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Thunder Bay

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W W W . T B N E W S W A T C H . C O M

INSIDE FRIGHTENING CRASH

Six hospitalized after boat slams into breakwall /3

BOOZE BUST



Police, LCBO target people selling to minors /4

STARS ON ICE



title repeat /20





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LOCALNEWS



four-way stop was needed at this intersection.

Council votes 7-1 for new signage at Dufferin and Secord CITY HALL By Doug Diaczuk – TB Source

Drivers on the city's north side will be greeted by a new four-way stop after city council voted to add a new stop sign despite it not being recommended by city engineers.

Thunder Bay City Council voted 7-1 in favour of a resolution brought forward by McKellar ward Coun. Brian Hamilton to make the intersection of Dufferin and Secord streets a four-way stop.

"The perception of safety is absolutely critical and people don't feel it,' Hamilton said. "We think it will add an element of safety, walkability, alertness, and care to that corridor while people are commuting through there.'

Hamilton added that people living in the area have not felt safe and it is the responsibility of city council to listen to the people on the ground who "live it every single day.'

The city's engineering department was not recommending a four-way stop at the intersection, saying traffic volumes, speeds, and the number of collisions did not warrant any changes.

"It's really important we are not using these in places that are not warranted because we don't want drivers to become complacent to stop signals that are not required," said director of engineering and operations, Kayla Dixon.

According to Dixon, there were three collisions at the intersection in 2018, three in 2017, two in 2016, and one in 2015. Traffic volumes in the area were also increased in 2017 and 2018 due to work on the High Street retaining wall.

Dixon added safety measures have been put in place in the area, including

increasing the size of the stop-signs on Dufferin from the standard two-foot to the larger three-foot wide signs, as well as painting cross-walks, and cutting back trees on the east side of Dufferin Street to increase visibility.

"Traffic studies have shown that people are now speeding on either Dufferin or Secord and the traffic counts and collisions do not warrant a four-way stop," Dixon told council.

Councillors raised concerns about traffic flow in the area, with a four-way stop already in place at Secord and Bay Streets, as well as the steep incline of west Dufferin Street that can be dangerous in the winter, and people crossing Secord Street to attend a church on the corner.

The discussion eventually moved into the broader issue of speeding in the city, with councillors Cody Fraser and Kristen Oliver asking administration if speed limits on all residential streets should be lowered.

'It is ridiculous," Oliver said. "The speeding in this community is anarchy out there.'

"Just changing the posted speed limit does not mean people will drive slower," Dixon told council. "If you change the posted speed limit, but people still feel safe driving at a certain speed, that is the speed they are going to drive at unless there is significant enforcement there."

Coun. Andrew Foulds, who supported the resolution, added an amendment to ask city administration to return to council in two years with a report on the effectiveness of the added four-way stop

At the time of the vote, only Mayor Bill Mauro did not vote in favour of the resolution, while councillors Hamilton, Foulds, Oliver, Fraser, Peng You, Albert Aiello, and Aldo Ruberto voted in favour.

The resolution will be ratified during an upcoming city council meeting on Sept. 9.



LOCALNEWS



CLEAN-UP: Crews last Friday remove a boat that crashed into the breakwall in the Thunder Bay Harbour the night before.

Boat crash could have been much worse: Hay

Six sent to hospital after vessel smashes into breakwall THUNDER BAY The fire department's new seven-metre rescue boa

By Matt Vis – TB Source

An evening boat crash that injured six people – Athree seriously – could easily have had a more tragic outcome.

A boat collided with the harbour breakwall on Lake Superior wall just after 11 p.m. on Thursday night, leaving six people who were found on board the damaged vessel with varying degrees of injuries.

Three victims suffered serious injuries, with one reported to be in serious condition with life-threatening injuries. All of the people involved were taken to the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre.

"It absolutely could have been a lot worse," Thunder Bay Fire Rescue chief John Hay said on Friday morning, adding that such a big rescue on the break wall is rare.

"They could have been in the water, which would have really caused a problem especially if they were away from the boat or away from the break wall. Searching for additional victims would have been a really big challenge in that water at night."

Hay said the response, which included two Thunder Bay Fire Rescue rescue vessels, six waiting Superior North EMS ambulances as well as the Coast Guard, likely illustrates the gravity of the incident.

The fire department's new seven-metre rescue boat, which was approved by Thunder Bay city council during this year's budget process, played a significant role in transporting the victims.

"We were able to bring three seriously injured victims back to shore in one trip, which previously might have necessitated more than one trip," Hay said. "We were able to bring a paramedic from Superior North EMS out to the incident scene and they were

able to provide triage and provide support for the injured victims."

The other three, who were less severely injured, were brought to waiting ambulances by the Coast Guard.

A media release issued by the Thunder Bay Police Service, which is investigating the incident, said alcohol is a suspected factor in the collision. Anybody with information about the crash is asked to contact the police service's traffic unit.

Hay cautioned boaters to be careful around the break wall, especially at night.

"It's dark out. The rocks are hard. They don't move," Hay said. "Anybody that's not experienced with navigating in the dark or outside the break wall could easily have an event like that happen to them."

The boat was removed from the breakwall with the help of a crane on Friday afternoon and brought to the Coast Guard's base. Charges are pending.

BEAR WISE NEWS

Bears are sweet on berries



Report from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry In advance of hibernation, a bear seeks out food sources that will give it the 20,000 calories a day it needs to fatten up.

Why do bears come into neigh-bourhoods?

Bears get most of their calories by feeding on summer berry crops. To

meet its optimum calorie count, a bear would need to eat 30,000 berries each day. Blueberries are their favourite berry, but they're also happy eating raspberries, cherries and crab apples.

Bears are shy and normally afraid of humans. If they can't get enough natural foods in the wild and discover berries or ripe fruit in your neighbourhood, they will consider it an open invitation to drop by.

In addition to berries and fruit as food sources, bears are drawn to garbage, a dirty barbecue, bird seed scattered on the ground or in feeders, and pet food left outdoors.

And once discovered, bears will repeatedly come back to a food source until it has been removed.

What can you do?

Pick all ripe and fallen fruit from trees and shrubs on your property as early in the growing season as possible and ask your neighbours to do the same.

Avoid attracting bears by planting non-fruit bearing trees and shrubs and remember to stay alert when out berry picking or gardening.

Remove other attractants from your property, including garbage, pet food and bird feeders (birds can find plenty of natural food on their own in the summer) and clean your barbecue after each use. For more information, visit **ontario.ca/bearwise**



Always call 911 in an emergency Call 1-866-514-2327 to report a sighting

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rocks are hard. They don't move."

"It's dark

out. The

JOHN HAY

LOCALNEWS



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 Check out what homes are scheduled for open houses at a glance with the Open House ticke

· Browse listings at work, home or on the run; Real Estate Listings support desktop, tablet and mobile phone viewing.



WEEKEND EVENTS

Bingo & Cash Draw

Poultry, Rabbits)

to the Fair

Fairgrounds

Apple ID Clinic

Craft demonstrations

Grandparent with most

(SUNDAY & MONDAY)

Exhibits of Domestic Arts & Crafts

fruits, plants, crafts, canning, etc.)

• Barns (Cattle, Sheep, Swine, Goats,

Oldest person on the Fairgrounds

grandchildren on the Fairgrounds

Person travelling greatest distance

Most recently married couple on the

· Youngest Baby on the Fairgrounds

Sunflower and Zucchini Contests

www.hymersfair.com

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Nail Driving Contest (all ages)

Entertainment on 2 stages

Cowboy / Cowgirl Contest

Children's Playground

Couple Married the Longest

• Hymers Fair Market (Vegetables,



tbnewswatch.com/realestate



Sunday, September 1 (9 a.m.-6 p.m.) & Monday, September 2 (9 a.m.-5 p.m.)

Adults: \$7 • Seniors: \$5 (65+)

6 to 12 years of age: \$5 (or \$1.00 with a sunflower or zucchini) 5 & Under: Free Sunday starting 1 p.m.: Deep Pit Barbeque Dinner Monday starting 1 p.m.: Ham & Pierogi Dinner

SUNDAY EVENTS

- 10:00 am Fun Show & Games Horse Show
- Scarecrow Contest enter your own!
- 12:00 p.m. Opening Ceremonies • 1:00 p.m. - Small Animals Judging
- 1:30 p.m. Beef Show
- 2:00 p.m. Baby Show (up to 24 mo.)
- 3:30 p.m. Best Dressed Cowboy/Cowgirl
- Contest • 3:30 p.m. - Mutt Show

Monday Events

- 9:00 a.m. Demonstration Day Horse Show • 11:00 a.m. - Dairy Cattle Show
- 3:30 p.m. Best Dressed Cowboy/Cowgirl
- Contest • 3:30 p.m. - Mutt Show

CATCH THE HYMERS FAIR BUS!

 Cost of the bus is \$5 per person Admission to the Fair is extra• **DEPARTURE TIMES SHARP:**

- Ocounty Fair Plaza 11:00 a.m.
- Canadian Lakehead Exhibition, Heritage Bldg. 11:15 a.m.
- Or Thunder Bay Community Auditorium 11:20 a.m.
- Arthur Street Marketplace 11:35 a.m.
- **Daily departure from Fair:** SUNDAY-5:30 MONDAY-4:30 p.m.



LIQUOR ROUNDUP: Thunder Bay Police say this stash of alcohol was seized at a residence on Manitou Street.

Bootleggers busted

Police target illegal booze barons allegedly selling to local youths POLICE with the youth in the community," Maki said.

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Bootleggers, especially those targeting minors, have been put on notice by Thunder Bay Police and the LCBO.

The practice isn't going to be tolerated.

Acting on recommendations made by the Seven Youth Inquest, officials from the two organizations

teamed together on a recent investigation, arresting a 43-old woman and a 76-year-old man and charging them with unlawfully keeping and unlawfully selling liquor.

Staff Sgt. Ron Maki on Monday said an LCBO employee noticed the female suspect making repeated purchases of alcohol and realized something didn't add up.

"It was the same individual going into the same LCBO outlet numerous times during the course of a one-month period, pretty much RON MAKI every day," Maki said.

"The sales amounted to roughly \$7,000 in a one-month period."

The booze seized totalled about \$400 in value, and included items such as Palm Bay slushie-style drinks and Molson Canadian Cold Shots, two alcohol purchases commonly associated with younger drinkers.

Police also seized about \$1,400 in cash after executing a search warrant last Friday at a residence in the 200 block of Manitou Street.

Maki said bootlegging isn't necessarily a common offence in Thunder Bay, but given the recommendations made in the coroner's report, police are making an extra effort to crack down on the activity.

"I wouldn't say it's all that common an occurrence, but that said, the illegal sale of alcohol is an issue, especially

"Bootleggers target younger individuals and that's always a concern because young persons have various issues with respect to alcohol."

Maki pointed out that youths aged 16 to 25 represent about 13 per cent of the driving population, but 33 per cent of the fatalities on Canadian roads involving alcohol.

> Thunder Bay has also experienced problems with so-called runners, who hang around near outlets that sell alcohol, and agree to purchase it for minors for a hefty fee.

> Other bootleggers in the city can expect more crackdowns to come, Maki said, noting the inquest recommendations were directed at both the LCBO and Thunder Bay Police.

"(They) recommended that we work together in partnership to deal with the fact that alcohol was getting into the hands of minors in the city. This is one of the ways that we can do that.'

Alcohol played a role in several of the deaths investigated by the Ontario coroner, after seven Indigenous youths died between 2000 and 2011 while in Thunder Bay to complete their studies. Two more Indigenous teens died near local waterways in 2017.

The female suspect was initially released, but then arrested again after being spotted at the same LCBO on Aug. 24 and 25, in violation of a probation order. She was remanded into custody and faced a bail hearing on Monday.

The 76-year-old man was released with a promise to appear at a future court date.

Police, who were assisted in their investiga-

tion by an LCBO investigator based in Mississauga, have not named either suspect at this time.

None of the charges have been proven in court.





It was the same individual going into the same LCBO numerous

times..."

RON MAKI

LOCALNEWS

City gets 'A' inquest grade

THUNDER BAY By Doug Diaczuk – TB Source

The overall grade for the implementation of the 145 recommendations from the Seven Youth Inquest has increased again after year three, but lawyers representing six of the seven families say getting a better grade will take a lot of work and a lot of commitment from all parties involved.

"I would like to say the grades will only go up, but I think it will be a challenge to get the grades much higher," said Jonathan Rudin, program director at Aboriginal Legal Services.

The overall grade has increased from a B+ to an A- in the past year and Rudin said he is cautiously optimistic.

"That's really great and I'm hoping that will continue," he said. "The work gets harder every year because these recommendations get more and more difficult to implement, but there seems to be a will to move forward."

Aboriginal Legal Services released the third year report card for the Seven Youth Inquest that was held between October 2015 and June 2016 following the deaths of Jethro Anderson, Reggie Bushie, Robyn Harper, Kyle Morrisseau, Paul Panacheese, Curran Strang and Jordan Wabasse, who died between 2000 and 2011 while attending school in Thunder Bay.

Guidelines

A jury handed down 145 recommendations to the provincial and federal governments, the Thunder Bay Police Service, Nishnawbe Aski Nation, the city of Thunder Bay, Matawa Learning Centre, Northern Nishnawbe Education Council and Dennis Franklin Cromarty High School, and Keewaytinook Okimakanak.

The overall grade of A- is up from a B+ last year and a C+ in the first year, with 83 per cent of the recommendations being listed as complete. All individual stakeholders graded climbed at least half a grade compared to last year.

The provincial and federal governments are the only stakeholders that remain below at least an A- and both were given a B+. The city of Thunder Bay received an A, while NAN an A-, Matawa an A-, Northern Nishnawbe Education Council and DFC an A+, and KO



MOVING AHEAD: Caitlyn Kasper, legal counsel with Aboriginal Legal Services, says familles feel progress being made shows respect being shown for the loss they have incurred.

an A+.

"I would love it to get to an A, but it's going to take work," Rudin said. "The short-term recommendations are almost all done and those were most of the recommendations. About 88 recommendations were short-term. That is a good bedrock for continued success."

Of the 145 recommendations, 40 are medium-term and 17 are long-term and Rudin said some of them will be really challenging to implement, such as bringing clean and safe drinking water to all First Nation communities.

The Thunder Bay Police Service was not graded again this year because it is continuing to address recommendations handed down by the Office of the Independent Police Review Director, including the recent announcement to reinvestigate four of the seven deaths that were part of the inquest.

"The reinvestigation is positive news,"

Rudin said. "It's not great because I don't know what we will be able to find out. Some of these deaths, one of them is 19-years-old, so I don't know what we are going to be able to find out now, but the fact that Thunder Bay Police are committed to doing that reinvestigation is a good thing."

According to Caitlyn Kasper, legal counsel with Aboriginal Legal Services, the progress being made on the recommendations is encouraging to the families of the youth, who see it as respect being shown for the loss they have incurred.

"I think there was initially some hesitation and concern from the families as to whether or not those recommendations will be taken seriously," Kasper said. "I think we have shown over the years this has been a real progression in terms of the parties making real substantive efforts to complete what was brought before them."

Collaboration

NAN Deputy Grand Chief, Derek Fox, said seeing the progress being made on the recommendations shows that all the parties are working together collectively and effectively.

"That means more safety for our youth and more success for our youth and that's all we want to see," he said.

Fox added that NAN has taken significant steps in the last two years working on the recommendations, including holding education summits and working with all partners. Future plans include things like taking students out hunting who may be homesick or missing their families to provide them an opportunity to feel more connected to the land.

But Fox said there is still a lot of work to be done and he would like to see more core funding made available by the provincial and federal governments.

"I have to believe that Thunder Bay is a safer place and will become a safer place as the years go on," he said. "Our students will continue to come here and we read the headlines about all the gang activity and crime in our community, but since two years ago, since we had that education emergency meeting, I believe it has gotten safer, but we can do a lot more."

Aboriginal Legal Services will continue to provide yearly report cards.





GONE Fishing?

It's wildfire season, don't be the reason.



Wildfires can affect fish and wildlife habitat along a shore.

Anglers, remember to put your shore lunch fire out.

If you have a shore lunch fire, remember the rules:

- Build the fire on bare soil or rock in a location sheltered from the wind.
- Make sure the fire is a safe distance from all flammable material, including overhanging branches.
- Keep the fire small and tend it at all times.
- Most importantly, put the fire out when you are done. Soak it with water, stir the ashes and soak it again. Repeat until the ashes are cold to the touch.

ontario.ca/fireprevention

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Editorial

EDITORIAL

Bootleggers beware

Thunder Bay Police and the LCBO sent a strong message this week to bootleggers who target minors with booze.

Police arrested a pair of adults after a brief investigation, claiming the two suspects were buying booze and reselling it.

While police did not connect the two, a 43-year-old woman and a 76-year-old man, specifically with selling to minors, they did make it clear that it is happening in Thunder Bay.

Unlike the LCBO, the Beer Store or even local grocery stores, bootleggers don't often discern to whom they sell their wares.

It's unlikely they ask for ID. They only care about the inflated price they're getting.

They also don't care if they're selling to someone who is already intoxicated, putting people's lives at risk.

Keeping alcohol out of the hands of minors was a major recommendation coming out of the Seven Youth Inquest.

It's a safety issue. Young drivers make up 13 per cent of the driving population, but are responsible for 33 per cent of driving deaths involving alcohol. Booze also played a factor in several of the deaths investigated by the Seven Youth Inquest.

This arrest is a strong sign both organizations plan to follow through and get tough with those who choose to break the law and resell alcohol illegally.

CONTACT US:

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

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

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

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

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Stop the Amazon fires

To the editor: There are times when political correctness and diplomacy are necessary, even mandatory. Right now, while the planet's lungs burn, not so much.

The dictator, who lied his way into power in Brazil recently, claims that the fires burning in the forests of the Amazon, for which HE is largely responsible no less, are nobody's concern, and is refusing any outside help from countries around the world in extinguishing them. Seriously?

Where is the planet's response? Where are our leaders in this catastrophe??

Those fires now burning are threatening my very existence and the existence of my loved ones. Indeed, they are threatening the lives of everyone on this planet, but Jair Bolsonaro would have us believe that this is "none of our business."

Really?

Here's the thing...Dictator Bolsonaro be darned. There should be thousands of water bombers and military personnel from across the globe enroute now to those burning forests where they should remain until those fires are out.

According to scientists, we are five minutes away from total disaster as there will be too much of the Amazon forest burned to replenish itself.

It will then begin to shrink on its own, apparently, taking with it the capacity to provide 20 per cent of the world's oxygen we now depend upon – not to mention the millions of people and wildlife who live in those forests and are perishing as we speak.

No time for fancy G7 dinners, talks, and useless photo-ops. It's time for action. Now!

Louise Fisher, Thunder Bay

IN BRIEF

Police pull passenger off Porter Airlines flight

A passenger aboard a Porter Airlines flight from Toronto caused a disturbance minutes before its arrival in Thunder Bay.

In a police release issued Saturday, police said they were told the passenger left his seat as the plane was preparing for its scheduled landing.

When flight attendants requested the man return to his seat he became aggressive with the flight staff.

A Thunder Bay Police Service officer escorted the passenger, a 27-year-old Toronto man, off the plane.

A Porter Airlines spokesperson had earlier confirmed the passenger was taken off the plane because of an incident on board during a flight from Toronto to the Thunder Bay International Airport.

The return flight was subsequently cancelled, but the passengers waiting to board were rebooked on other flights. No charges have been laid at this time, police said.

Five charged in drug bust

Five people have been arrested and charged in the city's latest drug bust.

Thunder Bay Police, in a release issued last Friday afternoon, said they seized about \$58,000 worth of illegal narcotics after obtaining a warrant and raiding a residence in the 100 block of Cumberland Street South.

The warrant was executed just before midnight last Thursday.

Police say five people were in the home at the time of the search. Upon arrival, officers noted a male occupant throwing items off a balcony. Police allege the items, which were later recovered by officers on the scene, were crack cocaine and cocaine.

Police also seized paraphernalia consistent with

trafficking worth an estimated \$5,000.

Kudzia Nyembe-Mafohla, 22, of Toronto faces charges of possession of cocaine for the purpose of trafficking, possession of property obtained by crime under \$5,000 and obstructing a police officer.

Thunder Bay's Donald Arthur Green, 48, Stephanie Lynne Horton, 44 and Arielle Ritch, 27, are charged with possession of cocaine for the purpose of trafficking, possession of property obtained by crime under \$5,000.

An unidentified 36-year-old man also faces possession of cocaine for the purpose of trafficking and possession of property obtained by crime under \$5,000.

The four named accused appeared in court last Friday and were remanded into custody. The unnamed male was released on an undertaking with a promise to appear in court at a future date. The charges against him have not been sworn in court, which is why police have withheld his name.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Perspective

The stage is set

Trudeau has plenty of trade leverage on world stage

OPINION By J.R. Shermack Special to TB Source

don't really care for the international spectacle that dominates the world stage these days.

That stage was once again set for high drama as G7 leaders met last week to discuss the future of the planet, from their lofty economic perspective.

I am interested because Canada is a G7 member, our own PM is one of those lofty leaders and the stakes are high.

It could also be amusing and entertaining (although, tragically so) due to the high potential for unbridled international buffoonery.

The world nervously watches on as the performance unfolds. Canada hosted the 2018 G7 in

Charlevoix, Que. and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau presided over the 2018 meeting.

Familiar sound

The PM stated Canada's goal that "we leave a healthier, more peaceful and more secure world for our children and grandchildren."

If I remember correctly, I first heard that plea amid the peace, love and happiness that accompanied Papa, prime minister Pierre Trudeau.

This remains an admirable goal for all generations and if Canadians can meet the challenge, our future will be full of hope and great achievement. But as Canada tries to nudge the world in a more humanitarian direction, many Canadians would agree that our message is falling on deaf ears.

When this year's gaggle of world leaders got together in at the Biarritz Resort in France, the likelihood of progress had been pre-emptively ruled out.

Still, the show must go on even if it is under a veil of protestors, police, water cannons and tear gas – dissenters will not pass.

The G7 is a collective of the world's most industrialized and advanced economies – it gathers annually to discuss and influence global trends.

It was originally the G6 when six major industrialized countries came together after the 1973 oil crisis forced prices up.

That year an OPEC embargo drove crude up almost 400 per cent from \$3 per barrel to nearly \$12 on the global market.

In 1976 Canada joined France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the U.K. and the U.S. in response to further economic, political, social and security issues.

The G7 became the G8 when Russia formally joined in 1997 – it reverted back to G7 when the Russians were thrown out for bad behavior in 2014.

In 2019 the G7 was riddled with dissent, division and discord but off in the background the murmur of schmoozing was heard.

Our prime minister has been on

the international circuit since he was a boy on Papa's knee and he has, as I say, great schmoozability.

His experience and his abundance of Canadian charm serve him well as he wheels and deals Canada's way to a secure future.

After a hearty handshake from French President Macron, Trudeau shared a photo op with Boris Johnson and chatted with Shinzo Abe of Japan.

Making the rounds

There were many meetings, sidebars, high fives, thumbs up and enthusiastic handshakes as he tried to navigate the tension at Barritz.

And why not – in spite of the international turmoil and buffoonery, Canada is still a trading nation and we are both nice and polite.

It is ecologically embarrassing to admit that crude oil is our No. 1 export and disheartening to see tanks and armored vehicles on the list.

But Canada has many other equally enticing products to offer our G7 partners – Mr. Trudeau has an embarrassment of riches to deal and trade.

Let's hope that the PM's schmoozability is strong and effective enough to secure the future for our Canadian kids and grandkids.

Mr. Trudeau wore a pair of his trademark fancy socks for the occasion – he always looks good when the international stage is set for Canada.



GETTING SAUCY

LIP-SMACKING GOOD: Mitchell Bagdon was one of the first people last Friday to sample what this year's Rib Fest vendors had to offer. We've got a full wrap of the popular event on page 17.

HOW TO WRITE US:

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

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

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A look back in history Memorial trees The Port Arthur Rotary Club planted trees along Memorial Avenue. What kind of trees were they? 1) Elm 2) Willow 3) Maple 4) Jack Pine



Thursday, August 29, 2019







Honouring families with FASD



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CHANGED COLOURS: Bruce Hyer left the NDP in 2012 and subsequently joined the Greens in 2013.

Hyer to seek nod for Green Party

Former NDP MP held TB-Superior North from 2008 to 2011 POLITICS By Michael Charlebois - TB Source

"I've been

very, very

disappointed

in the

Liberals, as

manv

Canadians

have,"

Bruce Hyer

he Green Party will have a veteran politician running in October's federal election. Last Friday, it was announced that Bruce Hyer won the nomination for Thunder Bay-Superior

North, beating out Kim Krause in a two-person race, earning 73 per cent of total votes. A Friday morning press release said

75 per cent of the Green Party's membership entered a ballot in the nomination vote.

Hyer was first elected to the House of Commons in 2008 as a member of the NDP.

In 2012, Hyer left the NDP to sit as an independent member in the wake of party leader Tom Mulcair's pledge to restore the long-gun registry. The next year, Hyer joined the Green Party, serving as the deputy leader until he stepped down from the position in 2018

"I've been very, very disappointed in the Liberals as many Canadians have," Hyer said in an interview on Friday.

Hyer served seven years as MP for Thunder Bay Superior North, and attempted to earn a seat with the Green Party in 2015, but finished fourth. Patty Hajdu of the Liberal Party won the riding with 45 per cent of the vote.

Hyer said he'll run on a platform that emphasizes regional economic development, electoral reform, and of course, climate change.

"I want a world that's cleaner, greener, and safer, but I also want a world that's more prosperous and sustainable," he said.

"I know the job, I know how to be an MP and get things done. Unlike most people I work across party lines.My constituents will 100 per cent always come ahead of the Green Party."

According to the political polling website 338canada.com, the Green Party is projected to finish second in the riding behind the Liberals.

During his time as MP, Hyer introduced 23 bills, including the Climate

Change Accountability Act, which remains the only bill in Canada's parliamentary history to be passed in the House of Commons, only to be defeated in the Senate.







We would like to thank all of the first time school bus riders who came out on Saturday, August 24th!

Have a great school year!

Special Thanks to First Rider Partners



Law school hires Hughes as its permanent dean

LOCALNEWS

EDUCATION By Leith Dunick – TB Source

akehead University has named University of New Brunswick professor Jula Hughes as its new dean of law.

Hughes said she's excited to join the Bora Laskin Faculty of Law, in a release issued on Tuesday by the Thunder Bay university.

"Reconciliation with First Peoples and access to justice are key challenges for our legal system, for the legal profession and for legal education in Canada," she said.

"I am excited to join the Bora Laskin Faculty of Law as Dean and to lead and contribute to a faculty with a mandate to learn from Indigenous legal traditions and to promote equitable and honourable relationships between Indigenous peoples and settlers."

Creating lawyers in the North, for the North is a key part of the ideology she's bringing to Lakehead Unviersity.

"Access to justice is an important determinant of a peaceful and prosperous society. Through the integrated practice curriculum, the Bora Laskin Faculty of Law is educating lawyers in the North, for the North. I see huge promise in the approach Lakehead University has taken to the issue of access to justice. We can make a big difference."

Hughes' appointment marks a tumultuous couple of years at the Bora Laskin School of Law. Former dean Angelique Eaglewoman, the first Indigenous dean of a Canadian law school, quit her post in April 2018, claiming systemic racism at the Thunder Bay school. Later that year she sued the university for

racial discrimination. In the wake of Eaglewoman's resignation, Justice Patrick Smith in May 2018 was appointed to the role on an interim basis.



TAKING OVER: Jula Hughes is currently a law professor at the University of New Brunswick.

He subsequently faced a conduct review for taking the position, which did not sit well with the Canadian Judicial Council. Smith returned to the bench last September.

David Barnett then took over the role on an interim basis.

Barnett called Hughes an ideal replacement.

"Jula's experience makes her a perfect fit with the faculty's three mandates," he said in the release.

The school said the search for a permanent replacement for Eaglewoman began last year and involved representatives of the faculty of law as well as other university

faculties, the school's various governing bodies, the Thunder Bay Law Association and several Indigenous organizations and bodies, including Fort William First Nation, Grand Council Treaty 3 and Nishnawbe Aski Nation.

Hughes, who becomes the fifth dean in the law school's short history, starts her new role on Oct. 1. She is the author of 24 peerreviewed publications and currently holds a two-year appointment as a university research scholar and is the principal investigator on the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council and Status of Women Canada.



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Welcome to an array of fantastic Thunder Bay Businesses!



Anishinabek Employment and Training City of T Bay - CEDC/Entrepreneur Centre Independent Living Resource Centre Kelly's Nutrition Centre Little Mermaid • Michael's Hair Design & Day Spa Ontario Nurses' Association Peppard Mechanical Inc. • The Walford Wellwise by Shoppers Drug Mart • WildWaters



Anishinabek Employment and Training Services

A nishinabek Employment and Training Services continues to strive toward providing Indigenous people with the skills and confidence to enter the workforce while maintaining traditional values and heritage.

"AETS has been around for over 20 years and we realize the Indigenous population is a growing population and some have barriers, like any individual looking for employment, so we are here to help reduce those barriers, improve skills and employment outcomes" said John DeGiacomo, executive director with AETS.

Serving nine First Nation communities, AETS provides holistic programs, cultural sharing, and skills training to employment. AETS recently signed an Indigenous Skills and Employment Training Strategy (ISETS) agreement with Employment and Social Development Canada, AETS will continue to improve the skill levels of Indigenous people and improve employment outcomes.

"As a federal agreement holder, we are now among 120 agreement holders across Canada. We can work with employers, organizations, colleges, universities, and training institutions, to help individuals move from being out of school and out of work to employment," DeGiacomo said.

"As a new ISET agreement holder, we've been provided a 10-year funding model so we can continue the services and programs to the nine communities we serve."

AETS provides job seeing services, employer services, continuing education options, career and entrepreneurship pathways to employment.

DeGiacomo said AETS works with a variety of employment sectors in the region that are in

demand for employees and works to train and develop the workforce that is needed.

"We know in the nine communities there is activity happening across many sectors. In forestry, mining, the environment and health care, there are increasing career opprtunities." DeGiacomo said. "We know there are a number of different occupations available and we are there to bridge the training gap to ensure that population in the region can be gainfully employed in meaningful work and stay in the region."

Bele Wigwas, a recent graduate of the Personal Support Worker program is employed with St Joseph's Care Group in Thunder Bay.

"They, AETS, were able to support me in a holistic view," she said. "There was always someone with us 24/7 and it was really good. I feel like I wouldn't be able to do it at College just on my own because of the barriers First Nation people face."

AETS recently opened a new training space at the Waverley Resource Library.





For more information, visit their website at www.aets.org.

CEDC

Starting a business can be a daunting task. But ti doesn't have to be, especially in Thunder Bay and elsewhere in Northwestern Ontario.

Thanks to an organization like the Thunder Bay Community Economic Development Commission (CEDC), potential entrepreneurs have a world of top-notch advice at their fingertips, ready to help guide the decision-making process from start to finish.

Ryan Moore, Development Officer at the CEDC, runs the Thunder Bay and District Entrepreneur Centre (EC), says there are plenty of people who want to start up a business, but aren't sure where to start.

"People don't know what they don't know," Moore says. "My job is to sit down with them and make sure that they get all the right resources so they can make the right decisions to be successful."

Responsible for business development, retention and expansion, the CEDC is an arm's length corporation that receives its core funding from the City of Thunder Bay. The EC is one of 56 Small Business Enterprise Centres Ontario and is funded through a partnership between the Province of Ontario and the City of Thunder Bay. The EC assists you in determining what you need to do before, during and after launching your business.

Last year alone, the EC conducted about 400 free consultations. That could be anyone from a potential start-up to a small company already up-and-running looking to expand and unsure what the next steps might be, whether it's starting to pay benefits or searching for a building to call home. "It's more me asking them to tell me what headaches they're having and then it's up to me to help them find the resources that might be available to make those headaches go away, find them the right aspirin," Moore says.

"A lot of it is financial, so finding out what are the options to help this dream come to reality. Are there government grant programs? Is it traditional lending opportunities? And I try to make sure I have enough of my own tools in my tool belt so I can find the right assistance."

That could mean meeting with bankers or the Business Development Corporation or other community partners. There is plenty of help out there for would-be and existing entrepreneurs.

Moore adds it's never too early to start the ball rolling on a business dream. "The headaches could come at any point," Moore says. "It could be years out, but let's start putting those ducks in a row to get to that spot."



Independent Living Resource Centre

Lof independence and self-confidence. It's been proven time and time again over the years.

It's exponentially so for anyone living with a disability, empowering them with greater control over their own lives. Tom Pugliese, executive director of Thunder Bay's Independent Living Resource Centre, said a big part of what they do on a daily basis is help make participants' employment dreams come true. It's one of the most satisfying aspects of our job, he said.

"At the ILRC Thunder Bay, we offer several options for any person with any disability to pursue employment goals, and more importantly, attain the skills or training to be most prepared for success. For more than 15 years, ILRC has operated hugely successful and robust employment programs in the Thunder Bay region," Pugliese said.

"Currently, our federally funded, Focusing Access on Skills and Training (FAST), and our Ontario Disability Supports Employment Support (workES') programs offer a wide variety of services that are intended to empower persons with disabilities to become employed on the terms best suited to them."

Pugliese added all of the ILRC's employment services are delivered in partnership with program participants and are intended to be personalized and individualized, including participants at every step of the way to ensure their success. "We believe that our approach best enables program participants to have ownership over their employment goals while inspiring them to have choice, flexibility and control during their path to success," Pugliese said.

"We assist program participants to self-identify their strengths; provide skills and training to augment those strengths; and ultimately connect with employers that will value those strengths. If you or someone you care about is seeking to become meaningfully employed: contact us directly anytime to take the first step to your success."





Welcome to an array of fantastic Thunder Bay Businesses!

Kelly's Nutrition Centre

For more than two decades, Kelly's Nutrition Centre and Juice Bar has been Thunder Bay's largest, and most popular, health-food store, offering customers quality selections of vitamins, herbs, groceries and cosmetics.

The friendly and knowledgeable staff go above and beyond to help pick out the right products and provide answers to anyone interested in learning about nutrition, fitness, lifestyle and supplements.

"We are here to help educate people to undertake more responsibility for their health by adopting a healthy lifestyle at any age," said store manager Sue Nistico.

Kelly's offers prompt service with up-todate information about the choices their customers decide to make.

"We are constantly updating our shelves with the latest and greatest products to satisfy our customers," Sue said.

Kelly's also carries a wide variety of gluten-free and sugar-free products, as well as keto and paleo diet products that include the Walden Farms line.

The store is also proud to support local businesses, carrying locally sourced items from Heartbeat Hot Sauce, Soup Mama and Buff Bakery.

"We also offer freshly made salads, delicious hummus and a variety of energy balls," Sue said. That's not all.

The store stocks shelves full of quality brand names, including Natural Factors, Organika, Flora, Bell, New Roots and Gifford Jones.

"And of course, there's our premium exclusive brand, Health First!"

There's also a wide selection of personalcare products, including many unscented items and Burt's Bees make-up line of Orysi products, all reasonably priced.

"We want to ensure your highest satisfaction, so drop in and enjoy one of our refreshing protein shakes or fruit or veggie juices and have a look around," Sue said. "It is always a great value with our two-forone sales and many flyer specials, which run throughout the year. Be healthy and be happy."

Kelly's Nutrition is located at 820 Red River Rd. Phone 345-1333.



820 Red River Rd. • 345-1333 www.kellysnutritioncentre.com

The Little Mermaid Boutique of Beautiful clothes

Women's fashion rarely sits still. Neither does Doris Jorgensen.

Whether it's helping the mother-of-thebride find the perfect dress for her daughter's wedding, or helping a young professional find a fashionable outfit as she climbs the corporate ladder, a visit to Doris and her iconic Victoria Avenue Little Mermaid store should be the first stop on the list.

Doris and her husband Sven have been dressing the women of Thunder Bay for the past 34 years, and not only do they know fashion, they know how to tailor an outfit to an individual customer's look.

"We love our customers and we love beautiful clothes," she said, the store is as busy as ever on a recent Thursday afternoon.

A customer in the store at the time didn't hesitate to offer up her own opinion of why the Little Mermaid has been so successful for more than three decades.

"She makes people like us look pretty," the woman said. "I have about five outfits from here. The clothes actually fit well too. They fit nicer on you, and if they don't she fixes it. She can alter anything."

And with most of the regularly priced clothes Doris sells, those alterations come free of charge.

It's Doris's keen eye for fashion that has

kept a steady base of clients coming back to her shop again and again and again.

Not only does she sell the clothes, she also picks out what to stock, regularly traveling to Montreal to find the cutting edge of fashion for her customers.

"That's very important," she said of the clothes. "And the fit is better."

This year, longer sleeves are in, Doris said. "They cover the arms and that's what women like. The shawl look is really in," she said.

"The bling is back in too."



Boutíque of Beautíful Clothes 424 Victoria Ave. E. • 633-1671

Michael's Hair Design & Day Spa

As summer shuffles off into the not-toodistant past, fall colours start to percolate all around.

It's a time of change the stylists at Michael's Hair Design and Day Spa know all-too-well, as customers flock to the iconic Arthur Street salon every autumn seeking a new look to match the new season.

Owner Michael Muia says it's the perfect time for an updated hairstyle.

"The change of colour outdoors and the change of seasons usually mean a change of hair colour is at hand and it's a big thing we do each and every fall," he said, adding they use multiple hair colouring techniques to customize a beautiful makeover for our guests.

"In the spring and summer, blonde seems to be the colour and highlights of choice. But as the fall arrives, our customers start transforming to warmer tones, which usually means auburn, gold and brunette colours."

Michael says his licensed stylists are all master colourists, adding the salon routinely brings in experts, like Wella's Jean-Sebastien Tremblay, one of the country's foremost colour experts, to keep the staff on the leading edge of the industry.

It's also the time of year when many customers try out a new hair style, something a little different as the kids head back to school and summer vacations come to a close. Michael Muia says it's not only hair that gets the fall treatment.

Upstairs, in the spa, customers also book skin-care appointments, looking to get their skin ready for the change of season, from warmer, sunnier weather in the summer to the briskness that arrives in the fall and winter months.

"We're a one-stop shop for all your beauty needs," he said.

Michael said it's also never too early to start thinking about the Christmas season, which is really just right around the corner.

It's one of Michael's Hair Design and Day Spa's busiest times of year and appointment spaces book up fast.

Michael's, located at 2817 E. Arthur Street, also offers hair extensions, massage therapy, spa service and make-up application, as well as lash and brow tinting and threading, microblading, tattoo removal, laser hair removal and fillers and Botox.



Ontario Nurses' Association

Nurses are the backbone of the Ontario health-care industry.

They play an integral role from the moment a patient arrives at the hospital until the moment they leave, ensuring their visit is as stress-free as possible.

Diane Parker, the vice co-ordinator for Local 73 of the Ontario Nurses' Association, said people go into nursing because they want to make a difference in people's lives.

It's that heartfelt compassion that makes them so good at their jobs, Parker said.

"I think that we're a caring profession," she said. "We help people in their time of need. When people are going through rocky times, we make sure it's smooth and take the fear out of being in the hospital.

"We use our education, our expertise and knowledge to just help them navigate the health system for the best outcome possible."

They do it with caring hands and a warm smile. But nurses are also more than just caregivers, Parker said.

They're an integral part of each and every community they live in. Thunder Bay is no exception.

"We have participated in the Pride parade for seven years now. We've participated in the Labour Day picnic and give out popcorn," she said, giving just two examples of community service by ONA members.

"We like to put a face on the ONA." The union also takes part in the city's annual Day of Mourning and is one of several community groups that take part in the Remembrance Day ceremony every year, laying two wreaths. In the end, it does comes down to care.

"We're the ones who are there 24/7. The doctors are not and we're the ones who pick up on changes in someone's health or on issues that might be happening so that we can contact the doctor to address the situation," Parker said.

"It's probably the worst time in people's lives. It's a difficult time and I like to think that we are able to help people through and teach them a little because they always have questions."



440 Balmoral Street • (807) 625-9716



Welcome to an array of fantastic Thunder Bay Businesses!



D. Peppard Mechanical Inc.

n the heating and ventilation business, experience counts. That's not an issue at Peppard Mechanical. The company may only be three years old, but the crew performing the work has decades of experience under their belt.

Owner David Peppard, who started the business in 2016 after a lifetime in the industry, said he, Jamie Ward, Rob Hamre and Lorne Hayward together carry over a half century of experience, meaning there's little they don't know about heating, air conditioning and propane systems in your home or business.

"We're all old guys," David joked. "But we're all trade ticketed including gas fitter 1,2&3, refrigeration, sheelmetal, fabrication, BCIN design, NATE (North American Technical Excellence).

David and his wife Shannon started Peppard Mechanical three years ago, not knowing what to expect. It's been a whirlwind ever since.

"We just took off," Shannon said. "And it's been all word-of-mouth to this point." That's always a good sign. Customers don't recommend businesses that aren't up to par.

David said he thinks it's because he and his staff always make sure to put those same customers first.

"We wanted to make sure the community was looked after properly," he said, explaining why he opened the business in the first place.

"We're good, we're all long-time Thunder Bay residents and we specialize in the residen-

tial field, new homes and retrofits."

The company also does a lot of rural propane work, and David said they've got a strong working relationship with a master plumber and electrician, ensuring the entire project is done not only to his own high standards, but it's also done properly.

No job is too big or too small, he added. "If you're having an issue, maybe it's something we can look at. It might be as simple as just giving advice. Whatever it is, we promise we'll figure it out," David said.

"I'm a fix-it guy. I like the challenge and there's always a strong sense of satisfaction when we find a solution that works for our customers and saves them heartache - and money - in the long run. If you're happy with your system, then we're happy."

For more information, give Super Dave a call at 577-4760.



116 Klages Rd • 577-4760

he Walford

The Walford is the perfect solution for Thunder Bay and Port Arthur seniors who want to maintain their independence, but due to a changed need or circumstance, such as a health condition or the loss of a spouse, find their current living situation too much work, lonely and under-stimulating or when they just don't feel safe being alone anymore.

"Most people come to a retirement home because the housework is overwhelming, they aren't eating well are missing out on social interaction or are lonely at home by themselves," said Jen Hampel, a Registered Practical Nurse and General Manager of the Walford Thunder Bay.

"They often have a misconception of what living in a retirement community would be like and expect us to feel like a hospital or a nursing home - but they really have it wrong.

"After five minutes they see how independent our residents are and how much control they continue to have over their lives. And once they move in and make a friend or two; they start eating better and join in activities and immediately see improvements in their health and wellness," she continued.

The 97-unit property is one of Thunder Bay's great secrets, set in a residential neighbourhood near shopping, churches and medical services. The Walford provides independent supportive living in large suites and one-bedroom apartments with the extra attention and care residents may need. The Walford also offers respite and recuperation packages for seniors recovering from illness or surgery requiring a little extra support, or flexible shortterm programs for those requiring support in

situations when caregivers need to be out of town.

Thursday, August 29, 2018

"We are extremely affordable thanks to our all-inclusive package that includes care services," said Hampel.

The Walford's all-in-one inclusive pricing includes delicious meals, snacks, daily housekeeping, utilities and a dedicated nursing and care team available through a call-alert system day or night to provide residents with the care and attention they need. There's also a complimentary laundry service and a lobby lounge where residents can socialize and take part in activities.

"We take pride in being affordable, comfortable and dependable. The facility is impressive, our residents and team here are amazing but our all-inclusive price make us the best deal in town."

Call Jen or Amanda today at 345-2511 or drop-in for a tour and chat anytime. Walford is also on the web at www. The walfordthunder bay.com



WTB

WALFORD THUNDER BAY

20 Pine Street • 345-2511

Wellwise by Shoppers Drug Mart

hoppers Home Health Care has a new name and a new focus.

The Memorial Avenue business is now known as Wellwise and general manager Lynda Bragg says they've shifted from end-oflife care and comfort to a more holistic approach.

'We're looking at the well-being of individuals at a younger time in their life, and then can support them all the way through," Bragg said, explaining the change.

'We're looking at newer products. Before, we had the O2 business and the mobility side. which is all of our wheelchairs. We still do parts of walkers and scooters, but we have bracing and things like essential oils and products to help with bettering sleep, which are real focuses of ours moving forward."

Bragg adds there is a generation of adults that don't get a lot of sleep, thanks in part to increased screen time and job pressures that keep them on the go day and night.

"So we do have our CPAP department, which is our continuous positive airway pressure, that are machines for individuals who stop breathing or have issues with snoring," she said. "That's done and diagnosed at the sleep lab here in Thunder Bay."

The change to Wellwise is a very exciting one, Bragg says.

"The store has been around for about 30

years and with the new transformation up front it should bring in a new clientele," she said, adding it opens their doors to a whole new segment of the consumer market.

'The focus was – and still is – the baby boomers, the 65-plus population. But we want to not only support them, but the health care of whoever else needs us, whether it's their families who are taking care of them or support workers," Bragg said.

"It's making sure they're doing it safely and in good health."

Bragg says part of their mandate is to encourage everyone to get out and be more active, which benefits people's health over the long term.

It's why they carry a heavy duty pole for outdoor enthusiasts with gait issues, or regular walking poles for those looking for adventure.

"Having those types of products gets peo-

ple feeling a little safer, but not with the old kind of stereotype to it," she said.

by SHOPPERS DRUG MART 285 Memorial Ave. • (807) 345-6564 www.wellwise.ca

Wabakimi Fishing & Canoeing Outfitters s a youngster growing up in Connecticut,

ABruce Hyer always knew some day he'd find himself north of the border doing what he loved to do most.

He told himself at a very early age.

"I said, 'When I grow up, I am moving to Canada to be a wildlife biologist, wilderness guide, bush pilot and I'm going to build a log cabin and live in the wilderness.

In 1976 that's just what he did, becoming one of the first eco-tourism businesses in the region at the time.

For 25 years he was the driving force behind the creation of Wabakimi Wilderness Park.

In fact, many in the area know him affectionately as Mr. Wabakimi.

"I love paddling, fishing or flying in and around Wabakimi. Sometimes though, my environmental lobbying activities and politics have kept me from enjoying enough of the wilderness that surrounds us in Northwestern Ontario," Hyer said.

For the last four years, after a seven-year stint as a minister of Parliament, Hyer was back doing what he loves, introducing nature lovers to the Wabakimi area as owner of the aptly named Wabakimi Fishing and Canoeing Outfitters.

The company has three main activities, he said "We have a drive-to eight-bedroom lodge near Armstrong that our guests use either as a destination for fishing and relaxing on the beautiful lake for a day or two, or as a jumpoff point for longer and more remote activities"

"We also have six remote outposts in and around Wabakimi, accessible only by float plane or canoe, and some also by VIA Rail."

Hyer said the canoe trips can be done do-ityourself style or guided, either partially or fully outfitted.

"I enjoy matching folks up with the right route for their budgets and goals, whether accessing the area by truck, bush train or float plane," he said. "Sometimes I feel like I am in John Candy's movie, only I offer access by planes, trains and trucks, rather than automobiles.

Safety, protection of the boreal ecosystem and species, including the woodland caribou, and the historic and cultural values of the Anishanabe, along with education and fun are the company founder's priorities.

Hyer is proud of his wonderful managers, Bert and Brenda, who have been with him for over 20 years, and keep everything running smoothly when he is off doing environmental work or politics.



call Bruce at:

807-708-4080

or Email:

forests@tbaytel.net







Call 346-2600 To Advertise In The Church Directory







ALL SMILES: Darius Fitzgerald having fun in his brand new slide.

A child's million dollar smile

Million Dollar Smiles charity helped build a playground in Darius' backyard THUNDER BAY

By Michael Charlebois - TB Source

n a lifetime that has mostly been dictated by pain, surgeries, and hardship, three-year-old Darius Fitzgerald has a constant smile on his face

Although hearing his story is one of unspeakable grief for him and his family, seeing Darius' smile flips the tragedy of the situation upside down, and brings an indescribable kind of joy to those around him.

So it made perfect sense that on Saturday, his smile fuelled a day of work for volunteers with the appropriately named Million Dollar Smiles charity, who helped build a playground in Darius' backyard.

The Toronto-based charity typically builds playgrounds for families in the Greater Toronto Area, but didn't seem to mind the travel time, because the reward of happiness for Darius can seemingly outweigh anything

Of the world's 7.53 billion people, Darius Fitzgerald is like no other. In a strictly scientific sense, it is believed that he's the only person in the world that suffers from down syndrome, along with a rare disease called NF2.

NF2, short for neurofibromatosis Type 2, is a hereditary condition where typically one develops a series of benign tumours on nerves carrying sound and balance information to the brain. Oftentimes, NF2 results in partial or complete hearing loss, vision impairment and balance issues.

"NF2 basically means your body does not create a protein to stop tumours from growing," his father, Andre Fitzgerald said.

"His future is basically chemotherapy and surgeries," said his mother Danielle Fitzgerald.

In a miraculous three years, Darius' parents have gone through every possible emotion a parent can experience.

Darius has had multiple heart and spinal surgeries, with doctors preparing the couple for the worst each time.

Yet each time, Darius prevails.

"We're just focusing right now on quality of life, because unfortunately, his life expectancy is not too high. We're just trying to make each day count," Danielle said.

His story has captured the attention of many in the medical community, in the Archibald Street neighbourhood where the Fitzgerald residence is located, and the Thunder Bay community, where broker Vince Mirabelli first heard of Darius' story.

"I learnt his story through another family, and once I read about it, I knew we had to do something special for him," said Mirabelli who sponsored the build.

Seven years prior, Mirabelli met Anna Lopes at an event in Toronto. Lopes is the founder of Million Dollar Smiles, and started the charity 14 years ago with the goal of bringing smiles to children facing lifethreatening illnesses.

While their team of volunteers have built more than 500 playgrounds in the GTA, Saturday marked their first trip outside of Toronto to build a playground for Darius.

They also had a team in Shuniah building a playground for Lillian, a 10-year old girl who is diagnosed with severe aplastic anemia.

Darius recently came back from spine surgery in London, and there was a question mark surrounding whether he'd even be in town to see volunteers build his new playground.

Sure enough, Darius was at home, sitting in his new slide, and even lending a helping hand after grabbing one of the wrenches.

His new playground features two slides, three swings, and even a toy kitchen.

His parents say it will make each day happier for him.

"It's all about Darius," Danielle said. "He wakes up every morning smiling, he goes to sleep smiling. It baffles even the specialists. He's supposed to be in tremendous pain and he's got a love of life. He feels all the support."

Darius' full story is available at pencilsandpopcans.com.

Your Community Newspaper





All proceeds support St. Joseph's Foundation. 63 Carrie St. Thunder Bay, ON WWW.SJFTB.NET License #M807054 & #M807314



TBLIFe

wife Laura, who had to go to work. I returned and the cranes were gone.

I had thought that by this past weekend the three of them had flown to join the great gathering of cranes that takes place every year on a field near Boundary Drive. Ah well, I thought, see you next year. But not so! I heard that unmistakable chittering call early Sunday morning.

I got out of bed and arrived in the living room to look out the picture window, in time to see them soar into the air and disappear over the trees heading southwest.

So, the gathering hasn't yet taken place. Soon it will.

The change in colour on the trees is just beginning. I spot reds and yellows on single trees as I drive: here a birch, there a Manitoba Maple. Summer is wrapping up.

And to celebrate the end of summer we have the Hymers Fall Fair that takes place this weekend at the Hymers Fair grounds. It is open to the public on Sunday and Monday. Friday night is when the exhibitors bring their wares - vegetables from their gardens, baked goods, crafts.

Farmers bring their cattle and fowl to be judged during the fair. Most years there are

two horse shows, one on the Sunday and one on the Monday. Of course, there is plenty of music on two stages and contests. The various food booths feature 'burgs, dogs, fries, and at one, corn-on-the-cob.

The dinning room has a full-course beef meal on Sunday and a turkey dinner on the Monday.

The fair is a community affair.

Volunteers from many rural townships (and some folk from town) come to set up and run the two-day country fair that is our ritual celebrating the beginning of a new season, that 'end of and beginning of...'

It's starting

So, fall colours at a tree near you. Cooler nights are creeping in which is good for us for a couple of reasons. As I mentioned, I love putting on a fire in the fireplace in the morning just to take away the chill. The dew at night is heavier too.

The changes in temperature means that the horses can stay out longer before I must bring them inside the barn for their morning grain and for those who require it, meds.

We long for the days when all I have to do is bring the horses inside, feed them and then send them back outside to graze for the day since the biting bugs will have died off.

Work clearing trails and doing fence repairs is easier since annoying bugs are all but gone and the heat of the day is far less intense.

I'm happy that autumn is at the door despite the official day not until Sept. 23 and the unofficial end of summer/beginning of autumn with the Hymers Fall Fair this long weekend.





ever-changing, overlapping shades of grey-tocharcoal. Some mornings the sun has risen to light up the trees in the west of our property

behind which is a dark sky. So dramatic. I sit with my first mug of coffee and look out west and northwest watching the bush slowly being illuminated as if a shroud was being removed to reveal the trees blazing with morning sun.

his is my favourite time of the year. Late

August into September. It is the unofficial

beginning of autumn. All the signs are pres-

The skies have been displaying very

dramatic scenes with scudding clouds, with

ent

The change came suddenly.

Thursday morning, I stepped outside and knew that fall was moving in. The smells were now different. There was a crispness in the air. I put on a fire in the fireplace and one downstairs in the boiler to take off the chill for the first time since spring.

Made appearances

While the sandhill cranes did not nest on our property as in years past, they have visited to feed in the paddocks.

The past two weeks they were present every day sometimes twice. Three times they became bold and ventured through the rope fence to slowly peck at the ground on our septic field and then make their way down and around the swimming pool. I hold my breath. One morning I found them again on the lawn behind the house. I brought my rocking chair close to the window and sat with coffee to watch the show. Eventually, I had to rise and bring a morning mug to my

First Rider program an emotional day

Just under 500 children were signed up to go through the safety training, and emotional preparation for the first bus ride to school

THUNDER BAY By Michael Charlebois - TB Source

Riding the school bus for the first time can be intimidating for children, and even their parents.

That's why first-time students in Thunder Bay got a crash course in school bus safety before the big day.

The First Rider program held its 26th year of school bus training for children entering kindergarten, and just under 500 children registered on Saturday.

Craig Murphy, manager of student transportation services of Thunder Bay, says the popular program is almost a rite of passage for parents who have a child about to start school.



FIRST RIDE: Violet Wright (left) and Lloyd Armstrong ahead of their first school bus ride.

"Everyone we talk to thinks it's an amazing program," he said.

The program includes an instructional video for parents and children. Parents then go to the TEC Hub at Confederation College and send their kid(s) off for a 20-minute practice run.

"The kids get that feel of what it's like to ride a school bus so on that first day they aren't apprehensive," Murphy said.

Darren DeFranceschi is a veteran parent of the First Ride program. His son, Anderson, is the fifth child of his to go through the school bus training.

Luckily for Darren, the fifth time was a breeze.

"He's been excited for a month now. He's been excited every time he sees a school bus. He yells it out. He knows all about it."

It hasn't been like that for every

child, though.

"Other ones were a little hesitant, and scared. It wasn't a great experience for all of them, but after they've been on the bus a few times... it's like a ride at the C.L.E." While the first day on the school

bus is something many of us don't personally remember, it's something a parent will never forget.

Kristen Melo, who registered her third child in the program this year, says sending her children off on their first day of school is an emotional experience.

"I cried like a baby each time. I'm sure I'll cry like a baby for this one too. It's hard sending them off for the first time without you - it's a big thing,"









GRILLING UP GOOD TIMES: A cook with Dinosaur Smokehouse grills up some ribs during Ribfest at the CLE grounds.

Ribfest grills up success

"Over-

whelmingly

everyone is

excited about

the new

space."

GLADYS BERRINGER

THUNDER BAY By Doug Diaczuk - TB Source

t turns out a winning recipe for rib sauce contains an ingredient you wouldn't necessarily expect, but leaves you with more than just a unique taste in your mouth. "Our secret is our sauce," said Ahmed Al, a cook with

Dinosaur Smokehouse from Little Rock, Arkansas, voted this year's top professional ribber at Ribfest. "It's the pickle juice that made it a game changer. After we added that pickle juice, we started winning more shows and people started liking our sauce a lot more."

"It makes it more tangy," Al added. "It's more than just a taste, you get a feeling in the back of your throat."

The top professional ribber was named on Sunday during the final day of Ribfest. The annual fundraiser for Our Kids Count saw thousands of people come out to enjoy some good food and entertainment, as well as the Riverfront Rumble Car Show and the Outdoor Show.

"The whole thing is blowing us over because we are getting such a wonderful reception from the community," said Gladys Berringer, executive director with Our Kids Count. "We are just absolutely thrilled."

This year marked a move for the event from the downtown north core to the CLE grounds and Berringer said the public has welcomed the change.

"We have a couple kinks to work out for next year," she said. "We are taking all the feedback from people as they come through, but overwhelmingly everyone is excited about the new space."

"We know our seating area has doubled from what we

had downtown and it's been full for the whole weekend. We used to estimate 20,000 to 30,000 when we were downtown, and we expect to be that or even more."

Cyndi Sereda, board member with Our Kids Count, said she has watched Ribfest grow every year and it was the right time to make the move.

"When I walked in here on Friday I knew it was the right venue," she said. "Kudos to the last location we had, but we were outgrowing it, so we had to find a spot that would service everybody, even the

dogs." And while everyone was out enjoying the ribs and the company, Ribfest also helps raise awareness about important issues affecting the city, Sereda said.

"When I look back over the years that I have been on the board, just watching it grow, this is probably the major and best fundraiser we have," she said. "It is very important for a lot of reasons because it's bringing the community together and making them aware of the social issues in Thunder Bay and food struggles that people have."

Sereda also had the difficult task of being one of the judges for the professional ribber contest. It wasn't easy picking just one.

"They were all superior," she said. "Everyone single one of them was unique, so I encourage the people of Thunder Bay to buy some."

And after the winner was announced, everyone was flocking for a taste of that unique sauce from Little Rock.

"Oh yeah, definitely, our line has gotten huge," Al said. "Out of nowhere. It feels great. We can show it off to people when we come back here next year. I think for sure next year we will be back."





IN THE **bay**

THUNDER BAY By Doug Diaczuk - TB Source

Members of the community and even some high-ranking officers with the Thunder Bay Police Service took a chilly plunge and it was all in support of athletes who inspire everyone to be as brave and strong as they can be.

On Thursday, Special Olympics Thunder Bay hosted a fundraiser and barbeque in support of the upcoming Special Olympics Winter Games that will be held in Thunder Bay in February 2020.

"It's obviously a really good way to bring awareness to our athletes with Special Olympics," said Inspt. Derek West with the Thunder Bay Police Service. "What a better way to do that than by bringing the police and athletes together and members of the public to work together and have fun."

The money raised will go toward helping fund the upcoming Winter



SURPRISE PLUNGE: Deputy Chief Ryan Hughes goes for a dip.

Games and supporting local athletes. Part of the fundraiser included a dunk tank, where several members of the Thunder Bay Police Service, including new deputy chief, Ryan Hughes, took the plunge. "It's a good event and hopefully when they see officers in a dunk tank and draw some more people out," Hughes said. "The higher the rank the more people want to come out and dunk that person. I had a lot of balls thrown at me today while I was in the dunk tank."

"It was cold no matter what happened," Hughes added. "It was cold every time I went in."

The Thunder Bay Police Service is a strong supporter of the Special Olympics, including hosting the annual torch run along with other law enforcement agencies.

"We are really passionate about the Special Olympics, the athlete's inclusion, making sure everyone has the ability to feel they are included in everything in the community," West said.

"It's a good event to support," Hughes added. "We've been behind it for many years. The officers enjoy participating with the Olympians and the volunteers."



OVERJOYED: Jennifer Hughes cannot contain her excitement after successfully dunking her husband, Thunder Bay Police Service deputy chief, Ryan Hughes during a fundraiser for Special Olympics Thunder Bay.



President enough to be on television



USA Today recently did something unprecedented. Or unpresidented. After 34 years of never taking sides in an election, the news magazine's editorial board labeled Donald Trump as "unfit for the presidency."

That didn't necessarily mean they were supporting Hillary. But one has to wonder how someone "unfit" for the job could still be so strong in the polls. Of course, The Donald has always known how to manipulate the optics and work the TV angles. After all, he's spent years promoting his brand on television, combining his varied real-life businesses with a blossoming TV career.

During that same period, television studios have pumped out their share of presidents who have succeeded despite their failings. So it's understandable that Trump – not to mention some of the viewing public – could have gotten a little confused when it comes to a real life election.

House of Cards introduced the public to the most evil president to never actually be elected to the job. Frank Underwood has lied, blackmailed, drugged and murdered his adversaries to get into the Oval Office. So is a little factual misrepresentation from Trump really all that bad?

The West Wing's Jed Bartlet had no



AS SEEN ON TV: President of the United States, Donald Trump.

military background when he became ABC's most beloved Commander-in-Chief. In fact, it was his economic acumen that gave him an edge in that first election.

So why couldn't successful businessman do the same? After all, Trump is a master of tax loopholes and protecting assets so that he doesn't have to pay employees, businesses or the government what he owes.

Fitzgerald Grant has made a career out of his *Scandal* of becoming president thanks to a fraudulent election. And since then, he's done little politicking, but has been wildly successful with the ladies.

Fortunately, Trump is above all that. Furthermore, Trump is all about identifying the rigged system that tries to undermine his debates, his nomination and his election. After all, didn't he identify the problem with Obama's birth certificate?

The newest President on the block has been *Designated Survivor*, Tom Kirkman. And while it's been a matter of days since this completely unprepared cabinet minister was forced into the job, he'll likely become the hero of the story. So apparently, actual experience is not a prerequisite for a successful presidency.

Of course, one might argue that there's a difference between television and reality. One might be wrong.

According to his own team on the morning of the first presidential debate, *The Apprentice* star was definitely ready because "he's done over a dozen season finales" and he always "[brought] his best game to the show."

Yes, it's probably the first time a politician has been considered prepped thanks to a reality show. But that's the world voters live in today.

USA Today said Trump traffics in prejudice, flip-flops on the issues, lies about the facts, is reckless when he speaks, and ignorant about foreign policy.

So Trump may not be a "fit" president. But in November, he could play one on TV.

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Mignault, Gerrie, Auger and Aiken among the players not returning to the SIJHL team this year

Stars have big holes to fill

Sports news information coverage

SIJHL By Leith Dunick – TB Source

The Thunder Bay North Stars don't want to take a step backward in 2019-20, but to maintain last season's pace, they're going to have to fill a few very big holes in their lineup.

Keighan Gerrie, the Superior International Junior Hockey League scoring leader who joined his former teammates for practice sessions at Port Arthur Arena over the weekend, was drafted by the Waterloo Blackhawks of the USHL and won't return.

Defenceman Kyle Auger, who became the first SIJHL rearguard to top 100 points, left for Lakehead University, as did No. 1 goaltender Brock Aiken.

Finally, captain Ryan Mignault, who fell a goal short of 50 in his final Junior A campaign and gritty forward Brendan Gillis, aged out and won't be back.

Most coaches would be in panic mode.

Not Rob DeGagne.

"We've got

350 points

we've got to

find some-

where "

ROB DEGAGNE

About to start his third year behind the North Stars bench, the 54-year-old said it won't be easy to replace the quartet that led Thunder Bay to a 40-5-2 mark last season, but he thinks the team is up to the challenge.

"We've got 350 points we've got to find somewhere, but in saying that, that's the life of junior hockey. We've got to have younger guys stepping up and hopefully have good seasons. We'll be a different team, we'll play a little different style," DeGagne said.

"But the guys we've got coming back, we've still

got good speed. We've got lots of forwards coming back. We're probably looking for at least two or three defencemen and a goaltender."

Playmaker

One of those speedy returnees is Joel Willan, who scored 22 goals and added 65 assists, second to Auger's 69, and returns for a final season of Junior A.

He's champing at the bit to get the season started in three

weeks, when the North Stars open on the road against the expansion Wisconsin Lumberjacks.

Willan said he and the other veterans are ready and willing to step up to keep the championship vibe alive at Fort William Gardens.

"Hopefully those guys can step up and we can have another good year," Willan said.

"I think that it's going to excite some other guys to step up and play another role that they weren't used to playing last year. So I think it's going to be a good year."

There will be one fewer veteran on the team this year, thanks to a three-year plan implemented by



CAMP BEGINS: North Stars coach Rob DeGagne (right) watches over practice last Friday at Port Arthur Arena.

the Canadian Junior Hockey League to reduce the number of 20-year-olds on each team from nine to six in 2020-21.

In addition to Willan, Jacob Brown, twins Ben and Alex Erwin and Evan Nicholas up front, blue-liners Logan Mihalcin, Maxime Fortin and Keon Fox and goaltender Dougie Newhouse are eligible to return as 20-year-olds, fighting for seven spots.

Other returnees include Jacob Anttonen, Michael Stubbs, Michael Vecchio and Jayden Mrakic up front and Thomas Brassard and Matthew Halushak on defence.

DeGagne said with so many returnees, it'd be easy to dwell on being swept out of the Dudley Hewitt Cup last spring with a lacklustre performance, after entering the post-season ranked No. 2 in the nation.

Starting over

But it's a new beginning.

"We've had a long summer to dwell on things. The game's changed," he said. "Every year the game changes, but one thing that doesn't change is our compete. I've told them you've got to be competitive, whether it's competitive in the gym, competitive on the ice and competitive for ice time."

Star gazing: Also gone is forward Jonathan Kilby, who asked for a trade and will suit up for the Junior B Caledonia Corvairs of the Greater Ontario Junior Hockey League.

DAWG DAYS OF AUGUST



UNDER IT: The Diamond Dawgs Justin Whitehurst makes a catch in centre against the Wobbly Pops at a slo-pitch game at the Slovak Field.

Fort Frances to host Dudley Hewitt Cup in spring 2020

SIJHL

By Tom Annelin – Special to TB Source

The Superior International Junior Hockey League's Fort Frances Lakers will host the 2020 Dudley-Hewitt Cup Central Canadian Junior A championship.

The five-day event will run April 28 through May 2 at Ice for Kids Arena.

This will mark the third time that Fort Frances has hosted the Dudley-Hewitt Cup. It was first held there back in 2003 and more recently in 2015 where they set numerous attendance records with near capacity crowds throughout.

"We at the SIJHL congratulate the Fort Frances Lakers on being selected to host this prestigious Jr. A hockey event," offered league commissioner Bryan Graham.

"The entire Lakers organization and the town of Fort Frances did a tremendous job hosting the Dudley-Hewitt Cup back in 2015 where the game action and attendance figures were second to none," added Graham. "We look forward to much the same in 2020 back in the Fort."

"We would also like to extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to CJHL president Brent Ladds for his efforts in the selection process as well as our partners in the NOJHL and OJHL, especially NOJHL



IN THE HUNT: The Lakers Dane Bateman.

commissioner Robert Mazzuca and OJHL commissioner Marty Savoy, for their significant involvement and contributions."

The four-team event will feature the respective champions of the SIJHL, NOJHL and OJHL along with the host

Lakers competing for a berth in the 2020 Canadian Jr. A Championship, this May, in Portage la Prairie, Man.

As an organization, the Lakers are looking forward to hosting the Dudley-Hewitt Cup once again.

"We are honoured to be selected to host the 2020 Dudley-Hewitt Cup and thank the selection committee for this opportunity," stated Lakers' head coach and general manager Wayne Strachan. "Our organization is excited and we are taking the necessary steps to get this prestigious event organized."

"We have an initial template to follow from hosting in 2015 and hope the Rainy River District, and our fans, will be behind us again to make it another successful championship held in Fort Frances," said Strachan, the winningest coach in SIJHL history, who also won a Dudley-Hewitt Cup as a player back in the early 1990s.

Should Fort Frances win the SIJHL's Bill Salonen Cup title, then the league finalist will also compete in the DHC.

Further information on the 2020 Dudley-Hewitt Cup, including host committee news, sponsorship opportunities and ticket packages will be released in the coming weeks.





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