consequences.

"It's not just a fine. It's kids dying," Komar said. "They're dying. You're buying the alcohol for someone who could end up in the river."

Council approved administration's proposed First Nation Secondary School Transit Pass Pilot Program.



LOCALNEWS



NEXT STEP: Council on Monday voted to give \$125,000 to cover the towing costs to bring the Alexander Henry back to the city.

Alexander Henry one step closer to return

CITY HALL By Matt Vis - TB Source

The Alexander Henry is coming home. Thunder Bay city council on Monday night voted to spend up to \$125,000 towards the costs of towing the decommissioned Canadian Coast Guard icebreaker from southern Ontario back to where it was built nearly 60 years ago.

The decision marked a victory for the Lakehead Transportation Museum Society, which has been working since last fall to bring the ship to the city with plans to continue its legacy as a tourist attraction.

The *Alexander Henry* was constructed by the former Port Arthur Shipbuilding Company and commissioned as a Canadian Coast Guard vessel in 1959. The ship, which broke ice on the Great Lakes, was a familiar sight in the local harbour until its decommissioning in 1984. It had a second career as a featured attraction at the Marine Museum of the Great Lakes in Kingston but came on the market when that property was sold, leaving the future of the ship in question.

Kingston city council previously pledged \$50,000 to relocate the ship to Thunder Bay, saving it from being scrapped.

The cost of towing the ship to Thunder Bay from where it is currently docked in Picton, Ont. is pegged at \$250,000. In addition to the commitment from both Thunder Bay and Kingston, the transportation museum

society has received a pledge of \$50,000 from a private donor, the group is working towards a \$50,000 fundraising target and they have applied to the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation for another \$150,000.

Further site preparation costs range from \$40,000 to \$70,000.

"If everything goes without any unseen delays we hope to have the ship here in Thunder Bay sometime in late July. It could be earlier, we have to have discussions with our tow operator," transportation museum society president Charlie Brown said.

Administration is recommending the ship be displayed at the Kam River Heritage Park, rather than the transportation museum society's desired location at Pool Six.

Coun. Larry Hebert said damage from mischief done to the former VIA Rail train and James Whalen tugboat in the area makes him reluctant to want the Alexander Henry at the site.

"Even though I live over on this side of town not far from here I have concerns because of the vandalism," Hebert said.

Coun. Shelby Ch'ng was the lone opposing vote, questioning the group's business plan that counts on drawing 7,000 visitors in the first year and a net profit of nearly \$15,000

"This is not just adding up," Ch'ng said. "We're voting on bringing the Henry here but it doesn't say which docks it is. If it's at Kamview you're not getting the visitors."





Editorial

EDITORIAL

Second Cup for Murray

hat a record-setting playoff run for Thunder Bay's Matt Murray.

The Pittsburgh Penguins star, injured as the post-season got under way, recorded back-to-back shutouts in Game 5 and Game 6 to lead the Pens to a second straight Stanley Cup championship.

In the process, Murray became the first goaltender in NHL history to win Cups in his first two years in the league. Think about that for a second.

In the 100-year history of the NHL, more than 750 players have slapped on the pads and stepped between the pipes. He's in pretty rarified territory.

Consider this. In any other year, the 23-year-old would be a shoe-in for rookie of the year.

Murray, who won 15 times as a rookie in the 2016 playoffs to tie an NHL record, was still eligible for the Calder Trophy in 2017.

All he did for an encore this season was post a 32-10-4 record with a 2.41 goals against average. He was 7-3-0 in the playoffs, returning for Game 3 of the conference finals, and had three

But with Auston Matthews, Patrick Laine and Zach Werenski in his way, Murray will have to settle for another Stanley Cup ring instead.

That's not a bad consolation prize for Murray, whose Penguins are already the betting favourites to three-peat and bring home the Cup in 2018.

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Troublesome coverage

To the editor:

n any major investigation, the police will gather evidence and other information that may be available from a variety of sources such as witness statements and video images.

Documentation and continuity of evidence is critical should a case be determined criminal and proceed to prosecution.

The Regional Coroner's office will be involved in sudden death investigations in efforts to determine the cause of death and to assist with positive identification of the deceased. The police work with the coroner in the investigation focusing on techniques that may lead to a conclusion and could result in an arrest if warranted or rule out criminality.

Depending on the type of investigation, there are a variety of tests that are conducted to analyze the physical evidence that is collected by police. The results help to support an investigation and may be used in the court process.

Police may release information to the media that is deemed necessary to inform the public about an incident. At times there will be information that the police will not release for a variety of reasons to assist investigators to go through relevant and non-relevant information. Information that has not been released by the police has proven to be crucial in many cases and has led to arrests and convictions in a court of law, allowing justice to be served.

A core function of the police in Ontario is to support victims of crime and their families through very tragic and difficult times.

The irresponsible reporting on police investigations by some of the media is inappropriate to the dignity of the victim, to the families that are grieving and obstructive to the investigation.

In the end the responsibility is to victims of crime, their families and to put the strongest criminal case before the court.

Since the news conference held by the Thunder Bay Police Service on June 7, information has be reported through some media outlets alleging certain details about death investigation of Tammy Keeash.

The information that has been circulating on media and social media could possibly jeopardize the investigation and/or a potential prosecution should information be obtained that someone may have been responsible for Tammy's death.

As the Thunder Bay Police Service has maintained, this continues to be an ongoing investigation with the Regional Coroner's Office and the Criminal Investigations Branch.

TBPS Detectives maintain communication with Tammy's family. Due to this being an open investigation, we will not comment further on the allegations that are circulating and the status of the

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



investigation.

Anyone with further information is encouraged to contact the police at 684-1200 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 or www.tipsubmit.

> Const. Julie Tilbury, Thunder Bay Police Service

Rats are an issue

To the editor:

would like to respond to Michael Poling's letter to the editor that appeared in last week's Thunder Bay

The letter writer seems to be confused and uniformed as to Thunder Bay's growing rat problem.

I suggest he read the article written by Matt Vis that also appeared on page 12 in last week's Thunder Bay Source "City looks at options to control rat infestation."

In April of this year the Thunder Bay District Health Unit issued a warning about rats invading city neighborhoods.

Mr. Sieswerda, manager of environmental health programs at the health unit stated that rats like compost piles.

"It's warm because it generates heat from the decomposition. It's protected and people dump food waste in there. It's a warm little smorgasbord for them " he said.

The Roots to Harvest currently uses home made compost bins that are an attraction for rats that will only

compound the problem of the growing rat infestation in this popular highly populated area of Northwood situated next to the City's Victoria Park playground.

Doug Rondeau, owner and operator of Canadian Pest Control, said there have been signs of an infestation going back more than two years. He also states that compost materials is another huge draw for rats.

Last Monday night city council asked administration to prepare a report on what can be done to control the growing rat infestation.

Apart from the concerns this urban training farm may have on the rat epidemic in the area it just doesn't belong in this beautiful residential neighborhood or any other highly populated urban location within the city.

There is no shortage of property in the rural areas of the city or in other less visible locations where this urban training farm might fit in. This farm should not be confused with smaller community gardens that are less visible in some locations within the city.

> Ray Smith, Thunder Bay

News leaders needed

To the editor:

he police service is under investigation for systemic racism. I won't jump to conclusions, but with this

going on, does it not suggest that the leadership there got them to this point? I can't recall the last time they met their budget, but that didn't stop them from asking for another million or so and their willing servants at city hall might as well have said, "are you sure we can't give you more?"

We find out that the chair of the police services board was removed for about a month and not only didn't we know, she refused to advise the public to the reasons why. Isn't her role to serve this city?!

The chief of police looked incompetent during the W5 show in December, on the number of deaths in our community and he is now suspended while charged with two crimes. We had the vice-president of their union charged for gun crimes and he seemed to get a sentence that was a pretty good deal.

And now the folks who got jobs in large part because of our suspended chief are now running the place and one of the lines used by the new acting chief is that it is "business as usual".

Perhaps operating this place like you have in the past is why our police force seems under siege? We need to go outside for a new acting chief to clean the place up. Maybe the government needs to step in and take over this board and replace it. I guess our police service has made the national news because it is always business as usual.

> Tanis Jones, Thunder Bay

The genetic blues

New technology could have unintended consequences

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

here is a breed of livestock, the Belgian Blue that is the remarkable result of a natural mutation called "double muscling."

Some animals lack the protein that regulates muscle growth and they bulk up to where one bull appears to be carrying the beef of two.

They look like bovine Arnold Schwarzeneggers.

This freaky abnormality has been perpetuated by selective breeding larger animals means more meat and higher profits.

This mutation comes at a cost for the unfortunate animals who suffer through an uncomfortable existence full of serious health problems.

The Belgian Blues didn't ask for this burden but their Belgian masters made that decision for them anyway, for profit.

This raises serious scientific, humanitarian and ethical issues as these poor animals cope with the consequences of genetic manipula-

This is an example of what can happen when a single gene is defective and exploited.

But now we have the science to customize or modify any living organism for good, evil or even worse, money.

If you had the power to manipulate creation, bring back extinct species or even tamper with human evolution, what would you do?

This choice is troubling the scientific community as one more piece of science fiction becomes a sobering scientific fact.

The situation is described in Jennifer Doudna's new book, A Crack in Creation - Gene Editing and the Unthinkable Power to Control Evolution.

Ms. Doudna is a professor of molecular and cell biology and a codiscoverer of a revolutionary technology called CRISPR.

This is really futuristic – it allows precise changes or edits to the microscopic strands of DNA that determine who or what we are.

We now have the ability, if not the aptitude to fiddle with the tiny building blocks of human life and evolution.

No need to wait for Mother Nature or natural selection - we decide what's best and make the changes in

The human body consists of 37.2 trillion individual cells, give or take.

Each cell contains a genetic code -20,000 genes and billions of strands of DNA that make up our individual human genomes.

This micro-world is where CRISPR is used to remove unwanted or defective DNA and/or replace it with something more desirable.

The technology goes far beyond Belgian Blues although the implications on human health may be equally remarkable.

In fact, the prevention and treatment of genetic disease is where CRISPR technology has the scientific community most excited.

As the new technology is used to research human DNA development, treatments are found for prevention and even a cure for many ailments.

There are more than 6,000 known single-gene disorders and although they are rare, millions are affected.

Sufferers of Cystic Fibrosis, Huntington's disease and many other less-known conditions have renewed hope based on CRISPR technology.

We've been trying to edit the human genome for years but CRISPR is faster, cheaper and more accurate than any other method.

It has already been used to improve (?) agricultural crops and livestock and yes, this includes freaky, double-muscled cows and

The potential of this gene-editing technology to relieve human disease and suffering is enormous, but remember the Belgian Blues.

There can be unintended consequences - skeptics are already concerned about collateral gene damage caused by CRISPR.

We should tread lightly when toying with creation.

Professor Doudna foresees a future with resurrected woolly mammoths, unicorns and even winged dragons all possible with CRISPR.

Also, life-changing treatments and life-saving cures.

One day, parents will pre-order the color of their unborn child's eyes and hair, their height and weight and even more unthinkable options.

Will that be two legs or four?

COOKING UP A TRADITIONAL LESSON



A TASTY LESSON Mason Flye, Lucas Flye, and Joseph Burkhardt try making bannock bread during the Anishnawbe Keeshigun Festival at Fort William Historical Park.

This week in history:

n 1919 Fort William's city council proposed a bylaw to raise funds for a statue to commemorate the fallen soldiers of the First World War, but the voters turned it down in a plebiscite. The Fort William Women's Patriotic Society then commissioned unknown artist to create a memorial for the grounds of city hall, and the 11.5-ton statue was unveiled the

following year.



HOW TO WRITE US:

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

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

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

Fax: 345-9923 Email: ldunick@dougallmedia.com

Visit our website: www.tbnewswatch.com

THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Should police release the results of the OPP's review into their handling of the death of Stacy DeBungee?

VOICE YOUR OPINION ABOUT THINGS THAT MATTER MOST.

VISIT www.tbnewswatch.com

TO SHARE YOUR IDEAS AND VIEWS ABOUT OUR WEEKLY POLL QUESTION

TOTAL VOTES: 617

OYES ONO ODON'T KNOW 68.07% 26.58%

Thursday, June 15, 2017



Our community came together once again to make the 14th Annual George Jeffrey Children's Centre Soapbox Races another great success! Together we raised over \$31,000 to enrich children's lives!





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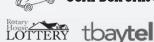




















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Race Standings

Class A
1st Place - Jackson Elliott
2nd Place - Reegan Dolcetti Class M

1st Place - Emmett Cleland 2nd Place - Bronson Aggamaway



LOCALNEWS



CLOSE CALL: John Rafferty lost in Thunder-Bay Atikokan in 2007 by 46 votes to Liberal Bill Mauro.

Rafferty returns to political ring

Former MP to run provincially for NDP in 2018

"The fact is,

we're all

corporate

captives to

the hvdro

system."

JOHN RAFFERTY

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

ohn Rafferty says after 14 years, Premier ohn Rafferty says and 17 jeurs, Liberals Kathleen Wynne's governing Liberals have run out of ideas for Ontario.

It's time for new blood at Queen's Park, said the 63-year-old former NDP Member of Parliament, who on Monday officially accepted the nomination to run for the party provincially in the riding of Thunder Bay-Atikokan.

Rafferty, who was acclaimed, is hoping the fourth time is a charm.

Before his seven-year stint in Ottawa, Rafferty twice sought the seat, losing most recently in 2007 by just 46 votes to incumbent Liberal Bill Mauro, who holds the riding to this day.

"There was certainly a pattern emerging in the past couple of years about a real dislike of Kathleen Wynne and what her Liberals are doing to this province," Rafferty said, explaining his decision to end his political retirement and hit the campaign trail for the ninth time as a candidate.

"Their concerns are the same concerns that I have. I was urged by a fairly large number of constituents that I should throw my hat in the ring and we should do our bit in Thunder Bay-Atikokan, at least, to ensure Kathleen Wynne's Liberals are out."

Rafferty's political past isn't without contro-

The former radio broadcaster in 2011 was disciplined by incoming NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair for voting in favour of abolishing the controversial long-gun registry, against the wishes of the party leadership.

Both he and fellow Thunder Bay MP Bruce Hyer were not allowed to make statements or ask questions in the House of Commons and both had their critics' roles taken away.

Rafferty has also only been successful twice at the federal or provincial level as a candidate, winning the Thunder Bay-Rainy River riding in back-to-back elections in 2008 and 2011. He was swept out of office in 2015 by Justin Trudeau and the Liberal's red tide, losing to current MP Don Rusnak.

Spiraling hydro costs are the reason Rafferty said most propelled him back to the political trail in 2017.

"The fact is, we're all corporate captives to the hydro system," Rafferty told a crowd of about 10 that attended the nomination meeting, railing against the privatization of Hydro One and warning of huge rate hikes expected postelection when consumers have to pay for the 25 per cent cut Wynne has promised rate-payers.

"The Bay Street investors make billions and of course we are taken to the cleaners."

The Conservatives under Patrick Brown will do no better, he added.

"Their plan is to privatize our hydro system even faster than the Liberals," Rafferty said.

The Liberals, Conservatives, Green Party and Northern Ontario Party have yet to name candidates in Thunder Bay-Atikokan. The election is scheduled for June 2018.

LOCALNEWS

IN BRIEF

Arrest made in 'I killed those kids' case

hunder Bay Police have apprehended a 27-year-old city man in connection with mischief to the VIA train at the Kamview Overlook Park.

Glenn Kwandibens has been charged with Mischief Under \$5,000 and Breach of Probation.

Police say he was arrested on George Street without incident last Saturday evening.

Kwandibens has been released from custody on a promise to appear in court.

Police began the investigation last week after learning through social media about a message saying "I killed those kids" that was found on the side of the train parked at Kamview Overlook Park as a tourist attraction.

The City of Thunder Bay subsequently removed the graffiti.

Report stays secret

City police currently have no inten-tions of publicly releasing the OPP review of their investigation into the death of Stacy DeBungee.

The body of the 41-year-old DeBungee was found in the McIntyre River on the morning of Oct. 19, 2015. Later the same day, before the identity of the body was released, the Thunder Bay Police Service issued a statement that the initial investigation determined the death was not suspicious.

Indigenous leaders criticized the Thunder Bay police, accusing the service of not conducting an adequate investigation. The city police service's handling of the case spurred a review from the Office of the Independent Police Review Director over whether there is systemic racism within the force and their policies and procedures related to Indigenous death investigations.

The OPP began their probe into the Thunder Bay police investigation in February, at the request of then-city police chief J.P. Levesque. The report was received by Thunder Bay police on May 15.

Const. Julie Tilbury on Friday said acting police chief Sylvie Hauth received confirmation from the OIPRD that the document can be released publicly, but the police service has no intention of doing so at this time.

"Given the fact that the DeBungee death investigation is still a part of a public complaint under the Police Services Act and is before the OIPRD as part of the systemic review, the OPP report will not be made public at this time," Tilbury said.

"Additionally, the DeBungee family has not yet been reached to provide an update of this review

Stabbing arrest

Police have issued an arrest warrant for a man involved in a weekend altercation that sent one person to hospital on the city's north side.

The incident took place just before 2 a.m. Sunday morning outside of the NV Nightclub on Red River Road. Police arrived on the scene and found a 22-year-old male injured and bleeding.

The man was transported to the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre and remains in hospital.

Following an investigation, police identified the man responsible for the aggravated assault and have issued a warrant for his arrest. Investigators are still attempting to locate him and the investigation is ongoing.

Gas thief nailed

Aman accused of offering rides to people at Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre is behind

Thunder Bay Police, in a release issued last Thursday, said the man's vehicle had been reported to police for theft of gasoline from an Arthur Street business on June 4.

Police said they located the driver and the vehicle last Wednesday and the suspect was taken into custody.

He's been charged with theft of

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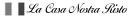
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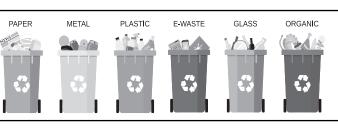






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LOCALNEWS

Man gets six years for home invasion

By Matt Vis - TB Source

33-year-old man will spend six years behind bars A 33-year-old man will spend on. James of the for his role in a violent home invasion two years ago, despite his previous pleas to the sentencing judge to avoid any further jail time.

Michael McCrady, found guilty of multiple charges for the May 2015 attack in a Banning Street home that left the 43-year-old victim with stab wounds, facial fractures and blunt force injuries, was sentenced by Superior Court Justice Terrance Platana at the Thunder Bay Courthouse last Thursday.

During the previous sentencing hearing, McCrady implored the judge to sentence him to serve a threeyear probationary period that would have kept him out of prison to continue rehabilitation and be present to father to his son.

Platana on Thursday acknowledged McCrady's appeal for mercy, but said factors such as protection of the public and denunciation were sentencing principles to which he had to adhere.

"I have done so to the extent I can," the judge said. After a four-day trial in late 2016, Platana found McCrady guilty on all counts. McCrady was sentenced on charges of break and enter, robbery, forcible confinement and breach of probation. Charges of

McCrady was sentenced to six years, less credit for pre-sentence custody of 69 days, on the break and enter charge. Platana ordered concurrent sentences of three years for the robbery charge and six months each for the forcible confinement and breach of probation.

aggravated assault and uttering threats were stayed.

Forcible entry

The court heard during the trial on the evening of May 14, 2015 two men – McCrady and Chris McKay - arrived at the Banning Street residence of Troy Bichon. McCrady forcibly entered the house and demanded money, later calling in McKay. The ensuing confrontation led to Bichon being assaulted with a small bat and stabbed. Attempting to escape, he was thrown partially through a porch window and was subsequently pulled back into the home.

The first arriving officer found the victim outside and covered in blood, being treated by three paramedics.

Bichon was hospitalized for six days and required two surgeries. He suffered blunt force injuries and stab

VIOLENT ACT: Police investigate a 2015 home invasion.

wounds including one to the right thigh that resulted in 25 per cent blood loss, facial fractures and multiple lacerations and abrasions.

Wanted more

Crown prosecutor Andrew Sadler had sought a minimum 10-year sentence, arguing McCrady was the leader of the attack which left the victim with serious

McCrady had previous assault convictions from four incidents between 2003 and 2013, along with multiple convictions of mischief and failure to comply with court orders.

Platana detailed the pre-sentence reports, which outlined McCrady's childhood of abuse and victimization. He also noted multiple letters of support that had been supplied to the court by the ironworkers union, church pastors and multiple family members.

McKay was sentenced to five-and-a-half years in prison after pleading guilty last year.

McCrady must also comply with a DNA order and is subjected to a lifetime weapons ban. He is also ordered not have any contact with the victim during the length of his sentence.





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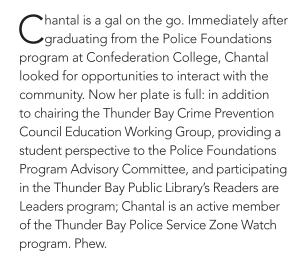
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Zone Watch Volunteers Create Safer Neighbourhoods

Meet Zone Watch Volunteer Chantal





"I've wanted to be a police officer since I was a little girl," Chantal reveals. "When Constable Julie Tilbury visited our school, I was surprised and inspired to learn that this small woman was a police officer. She planted a seed in me." The Zone Watch program, a partnership between citizens and police, is an excellent way for Chantal to experience the ever-changing world of policing. It's convenient too. As Chantal points out, "You choose how much you want to interact and where



- online on the Zone Watch forum; in person at events, meetings, and seminars, or both."

Zone Watch has taught Chantal that law enforcement is about helping the community and sometimes that's more about social work than police work. "We're always learning with Zone Watch," Chantal says. "First, our initial Academy training, then ongoing information nights where expert officers teach us about firearms, gangs, social issues or drugs; and share what they deal with on the job."

With Zone Watch, learning is a two-way street. Citizen perspectives are heard. "We're encouraged to bring concerns to our zone officer or to all the zones where cross-collaboration can occur," says Chantal. "For example, in 2016 we created a distracted driving campaign that included a

very effective video that shifted a lot of people's perceptions. We tried to target a younger demographic and I think it worked."

Right now, Chantal serves on the communications committee where they are working to dispel myths about crime in Thunder Bay. "We surveyed the public to see what they think and they told us that crime was on the rise when it's actually on a decline," remarks Chantal. "Now that we know their thoughts about drugs in the city, or safety, we can accurately target our myth dispelling campaign with relevant facts."

A long-time believer in the power of neighbourhoods to build safer communities, Tbaytel's partnership with the Thunder Bay Police Service makes it possible for the Zone Watch program to bring police and residents together to identify crime and disorder issues and to work together to promote safety where citizens live, work, and play. And, as Chantal feels, "It's an amazing thing to be part of a group that helps make people safer."



ZONE WATCH IS RECRUITING

The Zone Watch program is open to all citizens over 18, free of charge. Chantal would love to see more young people involved in Zone Watch. "Crime affects everyone and our youth perspective matters," she says. The next Academy Training Session takes place Tuesday, October 17 and Thursday October 19 from 5–9pm, or Saturday, October 21 from 9am–6pm. Find full details online at thunderbaypolice.ca.



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LOCALNEWS

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HUNTED BY POLICE: This suspect is wanted with a Sunday robbery.

Owner upset at robberies

House not

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

The owner of a convenience store robbed for the second time in 24 days has had enough.

Heather Ambro-Bergeron on Monday said it's upsetting that staff members have been robbed a knife-point, putting their lives in danger over a few measly dollars.

The entrepreneur said it's the fourth time in eight years her South Franklin Street store has been targeted, but two incidents so close together is unnerving.

"It's very upsetting. You hear about this all the time, it's just very discouraging when it happens to you. We're a small store. Everyone who comes in here is someone who lives in the neighbourhood, who is my neighbour," Ambro-Bergeron said.

"When this happens, it's just very frustrating and a bit sad."

At approximately 9:55 p.m. on Sunday night, a lone male entered her store, laid a yellow and red duffel bag on the counter and produced

a knife, demanding the cash in the till.

HEATHER AMBRO-**BERGERON**

The clerk complied and the suspect fled on It all happened in less than a minute, Ambro-

Bergeron said, having instructed staff not to fight back.

"If it was me or my business partner, my mother at the till, I can't say we would react in the same way. But for the staff, it's not worth anyone getting injured or anyone losing their life," she said. "It's just best to give them whatever they want and get them out of the store as quickly as possible."

Ambro-Bergeron said she's considered cutting the hours her store is open to avoid late-night incidents, but that would also cut into her revenue. She's also not sure it would cut out robbery attempts.

The store is currently open until 11 p.m., seven days a week.

"These two incidents were in the evening, but the two incidents prior happened in the middle of the afternoon. It's hard to kind of predict. At this time I think we'll be staying open until 11 p.m. and reviewing our security systems.

The thief got away with about \$600.

The suspect is described as a Caucasian male, between 6-foot-1 and 6-foot-3, with a large build and facial hair.

The man was wearing light blue jeans, a cream coloured jacket over a red hoodie, a ball cap with a black brim, sunglasses, black gloves and sneakers. The suspect was also carrying a red and yellow duffel bag.

Anyone with information is asked to phone police at 684-1200.

Pride Week kicks off in colourful style

people | health | home | food | leisure

THUNDER BAY

By Michael Charlebols - TB Source

The colours of the rainbow are set to populate Thunder Bay for the next 10 days.

Pride week, a celebration of the LGBTQ2S community, hosted by Thunder Pride, kicked off this week at city hall.

City councillors and members of Fort William First Nation were set to kick off the events taking place from June 7 to June 17. The feature events will range from an awareness breakfast, to a pub night, drag show, and much more.

"It's an honour, it's exciting, and it's a marker for recognizing the great gains we've made in the north," said Collin Graham, media coordinator of Thunder Pride.

Graham has been associated with Thunder Pride for seven years, and he said watching the pride grow in Thunder Bay was the most rewarding part.

"There's been new programming in the school systems and healthcare," Graham said. "Most importantly, the acknowledgment of creating and giving space to youth as they're going to continue on with the legacy of fighting for LGBT rights."

Joey Polhill was voted pride king for this year's drag show and said the event has allowed him to open up to the community.

"I had never come to the public events, I was always very nervous to put myself out there," Polhill said. "To see (Mayor) Keith Hobbs and all the different councillors... It doesn't matter what you identify as, they will be there to support you no matter what, it's a great feeling."

As for the show, Polhill says in past years it has allowed him to evolve.

"I was very nervous about it, that was one of my holdbacks, I was nervous to be in the spotlight," Polhill said. "It's only been in the last four or five years that I've come out and I've seen so much support... That's what I love about it, I can be myself and Pride is the perfect place to do that."

The pride king will star in the drag show that is set to take place on June 16. The week will culminate on June 17 with the fifth annual pride parade and Pride in the Park music festival.



PRIDE, NO PREJUDICE: Local youth wearing pride colous at the Pride Week kickoff at City Hall

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твLife

Breakfast a hit with kids

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Apre-class meal always gets the brain waves flowing, say students and administrators at St. Bernard Elementary School.

On Friday morning a group of mostly Grade 3 students from the River Street school marched a couple of blocks, sign in hand, to thank the manager of the north side Metro location for his store's assistance in their breakfast program.

It's awesome, said nine-year-old Ruby Melchiorre.

"I feel it's a really good way to be focused and energized throughout the day if you don't have enough time in the morning to eat," Ruby said after helping present Chris Sorel with a bright yellow poster signed by most of the students at her school. "They have healthy choices for you. My

favourite is the Cheerios and milk. I also like all the fruit too." The morning menu includes oranges,

porridge, and cereal. "Just a lot of stuff that will make vou smile," Ruby said.

Vice-principal Anita Treesh says the universal grab-and-go breakfast program is open to each and every student at the River Street school and funded through the local chapter of the Red Cross and the Grocery



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FOOD FRENZY: St. Bernard Elementary School Students (from left) Madison Jacobsen, 8; Ruby Melchiorre, 9: Olivia Civitarese-Zale, 9: Colin Raison, 9: Colson Ortglese, 8: Reece Pederson, 9, and Noah Maidment join River Street Metro manager Chris Sorel on Friday, June 9, 2019 to thank him for helping out their breakfast program

Foundation of Canada.

"Children are allowed to come in in the morning and have something nutritious to eat before they go to their first class in the morning," Treesh said.

The benefits are obvious, she added.

"We've found it to be very important. It's helped with children being more focused.

They're happy in the morning. It's a universal program, so anyone can attend," Treesh said.

"Sometimes children have a long bus ride and needed something a little extra. It could be something very simple."

Sorel said they're only too happy to help out in some small way.

Students get to know firefighters

EDUCATION By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Danica Majdanac says she hopes to become a firefighter when she

The youngster on Monday got a taste of what that life might be like when a crew from the Neebing Fire Station set up shop across the street at Holy Family School and gave students in Grades 1 to 3 a chance to climb aboard a pumper and test their fire suppression skills.

"A fire truck is really cool and there's a lot of really cool stuff inside of it," Danica said. "The ladder can go 100 feet and it's super cool. I want to go up there, but I can't."

The seven-year-old said the best part was sitting in the driver's seat.

"It was cool and I was pretending like I was the captain in there," Danica

Classmate Paiton LeBelle said it was an exciting morning to be at school.

"It's really fun to meet the firemen and all that stuff," said Paiton, also seven. "I'm learning lots of stuff. If there's firemen with tanks on their

Don't be scared."

The visit was part of Thunder Bay Fire Rescue's Adopt a School Program, which has seen firefighters pay multiple visits to elementary schools throughout the city, teaching them about fire safety and connecting with students on a more personal level.

Capt. Phil Lemieux said it's an enlightening experience for both firefighters and students alike.

"Basically we're just trying to get the younger kids comfortable with us, the gear we wear, how we look when we're actually in a fire," Lemieux

"It's hugely important (to learn) 911, stop-drop and roll – we try to cover all the bases for the kids so that they know what to do in case there's ever an emergency in their house."

Holy Family principal Ryan McWhirter said it's a great partnership with their neighbours down the street.

"The kids are very excited to be given the background. They're here to see the trucks and meet the firefighters and go through the trucks and just have some fun with them.'



STRAIGHT SHOOTER: Mallory Levanen, 8, practices her fire suppression techniques on Monday at Holy Family School on Rosslyn Road

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Bucket brigade helps empty swimming pool

Sunday morning. 6:30 am. Wife Laura, daughter Beth, and I are on a bucket brigade. What? Casa Jones on fire? The riding stable in flames? Nope. Emptying the swimming pool. The pool guy was coming at 9 to install a new pool liner.

Our swimming pool has been nearly empty of water for a year. What we were bucketing out was just rain water. Somewhere in the pool liner there was a massive leak. I thought that I had located it and installed a patch to prevent any further leaks. Over several months we noticed the water level slowly going down. Initially I deemed the problem was caused by evaporation but my wiseheaded wife thought not.

"The level is going down too quickly for it to be evaporation. There must be a leak somewhere," she said.

We had this above-ground swimming pool installed when we ran a horse-back riding business. When Laura decided to include summer riding camps for kids, a swimming pool was just the ticket for those July and August afternoons when it



is too hot for the horses to be ridden. After their lunch, the riding campers would have a swim for an hour-and-a-half or so before they resumed their lessons until it was time for them to go home for the day.

Eventually the pool was up, the water in, and voila! Campers could have their afternoon cooling-off swim and in the evening when they were gone, exhausted riding instructor (Laura) and any staff who hung around, could also cool off. It was great.

Periodically we'd discover a leak. Perhaps some playful rough-housing with a water gun or whatever might have caused a small rip in the pool liner. Easy enough to repair. Once we noticed a sizable leak where the ladder was located. A small puddle was forming at the base of the pool wall. So that weekend my friend Rob whose two daughters were taking riding lessons and boarding their horses at our barn, volunteered to help me locate and repair the said leak.

The afternoon was perfect: sunny, warm and relatively biting insect-free. Rob, being a lot more practical than yours truly, suggested we don goggles and do a grid pattern search along the pool floor before examining the walls. Back and forth we swam or walked and occasionally ducked beneath the surface when we thought we spotted a likely rip. I began at one end and Rob, the other. When we reached the middle of the pool we both looked up just in time to avoid a collision. Whew! That was close!

Eventually we found the rip in the liner around where the ladder entered the pool. I guess aggressive running up and down had somehow caused the ladder support to gash the liner.

So I cut a piece of repair material,

squeezed the proper amount of water-resistant glue and attempted to attach the patch. No deal. I couldn't stay under and kept floating to the surface. Rob offered to apply pressure to my back while I worked on the repair. I took a huge gulp of air and plunged. Rob gently held me under and I was able to successfully patch the leak. Hurrah! I came up smiling and then Rob just happened to look up, way up.

Way up there were three turkey vultures circling overhead. We both burst out laughing. "Guess the vultures thought that they were getting a free meal," Rob said. Yup, I suspect that we appeared dead in the water alright.

But two years ago, we observed a serious decline in the water level in the pool. We looked and looked and eventually decided that there was a join, an overlap of pool liner where two pieces had been fitted together and that over the years, wear-and-tear and/or just plain ultra-violet rays from the sun had weakened the liner allowing for a major leak. I set about to repair again with

special plastic and glue. At first it seemed that the repair worked. But perhaps the patch hadn't been a secure as I'd hoped and I had to attempt the repair again; and again it seemed to work.

Along comes autumn and time to put the pool to bed. One siphon's off enough water to a depth of eight inches below the return valve to protect this part of the pool from breaking when the ice forms. But when spring rolled around, we observed that there was almost no water left in the pool.

So we left it: no swimming pool last summer. The pool liner was shot. We were told that pool liners only usually last ten years. This one lasted exactly that length of time.

Unfortunately when we took apart the pool this past Sunday, we discovered just how many short-cuts the original installer had taken during the pool installation that would require more work to correct before installing the new liner. It is going to involve more work than we thought but it will done correctly this time. I'll keep you posted.



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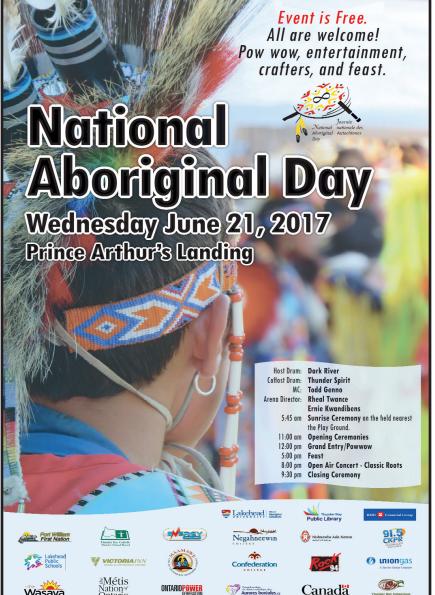
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MOVING ON: Nichole Barkman-Lands dressed in her Traditional Anishinaabe Regalia at convocation last Friday

College grad sends 1,500 to real world

EDUCATIONBy Michael Charlebols – TB Source

ore than 1,500 students walked across the stage to receive their diploma from Confederation College last Friday.

The school's president, Jim Madder, said this year's convocation is especially significant considering their 50-year anniversary.

For the ceremonies, the college brought out past presidents to speak about their time with the school.

"It's interesting just to hear the contrast of what it was like even five or seven years ago," Madder said. "48,000 graduates in 50 years, and they're here in Northwestern Ontario contributing to the economic and social fabric of what we are."

Pat Lang, who formerly served as president for 10 years, said her favourite part of the event was talking to students about their experiences and future ambitions.

"I always like to hear what [students] think about the program," Lang said. "A lot of the times I just ask them if they have a job, and with the class I talked to, there was a very high percentage of graduates who are already gainfully employed."

Another unique aspect of the event took form by way of attire.

Traditionally, all graduates blend in with their blue

gowns, but Nichole Barkman-Lands wanted to wear her Traditional Anishinaabe Regalia instead.

"I'm a traditional dancer, and dancing is a part of your identity," said Barkman-Lands, who also won the award of academic excellence for the Aboriginal Community Advocacy Program. "It was great because there's lots of youth in here, so it's great for them to see someone highlighting their identity."

Barkman-Lands wrote a letter to the college beforehand requesting to wear the regalia. She said the college was more than welcoming to the idea.

"We've never had this many Indigenous graduates, it's about 350 in total," Madder said. "The graduation of that class reflects who we're becoming in Northwestern Ontario"

For the college, there couldn't have been a better person to epitomize the Indigenous success in the school.

"All three of my kids we're watching me graduate," Barkman-Lands said. "It's all worth it for them to see you and be proud of you."

Barkman-Lands graduated with an spotless 4.0 GPA, and will be attending Lakehead's Indigenous Learning Program in the fall.

During the afternoon ceremony, Seija McKay was awarded the governor general's award, and Bryer Twiss was awarded the SUCCI/OASA student leadership award.



ADVERTISING FEATURE

"I now hear every word that is said in my business meetings."

Confidence boost for businessman Derrick.

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And that's exactly what happened when Derrick tried his Miracle-Ear hearing aids for the first time. "The change was instantaneous," he says. "I do a lot of dog walking and running and the first time I went for a walk with my dog in the woods behind our house I was just astounded by the sounds I could hear."

Derrick had begun to notice his hearing loss about 18 months before that life-changing moment. "It was a number of issues that brought it to my attention," he says. "Primarily my wife was complaining about the TV having to be too loud."

His hearing issues were also having an impact on his work and social life. He explains: "If I was in a pub or a business meeting with friends or colleagues I was increasingly finding it difficult to focus on conversations. I was asking people to repeat things and consciously turning my head so I had my slightly better ear facing them." He admits: "Sometimes I was guessing at what they said and just hoping I gave them the right answer."

However once he had acknowledged his hearing problem he was determined to get the right solution, so he took to the internet to research hearing specialists — and Miracle-Ear, with over 1,400 hearing centres across North America, was one of the first names he found. Derrick was impressed with Miracle-Ear's professional approach and wide range of hearing aid solutions offered, so he booked an appointment.

He says: "My first experience of Miracle-Ear was very positive. The day before the appointment the clinic called to confirm and to say they were looking forward to seeing me. The following day when I arrived at the clinic, I was made to feel very welcome and relaxed."



"Wearing the Miracle-Ear hearing aids has transformed my life. From a business point of view I feel more confident going out on appointments. From a family point of view being able to watch the TV without it being at a silly volume has really helped. And there's the added bonus of being able to wear them when I'm out running or walking the dog and being able to listen to music. I really have got my life back."



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TB Life



GROUNDED: Chris Abbey has been stuck without a working elevator in the Roy building on East Victoria Avenue for two weeks.

Broken elevator has bound some tenants

THUNDER BAY
By Michael Charlebois - TB Source

A broken elevator is the latest in a series of problems that continue to plague residents of the Roy building on East Victoria Avenue.

The elevator hasn't been working since May 27. Chris Abbey and Sherry-Lynn Prieston are two seniors who live on the building's second floor and are bound to wheelchairs.

For the past 14 days, a non-functioning elevator has kept Abbey and Prieston stuck in their rooms.

"I feel like I'm in prison, just without the bars," said Prieston, who lost her right leg four years ago.

Abbey, a former Lakehead University microbiology professor, moved into the building in December and said his medical condition has worsened in the time since the elevator stopped working.

"I've had to cancel so many appointments. I can't even do physiotherapy. I can't do my walking in here."

Abbey had a stroke in 2012 and needs to perform physiotherapy exercises in order to avoid swelling in his legs.

Abbey claimed that he contacted the Social Services Board and the fire marshal, but neither could help address the issue.

Prieston, meanwhile, has been unable to get groceries. "I can't even order something from Westfort Foods because my buzzer doesn't work," Prieston said.

According to the two tenants, the broken elevator is

just the latest in an ongoing list of problems.

Both described problems of security, cleanliness, and inadequate management during their time at the Roy building, which is owned and operated by Ahsanul Habib of Habib Enterprises.

"It should have been fixed right away.... It's the only elevator we have. They shouldn't have moved us in here if they can't take care of the place. You have to take care of us," Prieston said.

Habib owns various residential and retirement buildings, and has made an effort to purchase and revitalize old buildings across the city.

But according to Prieston, these attempts have come at the cost of the basic human needs of the tenants.

On Thursday, a spokesperson from Habib's office told tbnewswatch.com that an elevator repair company was at the Roy building on the day it broke down, however an oil leak delayed the process.

Although the elevator technician crew was at the building "at least 10 times" since the problem arose, the crew is still waiting for an elevator part to arrive before it begins an "extensive repair job."

For Abbey, Prieston, and the rest of the handicapped tenants of the Roy building the issue may stretch further than two weeks.

"They should have the personnel to come visit and ask how I'm doing. Nobody has even come to knock on my door and ask 'Christopher, how are you doing? Do you have any bread?' That shocks me," Abbey said.

"They don't show empathy at all."

Dance group heading to homeland

La Stelle Alpine Italian Dancers of Thunder Bay will be touring Italy in July

DANCEBy Doug Diaczuk - TB Source

Agroup of local dancers will be taking their brand of cultural dance back to its roots, showcasing traditional steps adapted by Canadian generations.

La Stelle Alpine Italian Dancers of Thunder Bay are setting off for Italy next month for a two-week dance tour of the country.

"This has been a long term goal of ours since La Stella Alpine started in 1982," said Leah Nadin, a teacher and dancer with La Stelle Alpine.

"It is important for us because a lot of us have ancestors who immigrated to Thunder Bay back in the 1940s and 1950s. So it's important for us to continue their culture and spread their culture and spread their culture and spread their heritage here in Canada, but also perform our adapted versions of Canadian Italian culture there in Italy."

A group of 10 dancers and family members will land in Venice on July 12 and tour through Tuscany, Rome,



A DREAM COME TRUE: Dancers with La Stelle Alpine Dancers of Thunder Bay will be touring Italy for two weeks next month.

and Sicily. They will be performing solo shows, as well as participating in festivals and dance workshops to bring some traditional steps back home to Thunder Bay.

"We do adapted versions of traditional versions of Italian dancing, so it will be nice to be there with experienced Italian dancers who can teach us the traditional steps," Nadin said.

The trip has been a long time in the making and Nadin said it was made possible by support from the community through fundraising and sponsorships. The dance group will also be blazing a new trail for Canadian dancers.

"This is our first time travelling to

Italy to dance," Nadin said. "We are representing Canada as the first traditional Italian dance group to travel to Italy to perform the traditional Italian dancing."

Beth DeProphetis, who has been dancing for more than 30 years, said she has been waiting for this trip since she first became involved with La Stelle Alpine.

"I've always wanted to go," she said. "I've been with this association for many, many years and this is the first time going to Italy and it's been a dream of ours to go."

Being her first trip to Europe, DeProphetis is looking forward to taking in the sites of the Italian cities and countryside, but she is looking forward to being up on stage the most.

"We've performed in the Thunder Bay community and across Canada and the States, but we've never actually been able to perform in the country of our heritage," she said.

And while performing Italian dances in Italy will bring with it some added pressure, DeProphetis is looking forward to sharing the Canadian style that has been mixed with tradition.

"There's not a lot of Italian dancers out there," she said. "We are excited to go out there and show the Italians what the Canadians do to honour our heritage."

DeProphetis will be travelling with her husband and newborn son and other dancers will also have family members cheering them on from the audience.

"It's always nice to get the family perspective," DeProphetis said. "It's always nice to bring a crowd with us and have a cheering squad."





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Thunder Bay



BONNIE GOOD TIME: Legendary American blues singer-songwriter Bonnie Raitt performs Sunday night at the Thunder Bay Community Auditorium.

The double (trouble) media standard



During James Comey's recent televised testimony, Senator John McCain asked about a double standard regarding the FBI investigation into Hillary Clinton's email and the Russia election tampering. Apparently, McCain felt that Clinton was let off easily while Trump is now being targeted.

Regardless of the fact that the two

investigations were completely separate, his question had me thinking. Double standards are principles that are applied differently to various groups or situations. Most would agree; they're used to justify what is basically unjustifiable – be it words or actions. But it doesn't mean we don't all have them.

During his campaign, Donald Trump often used "unnamed sources" for his information and slanderous statements about his opponents. Now as president, he condemns journalists who site them in their damning reports about the White House.

So who has the double standard? The reporters who questioned the sources of his so-called facts last fall? Or Trump for claiming that those sources have made him the victim of "fake news"?

Ivanka Trump recently appeared on Fox & Friends to decry the shocking viciousness of politics and the media. Yet, she was at her father's side on the campaign trail when he threatened to put his opponent in prison, suggested that Russia should hack her server, and coined the term "Crooked Hillary.'

And she thinks Washington is vicious?

Comedians love having Trump surgically attached to his Twitter account because his continuous fauxpas give them so much material. Stephen Colbert's ratings have steadily climbed because of his nightly assessment of Trump's missteps while Seth Meyers' segment, "A Closer Look," has focused on Trump over any other topic. They've targeted Trump's children; from their appearance to their intelligence to their lack of a relationship with their father.

Then comedian Kathy Griffin published a photo of her holding a decapitated and bloodied Trump head as a political joke. It was reminiscent of the horror and violence associated with ISIS who had videotaped several decapitations of kidnapped journalists and private citizens. She said everyone would talk about it. Everyone did. Nobody laughed.

And there was the public's double standard. Sexual innuendos, suggested violence, and nightly beratings is fine. A bloody photo is not.

Consequently, Griffin gave an immediate heartfelt apology. That is, after both sides of the political aisle cried foul. But once she lost media contracts with CNN and retail companies over the image, she claimed that she, herself, was the real victim. Trump was now ruining her career.

So Trump taking responsibility for his actions should involve punishment. Yet, for Griffin, it should just involve lip service.

Apparently, she's learning from the big guy. Once more, and she'll be totally indoctrinated.

However, Griffin's particular double standard is hardly unique among comedians. Jerry Seinfeld came to her defense, trying to downplay it as simply one joke that failed. Meanwhile, Jim Carrey said it's a comedian's job to "cross the line." And most do.

It seems we all have a double standard or two. But does that make us like Trump? Or Comey?

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- Royal treasury Month abbr. 7th incarnation of Vishnu
- 12 Young Men's Hebrew Assn. (abbr.)
- 13 Burmese knife 14 Ireland
- 15 Malay sarong 16 Three (Ital.) 17 Sexually united (pref.)
- 18 Enamel (Fr.) 20 Motor aphasia 22 Surgeon's
- instrument 25 Warp yarn 28 Drug
- Enforcement Admin. (abbr.) 29 Wife of
- Mohammed 33 Wither 35 Corp. for Public Broadcasting

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15

49 Obscure 53 Arabian Sea gulf 54 Amer. Automobile Assn. (abbr.) 57 Port. lady 58 Malay law 59 Slugger's stat 60 Fiber from palms

46 Heavy spar

38 Planet

40 Musical

62 Atlantic (abbr.) 63 Net

- **DOWN** 1 Bag net Muslim holy
- ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE 37 Bedouin's cord ACTOR MAABUGLE EBB URIAL ROB instrument (brass) EVE 42 Double (abbr.) TAFFIAVEILED 43 Balloon baskét E|G|R|E|S|S FAASIGIL SKAWLLILSABE HAJIB SAD BOA LINEAR HOODOOPAMPAS TCHPARSE AAA |A|H|S| ENACT $R \mid E \mid M \mid I \mid T$ 61 New sugarcane
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 - Base Finery Russ, inland
 - Commission (abbr.) 24 Let up 25 Amer. Standard Version (abbr.) 26 Stinging insect 27 Prohibit
 - 30 Signed (abbr.) 31 Habakkuk (abbr.) 32 Utterly

10 "La Boheme"

heroine

19 Liquid crystal

23 Atomic Energy

display (abbr.)

11 Wild ox

21 Meadow

- 34 Ram (2 words) 36 Formal dance (Fr.) 39 Held a session 41 45 (Rom.
- numeral) 44 Wild rubber 45 Same (Lat.) 46 Semitic deity
- 47 Egypt. skink 48 Substantial 50 Triangular insert 51 Alone (Lat.)
- 52 Apiece Amer. Ballet
- Theatre (abbr.) 56 Trouble

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DeGrazia earns Staal berth

GOLF
By Leith Dunick - TB Source

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van DeGrazia will get a fourth shot at a Staal Foundation open title.

The Thunder Bay golfer fired a oneunder 71 on Saturday at Whitewater Golf Club to snag a two-shot victory in the first of two Thunder Bay District Golf Association qualifiers for next month's Mackenzie Tour-PGA Tour Canada event.

DeGrazia held off Dustin Barr, who birdied 17 to pull within a shot, but overshot the green on his third shot on the final hole and settled for bogey.

With only one spot up for grabs, it was top spot or nothing, said DeGrazia, who has missed the cut in all three previous appearances at the Staal Foundation Open, falling short last year by six strokes after posting a two-day, six-over 150.

"It's exactly how I envisioned the day going. You're playing for one spot so you're looking at the top of the leaderboard. And there I was at the end of the day."

DeGrazia credited his ball striking for the victory, leading him to birdies on the second, seventh, 12th and 15th holes.

He also kept the damage to a minimum, only picking up three bogeys on the afternoon, including a potentially costly one on No. 17.

"The greens were soft and receptive and so was the course," said DeGrazia, who last month graduated from South Carolina's Newberry College and plans to turn professional in July.

"I hit the ball great and managed to get a few going in. The greens were a little bumpy here and there, but it was



FOURTH SHOT: Evan DeGrazia shot a one-under 71 at Whitewater Golf Club on Saturday in the Staal Foundation Open qualifier.

just a really solid day."

The goal now is to make it to the weekend on July 15 and July 16.

That's all he's got left to prove, at least as an amateur.

"That's definitely the goal. It's the fourth crack at it. The nerves are definitely going to be gone. It's definitely go time when I get there," DeGrazia said.

Saying it is one thing, accomplishing it is another. However, he's got a plan in place.

"You need to make birdies and lots of them," he said.

For Barr, it was a heartbreaking end to the day.

He had about 145 yards left on his third shot, pulled out a nine iron and thought he had the right club. But the wind stopped as he released and the ball flew past the green and into the rough. He couldn't convert the chip-in and had to settle for second.

"I really want to play in this tournament badly. I've been trying to get in

it for the last three years. Every time I've come up short. I'm just trying to keep working hard and playing golf," said Barr, who plans to enter next month's Keg District Open, the second and final local qualifying event.

Jeremy Kirk and Joe Scharf finished tied for third with seven-over 79s. John Connor and Albert Drake rounded out the top five in the ninegolfer field, two shots further back with 81s.

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BLEEDS BLUE: Marc Staal says he wants to remain with the New York Rangers.

Staal awaits his fate

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

arc Staal would like to spend the rest of his career patrolling the blue-line for the New York Rangers.

That dream may or may not come to

On the wrong side of 30, Staal's name has been swirling in the rumour mill, despite a contract blessed with a nomovement clause that could hamper the Rangers ability to move the stay-at-home defenceman ahead of this month's expansion draft welcoming the Vegas Golden Knights to the National Hockey League.

The Rangers could buy out Staal or fellow blue-liner Dan Girardi ahead of that draft. They could ask one of the two to waive their no-movement clause freeing the team up to protect another player.

Staal's heard all the talk, but isn't putting too much stock into anything that doesn't come straight from general

manager Jeff Gorton's lips.

"With the draft and with the way our season ended there's obviously been a lot of talk and rumours. It's something new and I try not to think about it or talk myself into it until I know the facts. And I don't really know too much right now," Staal said.

"You roll with the rumours and see what happens."

Hanging around Madison Square Gardens for the next few seasons would be ideal, said Staal, who scored three goals and added seven assists in 72 games this past season, bringing his career totals to 37 goals and 156 points in 10 NHL campaigns.

"I was drafted there and it's an organization I've been proud and humbled to be a part of for a very long time," Staal said. "I want to keep playing for them and I think I can help that team win. That's the bottom line.

It really depends on which direction the aging Rangers wish to move in.

New York upset Montreal in the

opening round of this year's playoffs, but was dispatched by upstart Ottawa in Round 2. A year ago they bowed out in the first round, beaten in five games by eventual Stanley Cup champion Pittsburgh.

The window is closing, with stars like Rick Nash and goalie Henrik Lundquist winding down possible hall-of-fame

Still, this is a team that's just two years removed from a conference final appearance and three years from a trip to the Stanley Cup final, the Rangers first since winning it all in 1994.

Drafted in the opening round by New York in 2005, Staal believes he's still got plenty of gas left in the tank to help the team make another lengthy playoff run.

"Regardless of your role, you want to put your best hockey on the ice and I was able to do that at times this year, but not as consistently as I wanted to," said Staal, an alternate captain with the Rangers who has four years remaining on his six-year, \$34.2 million deal.





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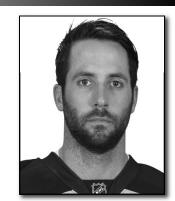
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In the event that Carter Hutton is traded the prize package will be honoured to the destination of the trade.







sports NEWS

Staals inspire new brew

Grass Roots ale was developed for Staal Foundation Open

GOLFBy Leith Dunick – TB Source

Collectively they've had their names engraved on Stanley Cups, won Olympic gold and been top-five draft picks.

They've had a rink named in their honour, have all-star credits to their name and co-sponsor a Mackenzie Tour-PGA Tour Canada golf tournament that bears their family name.

Last Thursday the Staals got their own beer.

Grass Roots, a pre-prohibition lager, was designed by the Sleeping Giant Brewery specifically for the hockey-playing brothers in conjunction with the Staal Foundation Open, its name a direct tie-in with the family sod-

farming business.

Oldest brother Eric Staal, who said he's been known to down a postworkout brew in the off-season, loved the name.

"It pretty much hit the nail on the head," the Minnesota Wild centre said. "From the logo, from it being a local company that started small to my dad being a sod farmer. There are so many parallels that it's pretty neat that it turned out the way it has.

"It's a great tasting beer and it's really cool that we get to be a part of this."

It's a beer that gives back to the community.

A dollar from every four-pack sold by the brewery will be donated to the Staal Family Foundation, which helps support children's cancer organizations in the Thunder Bay area.

Most of the company's retail customers have also promised to donate a dollar from each pint sold in bars and restaurants around the city.

"Hopefully people enjoy it and when

they do they're raising some money for some great local charities," Staal said. Sleeping Giant co-founder and head

brewer Kyle Mulligan said they wanted to create a beer that was refreshing in the warm weather expected in July, when the Thunder Bay tournament is staged. "We came up with the idea to have a

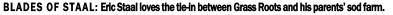
"We came up with the idea to have a nice, light refreshing beer for the summer, a nice easy palette," Mulligan said.

"We wanted to be involved in the Staal Open because we love our community and want to give money back to the community and support our community."

It's a pretty cool concept, said Marc Staal, a defenceman with the New York Rangers.

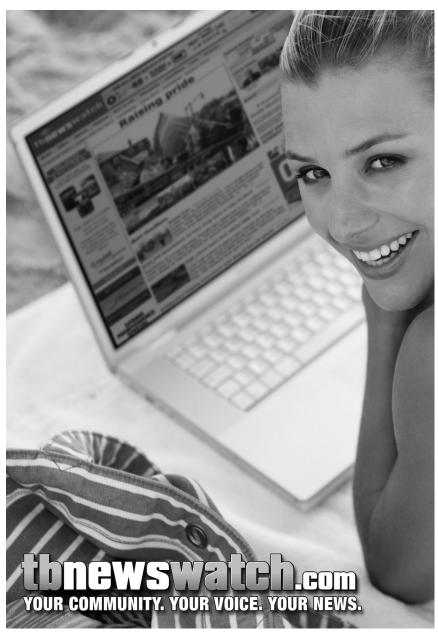
"When it was presented to us it was a no-brainer. A lot of restaurant owners got on board. We're pretty psyched. It's a good beer and it's a great idea and hopefully we can raise a lot of money," the second-eldest Staal brother said.











Abdellaoui leads Chill to 2-0 triumph

Rookie forward nets pair to help team earn split against Des Moines Menace

SOCCERBy Leith Dunick _ TB Source

Adam Abdellaoui says the last time he scored two goals in a game, he was a freshman in college.

"We lost that one 6-2," the rookie Thunder Bay Chill forward said Saturday.

The outcome was markedly different the second time around.

Abdellaoui scored goals about a minute apart, in the 31st and 32nd minute, leading the Thunder Bay Chill to their third win in four outings, a 2-0 whitewashing of the visiting Des Moines Menace at Fort William Stadium.

Last Saturday's triumph helped the Chill avoid a costly weekend sweep at the hands of their Heartland Division rival, and provided plenty of momentum as the team hits the road for key games this weekend against Chicago and these same Menace.

Finally finding the back of the net after three scoreless games was a good feeling said the 20-year-old Georgia Southern product.

"It was a relief to get some goals because the last three games I missed three perfect opportunities, one in each game," Abdellaoui said.

"It was like

getting the

monkey off

mv back."

ABDELLAOUI

"It was like getting the monkey off my back. It was nice to finally get it going and it gives us great momentum going into the road trip next week."

Getting the rookie forward on the score sheet was just what Chill coach Giovanni Petraglia was hoping for, especially with former Premier Development League most valuable player Sullivan Silva still on the sidelines, nursing an injured groin.

It makes the Chill a little more versatile up front, Petraglia said.

"Adam is a real option," the coach said.
"When he came in, the first day of training camp, he gave me a very good impression ... We have three good

options we could use. Our idea is always to go with two forwards if we can.

"Sometimes, like yesterday, we have to go with one. But we need those kinds of forwards and Adam has different characteristics than (Silva and Brandon Swartzendruber). So we're waiting for Sullivan to be healthy and we'll have options every week."

Abdellaoui paired with fellow freshman Eddie Sanchez on both his goals and said he's developed a real chemistry with his new teammate in the month they've played together.

"I think from Day 1 me and him have been getting it on very well. We seem to have a pretty good friendship, even off the field. So I think it really helps when you get on the field to play with your friends."

Both goals came against starting Menace keeper Austin Kroll, who gave way to Friday night's starter Kyle Ihn at halftime.

The Chill played without midfielder Abraham Villon, who served a one-game suspension for picking up a red card the night before.



MIGHT AS WELL JUMP: Des Moines' Christopher Nkogle and Thunder Bay's Mitchell Osmond jump for the ball last Saturday at Fort William Stadium. The Chill went on to win 2-0.

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- 09. Out of Town 10. Real Estate Wanted

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- 13 Rooms
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The Julian Taylor Band

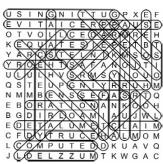
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