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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2019

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER





Toys for the North campaign ready to deliver /10



City council OK's up to \$12 million for soccer plex /9

DECADE IN REVIEW



Lindor, world juniors top 2010s' sports highlights /21

Light up the night

WWW.TBNEWSWATCH.COM

Annual Parade of Lights sees 135 vehicles taking part, helping raise money for four different local charities /5



MEANS A LITTLE BIT MORE: The Grinch was out last Saturday night, travelling down Memorial Avenue at the Parade of Lights.



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TOP 5 CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS 2019

Unwrapping a Christmas gift to find flashy, new, technologic gizmo? It's exciting! Maybe it lights up? Maybe it plays music from your phone? There's so many new buttons and features that wrapping your head around all of the possibilities makes for one heck of a Christmas morning! The boys at Marnics get it, they live this excitement every day by bringing the coolest trends in technology to Thunder Bay. It passes from their store shelves, over the checkout counter straight into your hands! Technology and all of these fancy gizmos can be a bit daunting. That's why Marnics has created this list with their Top 5 Christmas Gift Ideas of 2019!



A Wireless Phone Charger

Those with an IPhone 8 or newer, or a Samsung S6 or newer, would love this gadget! Charge your device by simply placing it down on the pad! *Starting at \$24.99*



(04)

Portable Phone Charger

Power on the go is a perfect gift for anyone who does a lot of running around. You charge this portable device once and it lasts all week! You can text, game or whatever you like all day long! **Starting at \$24.99**



Bluetooth Headphones and Earbuds

We're all shifting away from the use of headphone jacks and the world is becoming wireless. A perfect gift for any music lover! *Starting at \$49.99*



05

Smartphone

Who wouldn't want a contract free phone? Canadians are beating the plan prices with refurbished and outright solutions! Sure to make for a thrilling Christmas gift!

Starting at \$99.99



Smart Home Products

"Hey Google, turn on my lights" is made possible with a Google Home product. These devices allow you to control your electrical surroundings with just the sound of your voice. *Starting at \$29.99*

OPENING HOURS

MONDAY - WEDNESDAY: 10:00AM - 7:00PM THURSDAY - FRIDAY: 10:00AM - 9:00PM

SATURDAY: 12:00PM - 6:00PM

SUNDAY: 12:00PM - 5:00PM

LOCALNEWS

Report says Vickers fire hall should close

THUNDER BAY By Gary Rinne - TB Source

Thunder Bay Fire Rescue headquarters on Vickers Street will be decommissioned within several years if city council accepts the recommendation of experts.

The outside consultants hired to prepare the next Strategic Master Fire Plan say the building should be dismantled, and replaced by a smaller two-bay fire hall close to the present headquarters.

Administration staff would be relocated to the Water Street fire station.

"There appears to be a need for a new fire headquarters due to the age and condition of the [Vickers Street] building," the draft report states.

The cost of upgrades is estimated at more than \$1 million, "and this only addresses the required repairs; it would not create a long-term fix for the fire department," the consultants conclude.

However, their report also outlines alternative options for realignment of fire stations.

One is to consolidate the Vickers Street and Water Street stations into one fire hall in the vicinity of Central Avenue and Balmoral Street.

The 186-page document will be presented next week to city council, but is not yet scheduled for a vote.

Council is expected to take a few months to consider its 20-plus recommendations.

The consultants found that although the city is not expected to see significant population growth, demands for service from Thunder Bay Fire Rescue could still increase due to an aging population and aging infrastruc-

"TBFR should reassess the locations and use of its present fire stations to find service and cost efficiencies to better utilize its present [eight] fire stations and staffing complement," their report says.

From 2014 to 2018, the call volume increased by 23 per cent, partly driven by more medical calls.

The consultants state "This does not mean that an increase in staffing is required, what it does mean is that wherever possible, call volumes need to be reduced [partly] through...ongoing initiatives with EMS (Superior North Emergency Medical Services) in relation to medical responses."

To help reduce the increasing volumes related to medical responses, the report recommends TBFR consider responding only to the most serious medical calls, such as Vital Signs Absent, and only to calls where there is a time delay for ambulance response due to a lack of available

The report also suggests that if the Vickers and Water



DEEP DIVE: Thunder Bay Fire Rescue is undergoing a study ahead of a new strategic fire plan being implemented.

Street stations are consolidated, one fire crew be split into two "fast response units" for medical calls.

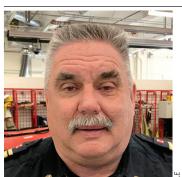
It says this will result in less wear and tear on pumper

The 2018 BMA Municipal Study of Ontario cities with populations over 100,000 found that Thunder Bay has one of the highest per capita costs for fire services.

The consultants, however, note that due to its geographical location Thunder Bay doesn't have the luxury of relying on nearby full-time fire departments for assistance when needed.

"This fact must be kept in mind whenever fire station and staffing adjustments are considered," the report

It also references the fact that Thunder Bay Fire Rescue is the provincial/regional response team for specialty responses such as hazardous materials and urban search and rescue.



OUT OF OFFICE: Fire Chief John Hay.

Hay's status uncertain

By TB Source staff

he status of Thunder Bay Fire Rescue Chief John Hay is up in

Several sources have indicated to tbnewswatch.com last Tuesday that Hay is no longer on the job. A request for clarification as to Hay's status to city manager Norm Gale revealed little, other than to confirm the fire chief is "out of the office."

Several city council members contacted referred the matter back

Hay could not be reached for comment.

Deputy Fire Chief Greg Hankkio has assumed Hay's duties on an interim basis.

eather Foreca

THURSDAY



Mainly cloudy

Probability of Precipitation: 30% HIGH-11 LOW-11

FRIDAY



Light snow

Probability of Precipitation: 70% HIGH -2 LOW -9

SATURDAY



A few flurries

Probability of Precipitation: 40% HIGH -9 LOW-16

SUNDAY



A few flurries

Probability of Precipitation: 40% HIGH -13 LOW -18

MONDAY



Mainly sunny

Probability of Precipitation: 10% HIGH-11 LOW-14

TUESDAY



A mix of sun and clouds

Probability of Precipitation: 30% HIGH-10 LOW -15

THUNDERSPE

Countdown to Christmas Specials (sales run from the 12th - 20th)

DOG & CAT TOYS

Buy 2 get **10% off** Buy 3 Get **15% off**



Buy 4 or more get 20% off

Fish, Bird, Reptile and Small Animal Supplies Select Sales up to



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Thursday Dec 12th Terrace Bay store will be open until 8 pm with all these specials and more!

LOCALNEWS

OSSTF members stage one-day strike

LABOUR By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Paul Caccamo says teachers and education workers felt they had no choice but to stage a one-day walkout.

Caccamo, vice-president of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation, said the strike absolutely didn't have to happen, but the province hasn't been sincere in its negotiating tactics and his union members won't stand idly by while Premier Doug Ford proposes massive cuts to education, larger class sizes and mandatory e-learning courses.

The province has dialed back the latter two plans, announcing they'll cap class sizes at 25, not 28, and cutting the number of required online courses from four, their first proposal, to two.

That's not good enough, Caccamo said, making a whirlwind tour of local public board high schools on Wednesday morning before flying back to Toronto to await a new round of talks.

"The cuts are significant, they're already manifesting themselves with significant losses in revenue in both of our local school boards," Caccamo said.

"Staff is not being replaced. Class sizes are growing and there are less supports available in our schools for our education workers for the most vulnerable students. That's unacceptable to our members and that's why they're out here."

Caccamo said the goal is to convince the province to get back to bargaining, cautioning if they don't, the union may have no choice but to ramp up strikerelated action, including future walk-outs and the possible withdrawal of services.

He added that while Education Minister Stephen Lecce, who has called for mediation to end the dispute, is telling the public the Conservative government has made massive investments into education in Ontario, that's simply not the case.

"It is categorically untrue. They are



OUT OF CLASS: Teachers and education workers at Hammarskjold walk the picket line.

extracting hundreds of millions of dollars out of the public education system. There is less staff available in our schools and if

escalation is going to happen, it is going to because this minister and his boss, (Premier Doug) Ford, refuse to acknowledge that public education is sacrosanct in this province, it needs to be celebrated as among the best education systems in the world."

Rich Seeley, president of OSSTF District 6A Thunder Bay, said teachers and education workers are standing strong in their demands.

"We're all in this together and the fact that our elementary schools are closed tells us how important our support staff are to the operation of a school," Seeley said, standing outside Hammarskjold High School.

"Stephen Lecce said he wanted a deal, but he never even came to the hotel to sit down with us to talk about a deal at the last minute. So we're out here for that reason."

Union members are also fighting for pay increases tied to inflation.

Thunder Bay Catholic District School board shuttered its schools for the day because many of its support workers belong to the OSSTF.

TIPS FOR REDUCING WASTE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

USE ALTERNATIVES TO TRADITIONAL WRAPPING PAPER

Wrapping paper is not recyclable due to high ink content. Instead use kraft paper, newspaper, old sheet music or cloth to wrap your gifts.

BUY GIFTS WITH LESS PACKAGING

Look for items that have little to no waste such as gift certificates or tickets to concerts, museums, sports events or restaurants.

USE REUSABLE ITEMS WHEN ENTERTAINING

Rather than disposable items, use reusable dishes, glassware, silverware and napkins.

REUSE YOUR HOLIDAY DECORATIONS

Rather than buying new holiday decorations each year, reuse your decorations year after year.

SEND YOUR HOLIDAY CARDS ELECTRONICALLY

If you would rather send a paper card, use cards with less ink content rather than cards that are laminated, foil-stamped or that have metallic ink.

For more information, visit: thunderbay.ca/wastereduction



Making small changes this holiday season can make a big difference!

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Christmas Cheer makes urgent plea

THUNDER BAY By Doug Diaczuk - TB Source

Sometimes a helping hand is all that it takes to bring a smile to someone's face and organizers with the Christmas Cheer Fund want to make as many people smile as possible, but they need the community to step up and help make it happen.

"It's that special moment in time when you get to look at someone's face and they actually have a smile on their face and don't look like a deer in the headlights, wondering: what am I going to do," said Jolene Kemp, chairperson of the Christmas Cheer Fund.

But according to Kemp, donations from the public have been very slow this year, and with only a week until Christmas Cheer hampers are handed out to the public, there is concern about having enough for everyone.

"Things have been very quiet in terms of the public's response," Kemp said. "We've seen on social media that the schools have embraced the idea of a gift box and the joy of giving."

"The children are doing their part. They want to bring in as many non-perishable food items as they can. But the public, I think with all the other charities, is thinking we've got lots of time for Christmas Cheer.'

Kemp added that financial contributions, which pay for the turkeys and fruit included in the hampers is also very slow coming in, but the need in the community remains.

"As soon as the phone lines were turned on, the phones started ringing and they haven't stopped ringing for families, some for the first time saying: we don't want to do this, but we don't have a choice. We can't make ends meet," Kemp said.

Last year, the Christmas Cheer Fund provided hampers to more than 8,000 people and Kemp said she anticipates seeing that same number this year, if not surpassing it.

More than 1,000 volunteers will be assisting with the Christmas Cheer Fund and food will be sorted next Monday, with pickup for people living on the north side of the city on Tuesday Dec. 17 and Wednesday Dec. 18 for those living on the south side.

Donations can be made by texting 20222 or visiting the Christmas Cheer Fund website.



GETTING READY: Christmas Cheer Fund seeking more donations.

Parade of Lights a hit

THUNDER BAY By Leith Dunick - TB Source

ave Dolph has been decorating his truck and taking part in the annual Parade of Lights for years.

He wouldn't have it any other way. A plow operator by day, Dolph said it's all for a good cause – or in this case for of them.

"It's for kids. Without kids, we've got nothing. Sick kids, healthy kids, it's all for kids. A guy like me, I had bronchial asthma growing up, so I was a sick child. Back then there was no help for us," Dolph said.

It took him, his wife Jennifer and their youngest son, Austin, several hours on Saturday to deck his plow truck in just the right way.

It's time well spent, he said.

"I went in late last night and made it look nice and shiny and we used 27 strings of lights," Dolph said.

The support this year was fantastic. He had friends, co-workers and customers provide donations, which he turned over to parade organizers on Saturday before setting out along Main Street, one of 135 entries in this year's event.

"And we got some new people out here, which is nice. It's really good. I go down the route and I've got people waving at me ... This is just the icing on the cake."

Greg Stephenson, the former head of the Thunder Bay Police Association and long-time Parade of Lights chair, said it felt great seeing everything come together once again

"You always have that hesitation hoping everything turns out. The weather is perfect. We have 135 trucks registered and we're going to



BIG FINALE: Santa Claus was well received last Saturday night.

have a great show" Stephenson said, about an hour before this year's parade began.

"I've already seen the vehicles lining up the road and there are going to be lots of people out to watch."

Stephenson said he's confident this will be one of their best years yet.

"Every year we try to strive to be

better than the year before," he said. "It's going to be one of the best attended.

Proceds from the parade will be donated to Autism Ontario's Thunder Bay chapter, the George Jeffrey Children's Centre, Special Olympics and the Thunder Bay Therapeutic Riding Association.



Call (807) 345-4673 to purchase tickets, or buy in person.

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Editorial

EDITORIAL

2010s were not great

he end of any given decade brings with it plenty of reflection.

In Thunder Bay, one can hardly imagine another decade rivalling the city for bad news.

There was the 2012 flood that devastated homes in Northwood and the east

Then there was the violence. Not only did the city routinely capture the ignominious title of murder capital of Canada, but gang violence also became the norm in the 2010s, something this city had never really seen in its 49-year

The issue of racism came to the forefront over the past 10 years, with two damning reports shedding poor light on the city's police department and its police services board.

Luckily Chief Sylvie Hauth appears to be making progress fixing the culture on Balmoral Street, but there's still a long way to go throughout Thunder Bay.

The Seven Youth report showed the city has plenty of work to do to ensure Indigenous youth are safe.

Add to that the ongoing legal woes faced by former mayor Keith Hobbs and the contract woes that have led to about 550 people being laid off at Bombardier, and it looks like there is only one way for the city to go in the 2020s - and

And thanks to movements like Wake the Giant, things actually are starting to look brighter.

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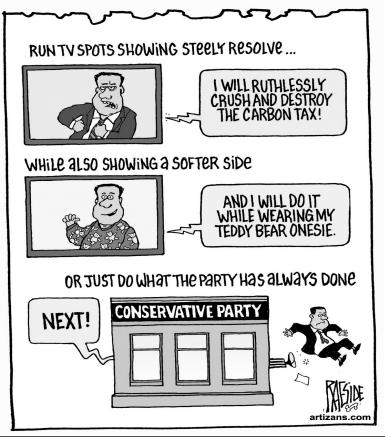












Giving Tuesday good to hospital

THUNDER BAY **By Leith Dunick - TB Source**

ight years ago, when Chipp White was four, each night he'd ask his father to send his mother in to tuck him and his older brother in at night.

Not wanting to worry his sons, Jed White made an excuse why she couldn't. But after several nights, he told them the truth - their mother, Jessica, was in southern Ontario, awaiting open-heart surgery.

"At the time, I didn't know. My Dad wanted it to be a secret," the now 11-year-old Chipp said on Thursday at Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre, where the hospital foundation announced it had collected more than \$71,000 on Giving Tuesday, \$31,000 more than their \$40,000 target.

"Then he told me the bad news, 'Mom has gone away for surgery. Then every night I remember shedding a tear or two, because I was very sad. Then a week later me and my brother started to fear the worst, that she was never coming home.'

It was a heartbreaking realization for a four-year-old, who said he was thrilled to see such generosity earlier this week by the community, knowing the bulk of the money raised will be put toward purchasing equipment for the hospital's soon-to-be-built cardiovascular surgery unit.

Chipp said he's looking forward to the day cardiovascular surgery happens in Thunder Bay, as it would mean children like him wouldn't have to be without their mother or father for weeks on end.

It hurt he said

"It would be different because it would be at home. We could come and visit her during this difficult time,"

he said. "It wouldn't have gotten a hole in our heart while she was getting her hole fixed."

Chipp's mother said it was tough being away from her family for so long, leaving two young children for her husband to look after solo for so long.

She said she was thrilled to see just how generous Thunder Bay is, giving so much in one day to the cardiovascular surgery program.

"It's absolutely heartwarming," she said. "I'm blown away at the community's generosity. I'm very proud of our community and very thankful for such amazing support here in Thunder Bay."

The Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Foundation has fundraised about \$12 million of the \$14 million required by the province as the community's share of the new surgery facility.

Of the \$71,141 raised on Tuesday, \$64,172 was directed toward the campaign, which will allow the foundation to purchase two open heart instrument trays to be used during heart surgery at the hospital.

Dave Grady, the NextGen cabinet member with the Our Hearts at Home campaign, was equally thrilled to see so much money being put toward such a great cause.

"I think it goes back to understanding as a whole, our community wants to take care of our community, which is really, really nice," Grady said. "We saw it on Giving Tuesday, we're seeing it as we're going through this campaign, with a huge target."

Donations to the Our Hearts at Home campaign are accepted online at www.healthsciencesfoundation.ca/ Christmas, in person at the donation centre in the hospital's first-floor lobby, by phone at 345-4673 or by mail.



FRIGHTENING TIME: Chipp White was about four years old when his mother went away for heart surgery.

All I want for Christmas

Plenty of gift ideas for the adults on your holiday list

OPINIONBy J.R. Shermack
Special to TB Source

remember the excitement at Christmas when I was a boy waiting for Santa to leave presents under the tree.

Our family had lots of kids and not much money but everybody always got something even if it wasn't what they were expecting.

We had modest expectations and while we secretly yearned for the newest and coolest toys, sometimes it seemed like Santa didn't even read our letters.

Disappointment was hard to hide when we opened a gift expecting a new toy but saw something practical instead – new clothes or a pair of shoes.

We knew Santa meant well but there was nothing cool about corduroy pants or bedroom slippers.

Tradition

Fortunately it was the custom in our house that we all got one special gift that stirred our childish imagination and made us happy.

And even though we didn't realize it at the time, those less desirable sweaters, socks and shoes were also given with love and affection.

It all contributed to the fun and merriment that made Christmas the best day of the year for me, my siblings and our extended family.

Every year we try to re-create that special feeling in our own home with food, festivity, family and friends.

The traditions that bring us together have nothing to do with the gifts under the tree although giftgiving is a tradition in our family and Santa still makes an appearance.

Each year it gets a little harder to come up with a gift that has a "wow" factor, something that makes us feel like a kid again.

If you are wondering how to recreate that childhood gusto, here are a few items to consider for the adults on your Christmas list.

"Each year it

gets a little

harder to

come up with

a gift that

has a 'wow'

factor."

The pogo stick is an old jumping toy that has been re-invented and re-engineered to impressive new standards of performance.

The Vurtego V4 Pro is an adult-sized pogo stick intended for grown-ups who want to show off their inner child in front of their kids.

This is an extreme pogo stick, designed to perform jumps and flips as high as ten feet in the air while carrying adults from 75 to 300 pounds.

This makes an awesome gift, especially when you include a first aid kit, a pair of crutches and several ice packs.

For those on your gift list who like to bounce a little less vigorously, consider an adult-sized, 29-inch hopper ball.

Many parents remember hopping and taking a few squashy bounces

on their kid's hopper ball while their horrified child looked on, waiting for it to burst.

Now you can bounce around on your own grown-up ball and horrify them even more as they wait for you to fall off and break a hip.

Hopper balls are also available in an adult-sized Mr. Jones the donkey, Ray the Rooster and for the more whimsical bouncers, a plush Unicorn hopper.

New version

Another childhood favorite, Jenga, now comes in a giant version with huge wooden blocks that can be stacked to seven feet.

Jenga Giant (15 times bigger than the original) is rated for ages 12 to adult so if you get a set for your kids maybe they'll let you play too.

Also available is the 50th Anniversary edition of Spirograph – recommended for ages 8 and up but only adults will appreciate the commemorative die-cast metal gear.

Adult baby boomers will especially dig the far-out gears, arcs and curves that come together in spirotastic designs — inspired by the 1965 original version.

All adults are still somebody's children and every child deserves a toy at Christmas.

All I want for Christmas is just what I deserve.

THUNDER BAY

CATCHING AIR



FLYING HIGH: Joseph Foresta gets airborne this past Sunday as the ski season got under way at Loch Lomond Ski Area. The ski hill expects to be fully operational in the next couple of weeks.

Water Street in the 1880s In 1889 in Port Arthur there lived about 4,000 people (in the summer) along with 117 horses, 140 cows and 174 dogs. School began at 9:30am and went to 4:00pm (with 90 minutes for lunch). The ferry between Port Arthur and Fort William ran 4 times a day.

HOW TO WRITE US:

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

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

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

Email: ldunick@dougallmedia.com Visit our website: www.tbnewswatch.com

VOICE YOUR OPINION ABOUT

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THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Your VOICE

VISIT <u>www.tbnewswatch.com</u>
TO SHARE YOUR IDEAS AND VIEWS ABOUT
OUR WEEKLY POLL QUESTION.

City indoor rinks operated at a collective \$1-million deficit this year. Should the city considering closing one to save

money?

YES ○ NO ○ NO OPINION 41.5% 55.42% 3.03%

LOCALNEWS

Closing submissions to begin in Hobbs, Voss extortion trial

By TB Source staff

losing submissions at the extortion Ctrial of former Thunder Bay Mayor Keith Hobbs, his wife Marisa Hobbs, and friend Mary Voss were to be made

on Thursday.

Crown Attorney Peter Keen, as well as defence lawyers Brian Greenspan and George Joseph will present their final arguments to Justice Fletcher Dawson.

Keen noted on Day 1 of the trial that

the judge should consider "who was driving the bus" when rendering his decision.

The Crown argues the three accused withheld incriminating video evidence of the alleged victim, whose identity is protected by a publication ban, from

police and instead used that evidence to coerce him to buy a \$429,000 home for Mary Voss.

The Crown contends the Hobbses, who were in deep financial trouble at the time planned to then borrow money from Voss, who could have used that house as collateral for a bank loan.

The accused vehemently deny those claims and insist they were set up by the alleged victim who planned the whole thing.

Justice Dawson is expected to deliver his decision sometime in the new year.

Notice of Filing Design and Construction Report

Highway 11/17 Four-Laning from 2.83 km West of Ouimet Overhead, Easterly 8.63 km

THE STUDY

WSP, on behalf of the Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO), has completed the Preliminary Design, Detail Design and Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) Study for the four-laning of Highway 11/17, from 2.83 km west of Ouimet Overhead, easterly for 8.63 km, within the Municipality of Shuniah and the Township of Dorion. The project includes:

- Some areas of twinning the existing highway;
- Some areas of new four-lane alignment, including constructing new eastbound and westbound bridges over the Canadian Pacific Railway:
- Providing connections to the new four-lane highway at Meyers Road, Ouimet Canyon Road, the proposed Service Road and Dorion Loop
- Connection of Poplar Lane to the proposed Service Road;
- Connection from Birch Lane to Meyers Road East; and
- · Securing all the necessary environmental approvals for construction.

BACKGROUND

During the Preliminary Design Phase, a Public Information Centre (PIC) was held on April 13, 2016 to present the proposed design changes to the 1997 EA Approved Plan. The proposed design changes were documented in an Addendum to the 1997 ESR, which was filed for public review in October 2016. The 1997 EA Approved Plan did not provide access from Birch Lane to the new four-lane divided highway. In consideration of concerns raised at the PIC and further discussions with the Township of Dorion, MTO recommended a new public road connection between Meyers Road East and Birch Lane, which was documented in a second Addendum to the 1997 ESR and filed for public review in January 2018. A second PIC was held on February 21, 2018 to present the connection between Meyers Road East and Birch Lane, and the Detail Design Plan.

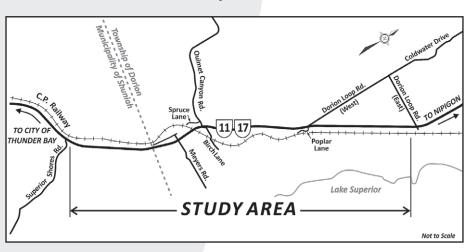
THE PROCESS

This study followed the approved environmental planning process for Group "B" projects under the Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) for Provincial Transportation Facilities (2000), with the opportunity for public input throughout.

A Design and Construction Report (DCR) has been prepared to document the Detail Design for the improvements to Highway 11/17 within the study limits. The DCR also outlines the associated environmental impacts and mitigation measures. The DCR is available for public review from December 12, 2019 to January 27, 2020 on the project website (https://hwy11-17four-laningfromouimettodorion.ca/), and at the following locations during regular business hours:

Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

Thunder Bay Regional Office 435 James Street South, Suite 331 Thunder Bay, ON



Township of Dorion Clerk's Office 170 Dorion Loop Road Dorion, ON

Municipality of Shuniah Clerk's Office 420 Leslie Avenue Thunder Bay, ON

Red Rock Library 42 Salls Street Red Rock, ON

Dorion Public Library 170 Dorion Loop Road Dorion, ON

COMMENTS

Interested persons are encouraged to review this document and provide comments by January 27, 2020. The DCR is not eligible for a Part II Order (i.e. "bump-up") under the provisions of the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act.

If you wish to obtain additional information please contact:

Karen M. Zan, P.Eng. Senior Project Manager **WSP** 610 Chartwell Road, Suite 300 Oakville, ON L6J 4A5 tel: 1-877-562-7947 or 289-835-2643 fax: 905-823-8503 e-mail: Karen.Zan@wsp.com

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If you have any accessibility requirements to participate in this project, please contact one of the Project Team members listed above. Comments and information are being collected to assist the MTO in meeting the requirements of the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act. Information will be collected in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. All comments will be maintained on file for use during the study and, with the exception of personal information, may be included in study documentation and become part of the public record.



LOCALNEWS

Council OKs \$12M for soccer

By Ian Kaufman - TB Source

Thunder Bay city council has allocated around \$12 million for a proposed new multi-use indoor sports facility - but not without some second thoughts.

Mayor Bill Mauro on Monday brought a motion to move millions from various sources into the indoor turf facility reserve fund. That included \$6.9 million from federal gas tax funds, around \$3 million in municipal accommodation tax dollars from future years, and over \$3 million from reserve funds.

Coun. Rebecca Johnson touched off a sometimes passionate discussion on the city's financial priorities when she opposed the proposal.

"I'm not saying a turf facility isn't something we would like and need," Johnson said. "But at the same time, do we need it right now, when we can't even really afford it?'

The at-large councillor said she's worried the city's budget will be even tougher to balance than usual next year, thanks to anticipated lower tax revenue with Bombardier layoffs.

Mauro acknowledged the city's financial challenges, but argued the Chapples Park project is a worthwhile investment. He also noted the city had run an operating surplus last year. He was supported by councillors Foulds, Ruberto, and Ch'ng, who said the facility could help keep young professionals in the city.

Others were more hesitant, but a reassurance that allocating the money would not



IN SUPPORT: Thunder Bay Mayor Bill Mauro argues in favour of an indoor soccer facility on Monday.

commit council to spending it seemed to help some make up their minds.

Council ultimately approved most of the mayor's motion, but rejected some points. They voted down a proposal to allocate \$900,000 from the city's stabilization reserve fund, and another to ask the Community Economic Development Commission to contribute its own share of MAT funding to the project.

This leaves about \$12 million now allocated to the indoor turf facility reserve fund.

The city is hoping other levels of government will kick in much of the remainder of the facility, expected to cost nearly \$30 million.

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TAKING FLIGHT: A Royal Canadian Airforce Hercules aircraft drops off more than 6,000 pounds of toys for children in Ontario's Far North.

Toys for the North returns

THUNDER BAY By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Christmas is coming to the Far North and Santa Claus is coming along for the ride. For the fifth straight year, the RCMP and North Star Air, together with the Royal Canadian Air Force, are teaming up for Toys for the North, a campaign that sees toys and other necessities collected nationwide and distributed to communities in need from both Goose Bay, N.L. and Thunder Bay.

The latter shipment will head north to Sachigo Lake First Nation and Cat Lake First Nation.

Capt. Kevin Sawyers of the Royal Canadian Air Force said it's an honour to take part in the annual campaign, knowing the impact it has on families in some of the country's most remote communities.

"We've got four pallets of almost 6,000 pounds of toys for communities in the area. It's part of the RCMP's initiative. They've asked the military to participate and move some of the larger portion of the cargo up to the communities," Sawyers said, standing aboard the massive C-130J-30 Hercules aircraft that rumbled onto the tarmac Friday morning at Thunder Bay International Airport.

"Obviously this time of year it's a great thing to be a part of, especially as a member of the military, to take part in something like this that's supporting Canadians,"

The toys were unloaded off the plane and onto a waiting transport to be taken back to



LIFT OFF: Workers unload crates of tovs from a military aircraft last Friday morning.

Gardewine's warehouse, where they will be packaged up and then flown to the two communities next Friday on a North Star Air

Karen Matson, director of marketing and communications at North Star Air, said it's good to see things coming together for the campaign, after weeks and weeks of prepara-

Now comes the fun part, she said.

"Come Monday afternoon we'll organize all the toys into piles for the communities we are visiting this year," Matson said.

"Next Friday we are visiting Cat Lake First Nation and Sachigo Lake First Nation with two separate bundles of toys. We'll also have Santa Claus with us again this year, so we're really super looking forward to this celebration with the community."

The toys are always welcomed, Matson

"There are a lot of families up north that don't receive anything for Christmas. Hopefully this will brighten their day and make their year hopefully and make a change in the north."

Plenty of outdoor options for fat bikers and skiers



THE GOOD LIFE

ast Saturday, I found myself doublebooked with outdoor activities. On one hand, Thunder Bay's vibrant fatbiking community had organized a big ride for Global Fat Bike Day. On the other, Lappe Nordic's beloved Distance Challenge was returning after a 12-year hiatus. Decisions, decisions.

Global Fat Bike Day is a relatively new event. Originating in 2012, the purpose of GFBD is simply to get together with some old friends, meet some new friends, and just celebrate the fact that we can get outside and ride

these awesome bikes year-round.

This year's Global Fat Bike Day ride started from the trailhead at Kinsmen Park (Trowbridge Falls) and riders spent a few hours exploring Trowbridge Forest as well as the groomed bike trails of Shuniah Mines before heading over to Sleeping Giant Brewery for some post-ride celebrations.

The Lappe Distance Challenge, by contrast, is a classic.

It started in 1991 but hasn't been held since 2007. Between these dates, it was cancelled several times due to minimal snow or frigid temperatures.

Luckily, 13 year-old Maaritta Puiras organized a revival of the event this

The Puiras family is regarded as Nordic royalty in Canada and when I asked Maaritta about the origin of this event, I wasn't surprised that it was started by the king himself.

"My grandpa Reijo bet a bunch of people... that they couldn't ski one hundred kilometre in one day" she replied.

In the end, my decision was an easy one as my youngest daughter Charlotte decided she was going to get her name on the 50-kilometre plaque.

We were on the snow shortly after breakfast and while I was exhausted by mid-afternoon, Charlotte skied until the sun went down, the trail lights came on, and she finally hit the 50km

To encourage participation, Maaritta made this a free event, and by the time it ended, more than forty people had taken on the challenge and skied a total

Top performers were Olivier Doucet, Paul Inkila and Werner Schwar, who all skied 100 kilometres while Maaritta and her mother Becky each travelled

an impressive 75km.

There is an even bigger challenge, the 24-hour Lappe Relay in March, and Maaritta said that was her inspiration for bringing back the Distance Challenge.

"I look forward to the 24 hour relay as much as Christmas and my birthday. I was wishing there was a similar event earlier in the year and my mom told me about the Distance Challenge. I thought it would be a fun event and decided to bring it back," she said.

The best part about living in a community full of outdoors enthusiasts is the amazing people who are organizing events like the Distance Challenge and Global Fat Bike Day.

Thanks to them, my family is never

Though we occasionally have to make some tough decisions as we try to fit everything in.

Police help food banks

THUNDER BAY By TB Source staff

ights were flashing outside various grocery stores across the city not because of an emergency, but to remind people that there are those in need this time of year.

The eighth annual Stuff a Cruiser event was held on Saturday at six locations in Thunder Bay and Kakabeka Falls to collect food and monetary donations in support of the Regional Food Distribution Association and Rural Cupboard Food Bank.

"We just want to make sure everyone in our community has food on their table during this festive season and beyond," said provincial Const. Diana Cole with the Ontario Provincial

Police services including the OPP, Thunder Bay Police Service, the RCMP, Nishnawbe Aski Police Service, Anishinabek Police Service, and the Canadian Border Services participated in the event.



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Getting a tree turns into debate

We had a debate. It was about this year's Christmas tree.

Even before we moved onto this property 20 years ago, my wife, Laura, and I would head into the bush and cut a tree deemed perfect for the living room, bushy enough to be festooned with lights and ornaments, and when the lights are plugged in, to display gorgeous colour pleasant to behold.

This year I didn't really want to head into the bush to fetch a tree. Our choice on this land is either spruce or balsam. I wanted to spring for a Scotch pine like the ones my Dad and I would buy when I was a kid. We'd drive to a parking lot in the evening that had been converted into a forest of pine.

Lights were strung so that we could inspect the trees and choose one.

When the tree was finally in place in our living room and the warmth of the house had caused the branches to open up, the aroma was intoxicating to me. I wanted to smell that particular scent again. Balsam and spruce do not have that smell.

When we go for a walk along our trails, we timber cruise - looking at the standing dead trees that would be perfect for burning in the fireplace. We don't really walk so much as saunter. Sometimes one of us have sprung up in what once was a grain field back when this land was farmed. All I have to do is remember which candidate we selected. Usually the specimens are to be located in the 'back 40' as I like to call it. But this year we found one closer to home on the main trail.

Usually I drive our quad with the cart attached on the rear containing my camp saw and manage to negotiate

> the snow on the trail without getting stuck. But we've had two substantial snowfalls already and I wasn't sure if quad would make it. So, I fired up my old faithful tractor, Big Red, and trundled along the trail and up the hill to where the tree stood.

In previous years when I've taken the tractor on timbering

expeditions, I've only had the rear blade attached.

Very convenient since then I could hoist the thick end of a tree up onto the raised blade, wrap a chain around it to secure it for the return journey, and slowly drag the tree back to Casa Jones. Not this year. This year I had attached the arm snowblower. This piece of equipment is awkward and dangerous to barn doors. I reached the tree, climbed off Red, fetched the saw, and cut the tree.

Now, how to get it home. I decided to heave it onto the bucket on the front of Red. I somehow manipulated up and onto it, climbed back onto the tractor. So far, so good. And then the 'fun' began.

The bit of trail down which I had driven was too narrow for tractor and extended tree for me to back up to a more open space where I could turn around. I had to do a three-point turn and attempt to snake my way back home hopefully with tree intact. However, with the large and cumbersome thing hanging off the back of Red, it required more like a ten-point turn, gradually inching my way around.

One problem was the consistency of the snow: very loose, perfect for the front wheels to slide instead of going in the direction I wanted.

But eventually I got us turned around. Now to drive Red with bucket supporting tree. On the return trip, the tree was bashed several times - first on one side, then the other – as we squeezed between trees close to the edge of the trail on either side. Once, heading downhill, the tree got caught in the branches of a spruce. I had to pull and push in order to free enough of the tree to allow me to disembark and re-position the tree on the bucket. The rest of the journey along the trail was uneventful until the very end where the small poplar tree crowded the edge of the trail and suddenly "WHAP!", a branch whacked my in the face - "Ow!"

Back at Casa Jones I unloaded the tree and returned Red to its shelter. Laura peeked out the front door and said that it looked like I'd have to further cut the tree as it was way too long. She was right. I did and leaned it up against the house as we



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ON HEALTH

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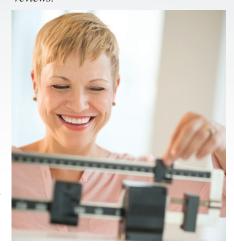
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City excluded from health team cohort

HEALTHBy TB Source staff

The provincial government on Monday released the list of 24 Ontario Health Teams, the first cohort in its plan to reorganize the oversight of health care services.

The list includes the Kenora/Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls, but excludes the rest of northwestern Ontario.

Last week, Northern Development Minister Greg Rickford announced the All Nations Health Partners Ontario Health Team in the Kenora area.

Monday's announcement showed that the only other team designated so far across the north is in the North Bay area.

The remaining 22 are in southern Ontario.

The Ministry of Health and Long

Term Care said the 24 teams approved so far underwent an extensive "readiness assessment" process, which required significant time, collaboration, and research from partners in the health care sector in each area.

It said it continues to work with applicants in other regions of the province.

The government has said health teams are a key component of ending

hallway health care.

"These 24 teams will implement a new model of organizing and delivering health care that better connects patients and providers in their communities to improve patient outcomes....patients will experience easier transitions from one provider to another...with one patient story, one patient record and one care plan," the announcement reiterated.



REVEALED: Kenora MP Greg Rickford unveiled two health teams in his riding.







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IN THE Day arts entertainment culture



ENCHANTING EVENING: It's A Wonderful Life is currently on the Magnus Theatre Stage.

Holiday magic at its best

THEATREBy Linda Maehans - TB Source

n a word: enchanting. In a few more words: splendid, sophisticated, sensual, multi-faceted, marvelous...getting the picture?

If not, you will right after you've found your seat and become part of the live studio audience for WBFR's "Playhouse of the Air" broadcasting over the airwaves to audiences far and wide. The year is 1947, the place a little backwater called Bedford Falls

Magnus' presentation of It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play is one fine production, in every sense. There is so much to look at, watch and absorb; to listen to and hear; to feel in our emotions, memories and longings. To wish we were back in that "golden age" of radio, if for no other reason than to appear and carry ourselves in the stylish way women and men did in those days. Not so long ago, at that.

Of course I'll mention the cast-withinthe-cast of this production separately; but soon as they walk onto the stage and begin to move between their microphones, a table of gadgets and gizmos and the rest of the studio with more props, a sofa and refreshments for those noiseless pauses between their cues...well, you'll understand why the entire play is like watching human clockwork as finely-calibrated as a Swiss watch.

Pulling us oh so effortlessly and enjoyably into the wonderful world of live radio-land are Douglas E. Hughes as

"To wish we

were back in

that "golden

age" of

radio.""

Freddie Filmore (narrator, Uncle Billy, Mr. Potter, and others); Neil Paterson as Jake Laurents (George Bailey); Melissa MacKenzie as Sally Applewhite (Mary Bailey); Kate Madden as Lana Sherwood (Violet, and others); and Kevin Hare as Harry Heywood (Clarence, Harry Bailey, and others). When I say "others" I'm referring to a sizeable movie-cast; after all, George and Mary Bailey have

four children; and goodness knows how many of the honest folks of Bedford Falls belong to or have faith in the Building and Loan.

I mentioned ears-to-listen; and not just to the Foley (sound design) system of the day, no sir. I'm talking about the absolutely fabulous musical abilities of our well-calibrated human timepiece. At the drop of their next (silent) cue, they become a perfect quartet of tight harmonies and animated salesmanship. Who wouldn't want to stock up on the latest hair-grooming tonic for men; or a soap-cake one can use on just about anything including automobile windshields? Had those products been available for sale in Magnus' lobby on opening night, I've no

doubt the whole kit and caboodle would have been snapped up by the audience during intermission or after the show.

I wonder if the salon where Violet and Mary get their hair done and the shops where they've acquired their dresses and shoes are still in business. Not to mention the tailor who has the men looking so dashingly attractive. Kudos to Mervi Agombar and her typically beautiful skill for

costume-design. I've already alluded to the talents of the props and set and lighting designers: Hanna Laaksonen, Ksenia Broda-Milian and Rebecca Miller. Spot on.

Directed by Thom Currie; with stage management by Gillian Jones; It's A Wonderful Life adapted for live radio-onstage by Joe Landry plays until December 21st. Go be enchanted!

And do remember to listen for the sound of a ringing bell, won't you?

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Wake the Giant returns

MUSIC
By Leith Dunick - TB Source

The lineup won't be released until sometime in the spring, but the Wake the Giant Musical Festival is coming back for a second year.

And tickets are on sale just in time for Christmas.

Organizers of the event, which drew about 4,000 fans this past September to Marina Park to listen to the musical offerings of Wolf Saga, Coleman Hell, July Talk and Metric, said it's that success that convinced them to try it again.

The festival was created as a way to show Indigenous teens from remote northern communities they are welcome in Thunder Bay and will be embraced once they arrive in the city to go to school.

"The message we wanted to get

across was amplified on that one day," said festival co-founder Greg Chomut, speaking on Friday to students at Dennis Franklin Cromarty High School.

"We reached so many people with the message of inclusiveness, and most importantly that Thunder Bay needs to be a more welcoming place for Indigenous people, but also for us specifically, the youth that are in this room today. They travel so far and sacrifice so much to get an education."

The 2020 version of the Wake the Giant Music Festival will take place on Saturday, Sept. 19, with Chomut and his fellow organizers promising epic new acts atop the bill.

Sean Spenrath, who also helped start the festival – which arose out of the Wake the Giant movement – said the crowd size was a huge surprise to everyone involved. "We were super jacked about it," Spenrath said. "Seeing the kids in the crowd that day, or even on stage, you could tell by their smiles how much they enjoyed it, so to be able to announce that we're doing it again, I think they're super excited about it."

More than 300 businesses have committed to the Wake the Giant movement, placing decals on their storefronts, a sign of welcoming for all, especially Indigenous youth.

Next year's Wake the Giant Festival will also include an Indigenous craft market, a wellness tent, cultural performers and local food vendors.

Early bird tickets are on sale now at www.wakethegiant.ca for \$50. For \$80, through the Gift of Giving program, one can buy a ticket for themselves and also donate another ticket to an Indigenous youth in the community to attend.



SECOND CONCERT: Wake the Giant will be back at Marina Park on Sept. 19, 2020.









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Dark Waters & no fanfare

n the film Spotlight, Mark Ruffalo portrayed one of several reallife crusading reporters who uncovered dark secrets in Boston's Catholic Church.

In *Dark Waters*, Ruffalo returns to the guise of crusader, this time as another real-life individual, corporate lawyer Robert Bilott, who



engaged DuPont in a lawsuit that claimed the company had been polluting the entire town of Parkers-burg, W.V. for decades, resulting in cancer-related deaths and physical deformities.

This was all due to

PFOA, (perfluorooctanoic acid), a chemical used in producing nothing more than good ol' Teflon.

The story has an ironic beginning, as we first happen upon Bilott. It's the late 1990s, and he's just been made partner in a Cincinnati law firm that specializes in defending chemical companies.

That changes when Bilott is approached by a Wilbur Tennant (Bill Camp), a West Virginia farmer who claims that DuPont's pollution is responsible for wiping out his cattle. Tennant's videotapes and frozen animal parts bear grisly evidence. It's a hard sell in his hometown, though, where the DuPont brand is omnipresent.

Once Bilott begins sniffing around, DuPont immediately tries to sandbag and stonewall, dumping on him tons of documentation as a deterrent.

But as Bilott manages to single-handedly gnaw through boxes of memos and documents, his initial ambivalence turns to determination and anger. With some cautious 'don't-rock-the-boat-too-much' support from his boss, (Tim Robbins) it's game on - a battle that would go on for 15 years.

Lots at risk

It is high stakes as Bilott risks his career, his family and his health. Director Todd Haynes (*Carol, Far From Heaven*), better known on

the art-house circuit, adopts a police-procedural approach to unfold the case. Haynes strives to keep the chronology and the more noteworthy highlights straight, avoiding the easy melodramatic tendencies that tend to plague David vs. Corporate Goliath tales. For atmosphere, he shoots the film in muted colours, symbolizing the murkiness of the whole affair.



MARK RUFFALO

Play. Smart

Dark Waters may not deliver the kind of triumphant punch audiences may be looking for. Even crucial breakthroughs in the case – some that took literally years to achieve – are

delivered minus fanfare and could have used greater factual embellishment. One is not going to find Erin Brockovich pizzazz here.

However, the "just the facts m'am" tone may also be out of respect to the real life Bilott, who is evidently extremely low-key. In one scene where his wife Sarah (an under-served Anne Hathaway) rages at the toll the case has taken on their family, Bilott simply internalizes his reaction.

There are moments, though, when Ruffalo vents Bilott's rage and frustrations while almost losing hope, and Bilott's boss (Robbins) uncharacteristically growls over corporate ruthlessness, making for a sliver of emotion.

In letting the facts speak for themselves, Haynes may have sacrificed dramatic impact for telling the truth. It's just that there are times when even truth can tolerate a tinge of spice.

But look out for the film's epilogue which, if taken at face value, is absolutely devastating.

You may want to chuck out your non-stick fry pans as the credits roll.



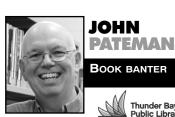


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Controversial Marx history a good read



hether you love or hate him, Karl Marx continues to haunt capitalism, just like the 'spectre of Communism' that haunted Europe when Marx and Friedrich Engels wrote the Manifesto of the Communist Party (1848).

The reason that Marx is still so relevant today is that his analysis of the capitalist economy – the boom and bust cycle, over production, surplus value, debt burden - and its consequences, from income inequality to environmental devastation, has proven to be entirely accurate. Marx also suggested that capitalism contained the seeds of its own destruction and that is what seems to be happening around the world today.

The injustices of capitalism - the greed, the ruthless and unsustainable extraction of natural resources, and the despoliation of the land we live on, the water we drink and the very air we breathe - will lead to its inevitable collapse. It is only a matter of time.

But who was Karl Marx? A resurgence of interest in his ideas has also led to a curiosity about his life. Last year, for example, to celebrate the 200th anniversary of his birth, there was a film and a stage play that both focused on Young Marx.

There have also been some excellent biographies. Karl Marx: a nineteenth century life (2013, Liveright) by Jonathan Sperber is a meticulously researched and multilayered portrait of both the man and the revolutionary

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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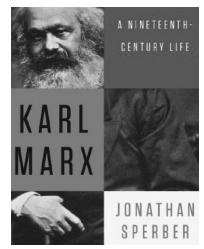
27 Europe (abbr.) 29 Eth. title

contraction

Lear

30 Poetic

TUSSLE



ON THE MARX: Jonathan Sperber's biography of Karl Marx is well worth the read.

times in which he lived. Sperber provides a humanizing context for the personal story of one of the most

influential and controversial political philosophers in Western history. By removing Marx from the ideological conflicts of the 20th century that colour his legacy and placing him within the society and intellectual currents of the nineteenth century, Sperber is able to present a full portrait of Marx as neither a rigid ideologue nor the author of its darkest atrocities. This major biography reshapes our understanding of a towering historical figure.

A World To Win: the life and works of Karl Marx (2018, Verso) by Sven-Eric Liedman expertly navigates the imposing, complex personality of Marx through the turbulent passages of global history. He follows Marx through childhood and student days, a difficult and sometimes tragic family life, his far sighted journalism, and his enduring friendship and intellectual partnership with Friedrich Engels. Liedman employs a commanding knowledge of the nineteenth century to create a definitive portrait of Marx and his vast contribution to the way the world understands itself. He shines a light on Marx's influences, explains his political and intellectual interventions, and builds on the legacy of his thought. He shows how Marx's masterpiece, Capital: a critique of political economy (1894), illuminates the essential logic of a system that drives dizzying wealth, grinding poverty and awesome technological innovation to this day. Compulsively readable and meticulously researched, A World To Win demonstrates that, two centuries after Marx's birth, his work remains the bedrock for any true understanding of our political, social and economic condition.

To understand the world is not enough, we must also seek to change

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- Query As written in music
- Pounds (abbr.) 10 Lower intestiné
- 11 Make edging 12 Waste
- allowance 14 Onager
- 16 Portion out
- 17 At the age of
- (Lat.) 18 Utopian
- 20 Suggestion
- 21 Barely get by 22 Small armadillo
- 24 Reject
- 28 Your (Fr.) 31 Venezuelan
- copper center
- 34 Outfit 35 Actor
- 37 Parry
- 39 Bargain
- 41 Sp. article 42 Fluidity unit

44 Eucharist plate 46 Row 49 Cartoon

- chipmunk 51 Ern (2 words)
- 53 East 54 Loop trains
- 55 Prison: Brit.
 - 56 Yangtze tributary
 - 57 Caddoan Indian 58 Soul or spirit

DOWN ARAL

- Wings Paving stone The Jungle
- Book" python Scholar
- Yarn Nipa palm
- Limited (abbr.)
- 21 Make happy fabric Peddle
- 19 Leftside (pref.)

10 Amazon

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13 Part of golf

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15 Maize bread

33 Emit 24 Fish with bait 36 Chatter 38 Cornbread

ABIRRAB

40 Light **Amplification** by Stimulated Emission of Radiation (abbr.) 42 Recommended daily allowance (abbr.)

- 43 Botch 45 Distant (pref.) 46 Irish writing 47 Medicinal plant
- 48 Flectric reluctance unit
- 50 Belonging to (suf.) 52 Turk, title

WORD SEARCH

IALECTWPS IZURECAAEHR N N S S LDDEPGRS СЕ UN OMXHDL REDG RCHANGEAB Z T E R P HATNBNLUAU Ε E N C M O G ALYD E D 0 S N E R E

Grubs Teared Boyish Hired Posed Unnerves Centrals Imagines Pretzels Uptake Coded Indulae Readability Vices Crusade Interchangeable Rhymed Warred Dialect Whisk Learns Seizure

Fended

Mulls

Peddle

Steadies

Swathe

ENIGMA"

due" - Will Rogers

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TM Enigma cryptograms are created from guotations stands for another letter. Hint: "T" = "N

"ZP XPLLA EK M KET. PTJA PTD KPLZ PC XPLLA EK VDLREKKEIJD; ZP XPLLA IDWMYKD PTD XPLLEDK."

- UMKEFEW KMAETN PREVIOUS SOLUTION: "Worrying is like paying on a debt that may never come

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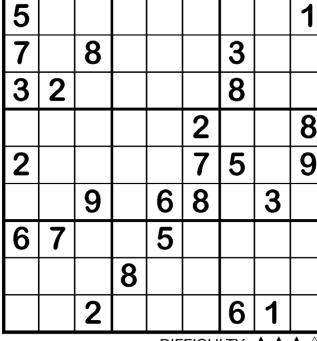
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Avowal

Barlev

North Stars capture second straight

SIJHL By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Atwo-game winning streak isn't much, but coming on the heels of dropping six of seven, it can feel like a lifeline.

For the first-place, but struggling, Thunder Bay North Stars, it couldn't have come at a better time.

The Stars on Saturday night jumped out to a 4-0 first-period lead and went on to down the visiting expansion Wisconsin Lumberjacks 7-3 at Fort William Gardens.

Defenceman Kyler Belluz, who picked up his first point in more than a month, said the recent slide wasn't weighing too heavily in the Stars dressing room, but it also wasn't something they wanted to drag any further into December.

"Coming back home and playing two games in a row is a big relief for us. We've been away a lot and to get two wins this weekend was so important for us moving forward," Belluz said. "We've got lots of home games in December and we're really looking to take advantage, get lots of points and get out of the slump that we're in right now."

It's not like the slide left the North Stars in rough shape.

After Saturday's win they're still 17-6-2 and own a seven-point cushion over second-place Red Lake and lead third-place Thief River Falls by eight.



ON-ICE BATTLE: Thunder Bay's Nikolas Campbell (right) changes direction on Wisconsin's Jack Jones last Saturday at Fort William Gardens.

But both teams have games in hand over Thunder Bay, so every point counts as the Superior International Junior Hockey League team skates closer and closer to the midway point of the 2019-20 campaign.

North Stars coach Rob DeGagne said

the team came out ready and it showed.

Nikolas Campbell, fresh off a threeday tryout camp with Team West ahead of the World Junior A Challenge, put the North Stars on the board just 25 seconds into the contest, beating Wisconsin goaltender Nathan Mueller before the crowd of 292 had worked their way back into the seats after the dual pre-game anthems were done.

Jett Leishman doubled the Thunder Bay lead at 4:19 and Jacob Brown made it 3-0 at 7:25, netting his 18th goal of the season. Captain Logan Mihalcin extended the lead to 4-0 with seven minutes to go in the first.

"Our game plan was to come out early and get as many as we could. But they work hard, that team," DeGagne said.

"They're going to be a sleeper team by the end of the year. It kind of reminds me of the team we had a couple of years ago, where at the beginning of the year we didn't have the success we wanted, but at the midway point, they came on."

Case in point, the final three minutes of the first, when the last place Lumberjacks (5-17-2) bounced back with a pair of goals, cutting the North Stars lead in half.

Ryley Cardinal struck first, beating Jordan Smith at 17:35. Eighty seconds later Parker Brakebill struck and Thunder Bay took a 4-2 lead into the second.

They did it without Michael Vecchio and Evan Nicholas, who were tossed for fighting, along with Wisconsin's Kale Bocken and Nicholas Solema, the tussles breaking out at the same time.

Max Fortin added to the Thunder Bay lead eight minutes into the second, scoring one of the strangest goals of the season. Fortin dumped the puck into the Wisconsin zone, but it ricocheted off a stanchion, off Mueller's skate and into the Lumberjacks net.

Hunter Foreshew and Alex Erwin — with an assist from Lumberjacks defender — upped the North Stars lead to 7-2. Austin Cardinal scored with 74 seconds to go to wrap up the scoring.





Thursday, December 12, 2019

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sports **NEWS**



TOP PLAYER: Daniel Del Paggio (right) was named Lakehead hockey's player of the month for November.

T-Wolves at .500 mark, look for a better finish

UNIVERSITY HOCKEY By Leith Dunick - TB Source

ooking at the Lakehead Thunderwolves first 16 games in a glass-half full kind of way, and the team is in pret-

They entered the Christmas break at 7-7-2, winning two of their last three with goaltender Nic Renyard on the shelf tending to an undisclosed injury.

But in order to get back to the OUA men's hockey playoffs, they're going to need to put in some second-half

They're just three points out of ninth place in the OUA West, with little room for error over the course of the team's final dozen regular-season games.

There's plenty of room for improvement, said Daniel Del Paggio, the team's leading point-getter, with 18, good for a tie for 16th in the league.

"If you look at it from a standings standpoint and statistics, I don't think you can really read into it much, because I think we're playing a lot better than our record shows," Del Paggio said.

"We arguably should have won two games against Windsor, a top 10 team in the country. We definitely

could have squeaked one out against Toronto."

One area the team improved on dramatically was its

The Wolves were just 1-for-36 at one point, but scored eight times in their next 27 man-advantage situations, a rate that would put them atop the OUA this season.

"We just changed out set-up in the offensive zone. The break-out remained the same, the personnel remained the same," said coach Andrew Wilkins.

"It was something throughout the bye week we talked about as a coaching staff. We only worked on it a couple of times, to be honest with you. I thought maybe it was a little bit of a reset for our guys and some minor adjustments on end-zone set-up. It seemed to help out. It's one of those things that's unpredictable.'

Looking ahead, Del Paggio said the team just has to keep doing what's it's been doing of late to get the job done in the second half.

"We have to stay consistent," he said. "We were doing everything right for 55 minutes of the game and we'd have a few lapses where good teams will capitalize. You have to play a full 60 in this league, especially against teams that can score. We'll do that moving forward here."

Lakehead coach Andrew Wilkins concurred, saying it's just a matter of sticking to the plan.

"I think you have to stay process-driven, to stay within you're doing well and know what needs to be improved upon," Wilkins said.

"I feel like over our last seven games we've played better. We've cleaned up a few things, like special teams, and I think our shots against are down as well."

The Wolves return to the ice on Dec. 29 and Dec. 30 for non-conference games against Laurentian. They resume OUA on Jan. 3 on the road against Guelph.





sports **NEWS**



QUICK REFLEXES: Future Cleveland Indians star Francisco Lindor slides back to the bag in 2010.

Decade of sports

From junior baseball to Stanley Cup parades, the 2010s offered up its share of athletic highlights

SPORTS SHOTS

t's been a pretty great decade for sports in Thunder Bay Looking back, the highlight for me had to be covering the 2010 World Junior Baseball Championship and the 2017 Under 18 Baseball World Cup.

Just think about the players who took part in the first event, more than nine years ago. Francisco Lindor, the all-star, gold-glove shortstop, raced around the bases at Port Arthur Stadium. Jorge Soler, who captured

the American League home run championship in 2019, starred for Cuba. Albert Almora Jr., Nick Michael Pivetta. Lorenzen.

The follow-up event two years ago brought

plenty of future talent to the city, including the likes of Jarred Kelenic and Nolan Gorman, both on a crash course to the major leagues, along with a dozen or so of their teammates who won gold for the United States

Baseball wasn't the only championship sport I got to cover.

In 2013 I jumped in my car and made a beeline for Austin, Texas, where I had to deal with 40 C heat covering the Thunder Bay Chill in their third Premier Development League championship.

The Chill jumped in front 1-0 in the finale, but a red card issued to keeper Steven Patterson left the team shorthanded and they lost 3-1 to the Austin Aztex.

Four years later I made my way to North Carolina to watch the Chill take on the Charlotte Eagles in the 2017 final. Again the Chill scored first, but couldn't hang on, falling 2-1 in the championship match.

I also got to go to three straight national men's university basketball Final 8 tournaments, thanks to the Scott Morrison-led Lakehead Thunderwolves.

I'm not sure I've ever been at a more exciting event than LU's semifinal win over hometown Ottawa in 2013, the year the Wolves went to the national championship game - and were blown out of the water by the Carleton Ravens.

Speaking of basketball, we all had a frontrow seat for two seasons of Jylisa Williams and another two for Leashja Grant. Williams may be the best female athlete I've ever covered on a regular basis. I can still picture her racing down the court for an easy lay-up. She was just so smooth, and so talented,

> setting a an OUA record with a 50-point game against Toronto in 2015.

Then there were the Stanley Cup visits. I was lucky enough to cover celebrations from Patrick Sharp in 2010 and 2013, Mike Richards in

Kenora in 2014, Duncan Keith the following year in Fort Frances, and once again back home in Thunder Bay for Matt Murray's Cup win in 2016.

Another highlight happened early in the decade, in 2010, the second of two years the Lakehead Thunderwolves hosted the University Cup.

Being on the ice as the once-troubled Mike Danton hoisted the trophy for the Saint Mary's Huskies, my alma mater, was a pretty awesome moment of redemption.

There was the heartbreak of Joe Scharf sailing his final shot to clinch a spot at the Brier at the expense of Brad Jacobs, to the thrill of seeing his sister Krista McCarville win provincials time and time again.

And last, but certainly not least, there was the five-year run of the Staal Foundation Open, one of the best-run sporting events this city has ever seen. Guys like Corey Conners and J.J. Spaun are making names for themselves on the PGA Tour, with dozens of other alumni following in their footsteps.

From Bobby Orr to the Staal family to the volunteers who made it all happen, be proud of the memories you helped create and careers you helped start.

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Special Olympics Canada Winter Games

THUNDER BAY 2020 Jeux d'Hiver d'Olympiques spéciaux Canada



ATHLETE PROFILE

ROY STEPHENS TEAM BC



Even before he qualified for the Team BC Training Squad, the Special Olympics BC – Kelowna athlete decided to dedicate himself to cross-country skiing, and overcame uncertainties to become an enthusiastic skier and a

successful racer. At the 2019 Special Olympics BC Winter Games, Stephens' dedication paid off when he earned one gold, one silver, and one bronze medal in the races in Greater Vernon.

As a Team BC Training Squad athlete, Stephens has made sacrifices and taken initiative to achieve extra training time. He has ensured that he has additional time with support workers to help him in his physical activity and training, and that his work schedule accommodates his training sessions. Stephens and his girlfriend Maria Schmitke both qualified to be Team BC Training Squad cross-country skiers, and are dedicating themselves to training and health together. Roy's goal is to have fun and do his best in Thunder Bay!

Join us in February 2020 and watch the heart of our city grow!

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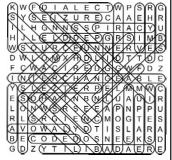
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ANSWERS TO THIS WEEK'S PUZZLES





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