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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2018

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Canadian Publications Agreement No. 0662445 Vol.15 No. 50

INSIDE VICKERS ASSAULT



Man taken to hospital after violent incident /2

SANTA SUCCESS



Transit union collects 10,000 pounds of food /13

IT'S STAAL OVER



Organizers, family pull plug on tournament /17

Search turns tragic

Webequie First Nation teenager Braiden Jacob found dead at Chapples Park after three-day search /3



TOO YOUNG: Family members say Braiden Jacob, 17, was in Thunder Bay for grief and trauma counselling which was not available to the teen in his home community of Webequie First Nation.



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LOCAL NEWS

Man injured in assault

Double stabbing took place at same home in 2017

CRIME
By Leith Dunick - TB Source

City police were called to a Vickers Street home where a violent assault took place on Monday night.

Thunder Bay Police say one person suffered serious injuries in the attack, which took place in a home located across the street from the Vickers Street Fire Station.

It's the second violent incident at the home in 18 months. In June 2017, 22-year-old Jonah Lawson Yellowhead was arrested and charged with two counts of aggravated assault following a double stabbing that took place at the residence. Two people, a 23-year-old female and a 26-year-old male, were sent to hospital with non life-threatening injuries in that incident.



VIOLENT INCIDENT: Police hold the scene on Tuesday at a Vickers Street home.

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LOCAL NEWS

Teen's body found

Braiden Jacob was in Thunder Bay for counselling services

THUNDER BAY
By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Nishnawbe Aski Nation's grand chief says now is not the time to speculate on what caused the death of 17-year-old Braiden Jacob.

But Alvin Fiddler promised he will continue to push for counselling services to be made available in NAN's remote fly-in communities.

The teen, whose body was recovered on Sunday in Chapples Park, died while in the city for grief counselling, according to an APTN report.

"I'm not really sure, at this time, in terms of the circumstances that may have led to Braiden's death. I think what we're focused on right now is that now that the search is done, now that he's been found, we're focusing on his family - his mother, his siblings, his grandparents, to make sure they have the supports they need to get through the next few days," Fiddler said during a brief media availability on Monday afternoon.

Jacob was last seen on Thursday afternoon in the Limbrick Street area. His mother, Beverly, took to Facebook, pleading for help to find him when he didn't return.

Police cordoned off a section of Chapples Park on Sunday after a passerby reported stumbling across a body, which was later confirmed by family members as the missing teen.

He's the 10th Indigenous youth to die in Thunder Bay under suspicious circumstances since 2000. In 2016 an inquest wrapped up looking into the deaths of seven youths - Jethro Anderson, Curran Strang, Paul Panacheese, Robyn Harper, Reggie Bushie, Kyle Morrisseau and Jordan Wabasse, whose body was recovered from the Kaministiquia River months after he died.

Last year 17-year-old Tammy



TRAGEDY: Braiden Jacob's body was found on Saturday at Chapples Park.

Keeash and 14-year-old Josiah Begg disappeared and later turned up dead. Fiddler said he's been advocating for counselling services to be provided within NAN communities for the past several years, through the Choose Life initiative and work with the Human Rights Tribunal.

"That's a work in progress and something I feel strongly should be a choice for every youth or child in their communities that if they want to access these types of services, that they should be made available at home," Fiddler said.

The grand chief, asked if he's fearful the death could be a homicide, as some family members have suggested on social media, said it's too early to speculate.

"All I know is the family did meet with the police yesterday, late last night actually, to get confirmation that the body that was recovered earlier in the day was in fact Braiden," Fiddler said. "But also to let the family know in terms of the next steps in their investigation, and that's the post-mortem."

Thunder Bay Police on Monday said the post-mortem is scheduled for Wednesday and expect to know more information once it has been

completed. As a precaution, they continue to hold the scene. Investigators are looking for witnesses who might have noticed any suspicious activity in the Chapples Park area to contact them at 684-1200, or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477, online at www.p3tips.com.

The city's newly elected Mayor Bill Mauro issued a statement of condolences to Jacob's family.

"On behalf of city council and the citizens of Thunder Bay, we offer our deepest sympathies and heartfelt condolences to Braiden's family, friends and the community of Webeque First Nation. Thunder Bay grieves with you," Mauro said in a release.

"We would like to thank everyone who took part in the search for Braiden including the volunteers and members of the Thunder Bay Police Service. We are saddened beyond words and stand with you at this most difficult time."

A \$100,000 Go Fund Me campaign has been set up to support the cost of the funeral, returning the youth's body to his community and provide for his family during the investigation into his death.

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| Probability of Precipitation: 40% HIGH 2 LOW -3 | Probability of Precipitation: 30% HIGH 3 LOW -5 | Probability of Precipitation: 10% HIGH 1 LOW -2 | Probability of Precipitation: 30% HIGH 2 LOW -6 | Probability of Precipitation: 20% HIGH -4 LOW -7 | Probability of Precipitation: 20% HIGH 0 LOW -2 |

LOCAL NEWS



FILE
WON'T REOPEN: Dease Pool opened to the public in 1906, but repairs would be costly.

Dease Pool closing

Council votes to shut down 106-year-old facility

CITY HALL
By Matt Vis – TB Source

The city's oldest outdoor swimming pool is slated for closure.

Thunder Bay city council, at the first significant meeting of their new term, on Monday night voted to shut down the century-old Dease Pool.

It was the city's first outdoor pool when built in 1912 and was meant to keep children from swimming in the Kaministiquia River after there had been multiple drownings.

Kelly Robertson, the city's general manager of community services, said while the facility has likely provided fond memories to many in the community over its years, the 106-year-old pool no longer meets current standards.

"It's going to be facing imminent collapse. In my opinion, there are already risks with that facility," Robertson said. "The concrete is heaving, the basin is very much patched. I hear reports the wooden portion of the deck presents risk to the users of the facility."

The pool, which is not heated, also has change rooms that do not have hot water and do not meet accessibility requirements.

In its report to council, city administration estimated that repairing the existing pool basin would cost more than \$1 million. A brand new pool at the site would cost \$1.3 million, with a total \$2.8 million price tag with new change rooms.

Last year there was a total of 3,300 swimmers at Dease Pool during its eight-week summer season, though that number is not reflective of unique users. The Art Widnall Pool – another outdoor pool – is

located a kilometre away.

Gerry Broere, the city's director of asset management, was asked whether Dease Pool would be safe for the 2019 season.

"Safe is relative with a 100-year-old pool," Broere said. "They've been swimming in it for the last 20 years. The last five years we've done a structural review of the basin but it's coming to a point now where the liner is actually delaminating and I think what we need to do is pull that liner out to take a look at what's really happening. There's evidence the wall is starting to deteriorate."

Council approved administration's recommendation to reallocate \$52,000 from the pool's annual operating budget to support increased year-round programming at Dease Park and Minnesota Park, with neighbourhood residents being consulted about options.

Coun. Brian Hamilton, representing the McKellar ward where the pool is located, called Dease Pool a staple of the community and said he could only support its closure if it meant that children in the neighbourhood ended up receiving a greater benefit.

"This can't be about cost savings alone," Hamilton said.

"This can't just be about closing the pool. This has to be a plan about updating inclusiveness, updating opportunities and ultimately the health of our children in this neighbourhood. This plan has to be comprehensive. The closure of Dease Pool has to only be a small, small component of it."

Evergreen a United Neighbourhood executive director Linda Bruins wrote to council to endorse closing the pool, citing health and safety concerns along with declining number of participants.

"It's going to be facing imminent collapse."
KELLY ROBERTSON

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LOCAL NEWS

Police board chair named

Celina Reitberger first Indigenous person to hold role

THUNDER BAY
By Doug Dlazuk - TB Source

Celina Reitberger, who has more than 20 years of experience in the legal community, will be chairing the Thunder Bay Police Services Board – the first Indigenous person to hold the position.

Reitberger was nominated as chair during the first meeting of the newly sworn in Thunder Bay Police Services Board on Monday. Member Don Smith accepted the nomination to serve as vice-chair and new members, Thunder Bay Mayor Bill Mauro, and councilor Kristen Oliver, were also officially sworn in.

“From the board’s perspective, it will be nice to be able to see through their eyes, perhaps a new perspective, a different perspective,” said Thunder Bay Police Service chief, Sylvie Hauth. “It will be up to us, myself and the acting deputy, to bring them up to speed on a number of things and really at that point be able to discuss and look at things objectively moving forward.”

With a legal career spanning 20 years, including seven years as Nishnawbe Aski Legal Services executive director, Reitberger first joined the Police Board last December, becoming the first Indigenous woman to hold a voting role.

After being nominated chair, Reitberger said she was a little shell shocked, but is pleased to be taking



TAKING OVER THE REINS: New Police Board chair Celina Reitberger and Mayor Bill Mauro on Monday at the board’s swearing-in ceremony at city hall.

on the role.

Mauro, who has a seat on the Police Board by virtue of being the mayor, said he is a fresh face and new eyes for the board. He added that while on the campaign trail, many people spoke with him and other councilors about crime in the city.

“What I would say, is you hear from time to time about statistics and whether or not Thunder Bay is experiencing a higher level of crime than it has in the past,” he said. “I don’t know what is accurate or what is not, but I know that people don’t feel as secure as they have in the past.”

In September, Hauth reached out to the province for assistance addressing the issue of increasing gang and drug activity in the city. While there has

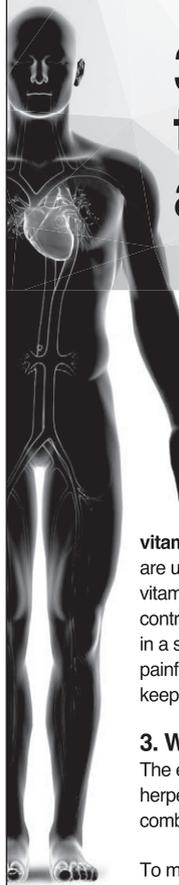
been no official response, Mauro said he hopes the Ford government will consider similar accommodations as was granted to the city of Toronto.

“I think that is something we can do and hopefully the province will see fit to provide us with extra financial capacity,” he said.

The swearing in of new members and the nomination of the chair comes just days before a report from the Office of the Independent Police Review Director released its findings of a systemic review into the policies surrounding the policing of Indigenous people in the city.

The board is also under investigation by the Ontario Civilian Police Commission, a report expected to be released this month.

Do you have an opinion to share?
E-mail the editor at ldunick@dougallmedia.com





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Editorial

EDITORIAL

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Our sincerest condolences go out to the family and friends of 17-year-old Braiden Jacob, who was found dead this past weekend at Chapples Park after an exhaustive, three-day search.

The youngster was in town to access counselling for trauma and grief, services that weren't available in his home community, Webequie First Nation.

It's time that changed. Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations Carolyn Bennett tweeted, "Our thoughts and hearts are with the family and friends of Braiden Jacob, the community of Webequie, and the volunteers in Thunder Bay. This is an unspeakable tragedy, and we are grieving with you."

It's a nice sentiment, but one that falls flat unless there is some concrete action that comes along with it.

These services, as Nishnawbe Aski Nation Grand Chief Alvin Fiddler has been asking for years, must be made available on-reserve.

How many more tragedies must the region's Indigenous communities suffer through before the federal government decides to take action?

One more is too many. Don't forget, 14-year-old Josiah Begg, who was found dead in the city last year, was also in the city to access services that were not available in Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug.

Minister, you and your government have the power to make this happen.

Don't let another tragedy occur before you decide to act.

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Pool closure saddens

To the editor:

So much disappointment today. The future seems to be splash pads with no lifeguards as cost saving measures.

How many of you worked as lifeguards in high school and college? Another loss to youth employment and recreation opportunities for our community.

Is this funding redirected to the playground going to be similar to those boxes with equipment locked in them that worked oh so well?

Karen Rose,
Thunder Bay
Via Facebook

Spread rec money around

To the editor:

What bothers me is that the people who don't like this decision to close Dease Pool are the ones who, as one lady said, send their kids there "independently" (meaning she doesn't have to go with her kids), ones who don't drive and don't want to go to the other pool nearby and those who say what will the kids do now?

For 30 years we've lived in an area where there has never been a pool for our neighbourhood kids to go to; or a park, or a library or even a bus if they wanted to get to any pool in town,

There is one arena and it's so booked up with hockey teams that there is barely time for any indoor skating for the kids.

We don't have sidewalks for them to walk on and don't have a bike trail for them either.

I would love to see this city spread more money around town to help all the kids. Our kids aren't getting into

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



trouble or causing problems so I believe these children will also become fine citizens of Thunder Bay. Our tax dollars should be going

to something for our kids too, not only yours. Maybe city council should have a kids fund and make sure all the kids have the same

opportunities.

Kathy Gillis,
Thunder Bay, Via Facebook

Affordable housing top priority

Last week's column highlighted some of the federal initiatives and programs under way to create more safe and affordable housing in Northwestern Ontario. Since 2016, more than \$5.7-billion has been invested in housing projects across Canada. These investments have helped almost a million families find a home such as seniors, Indigenous people, women and children fleeing domestic violence and young adults.

But what do these investments mean for Northwestern Ontario?

The Kenora Riding alone has received investments of over \$49-million, which means 917 affordable housing units have been built or repaired. In addition, over \$16-million have been invested in housing subsidies, which means 5,219 rental units were made more affordable for Northerners. In

total, that's over \$65-million in housing investments for the North.

For example, safe, secure, and affordable housing is a fundamental issue for our seniors in the North. In Canada, there are more seniors over the age of 65 than there are children under the age of 15. In addition, seniors comprise about a third of the households living in community housing and they should not have to choose between paying rent and buying groceries or their medications. That's why I support Canada's first ever National Housing Strategy (NHS), 10-year, \$40-billion plan, which will help Northerners and seniors with a place to call home.

Phase I of the NHS – the Federal Community

Housing Initiative, which began April 1, 2018, will provide funding over a two-year period to assist federally-administered community housing projects. The Strategy will create some 7,000 new housing units, as well as renovate existing units to keep community housing affordable. It also offers direct funding to low-income seniors struggling to make ends meet.

We know there is a lot more work to do to ensure that every Northerner, young or old, has access to affordable housing, but this is a very strong start, and I am confident that we will continue to see strong growth in the availability and affordability of community housing.

We know that everyone truly deserves a safe and affordable place to call home – it's the right thing to do for the North, and it's the right thing for Canada.

Bob Nault is the Liberal MP for Kenora.



BOB NAULT

FROM THE HILL

Perspective

Tingling sensations

Science shows whispering sweet nothings beneficial

OPINION

By J.R. Shermack
Special to TB Source

In my younger days I would sometimes hear grown-ups teasing their friends for “whispering sweet nothings”.

I had no idea what it meant when couples spoke softly into each other’s ears, giggling and tingling with delight.

I eventually figured it out for myself although it took me a long time to discover what “sweet nothings” actually were.

To be fair, I was just a kid and not romantically involved at the time.

I was too shy to whisper in strangers’ ears anyway and I was pretty sure I didn’t want anybody whispering in mine.

It all remained a mystery to me until I experienced that tingle myself in other, unexpected ways.

It was triggered by hearing soft, interesting sounds or mysteriously captivating voices quietly whispering in my ear.

Listening to the faint crinkling of cellophane, or chimes ringing in the distance or the sound of gently falling rain sometimes caught me unaware.

When I noticed others sharing a similar experience I often heard them say, “Ooooooh, that gave me the shivers.”

Sometimes they would wrap themselves up in their own arms, close their eyes and savor the momentary tingles.

It is a delightful tingling that begins in your head and scalp and shimmies down your spine as it relaxes your entire body.

It is always a soothing, pleasurable surprise and very real for those who experience this unusual sensation.

For those who have never felt it, this might seem like fantasy or nonsense.

Because as real as it seems to many “tingle-heads”, science has no real explanation and it has never been openly discussed.

But that is all about to change – that tingle is more than just a feeling and has caught the attention of researchers and neuroscientists.

Now the subject of intense scrutiny, the feelings caused by “sweet nothings” have recently taken on a new name and acronym.

It is known in the scientific community as Autonomous Sensory Meridian Response, or ASMR.

Experiments have revealed limited but intriguing findings that ASMR may relieve symptoms of stress, depression and insomnia.

Studies are continuing to reveal the benefits to both mental and physical health.

And as I discovered in my search for sweet nothings, ASMR can be triggered by many other soft, quiet and mesmerizing sounds.

Millions of people worldwide know this and suddenly, a huge ASMR community has achieved pop culture status.

If you want to tingle, the experi-

ence is readily available – there are more than 13 million ASMR videos on YouTube.

One top site alone has almost a million subscribers – their top five segments have almost 50 million views.

This nurturing experience is being effectively and repeatedly used to deal with the stress caused by troubled times.

Listeners chill out to soft whispers and quiet sounds of scratching, tapping, crinkling, brushing, rustling and other soothing murmurs.

Many listeners have experienced ASMR since childhood while others are tingling for the first time.

It promotes the release of endorphins, oxytocin and serotonin and eases the stress of anxiety from daily routines.

The science is complicated and hard to grasp but the effects are real – grandparents have known this for generations.

When it’s bedtime, they will whisper sweet nothings into their grandkid’s ear to calm them down and get them to relax.

Sometimes babies will return the favor with soft billing and cooing in your ear while you hold them on your shoulder.

From the first time I saw sweet nothings being whispered I knew something special was going on.

And now, thanks to the internet, everyone can feel the magic and the shiver of a good tingle with the click of a button.

GIVING TIME OF YEAR



DOUG DACZUK

COLLEGE CHRISTMAS: Students and staff at Confederation College are feeling the giving spirit this year and its annual fundraiser raised nearly \$50,000 in support of students and the surrounding community. Seen here are college president Kathleen Lynch, Thunder Bay United Way CEO, Martin Wyant, and Thomas McDonald, communications and marketing with SUCCI.

A look back in history: CPR Station

The Canadian Pacific Railway was built for many purposes, both political and economic. In 1885 a CPR train first passed through the Lakehead en route to the west coast. Not only was the CPR a major means of transportation for people traveling across Canada, but it also brought grain and other goods to the Lakehead. In 1911 the CPR moved to the new Union Station on Syndicate Avenue.



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

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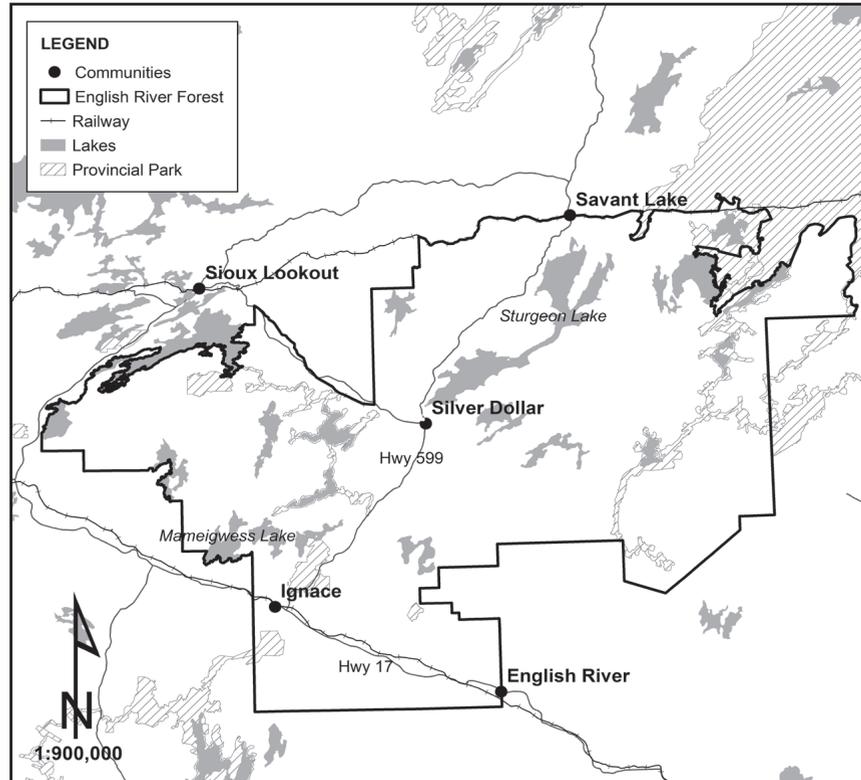
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INSPECTION

Inspection of the Approved Long-Term 6-Month Forest Management Plan Extension for the English River Forest 2009-2019 Forest Management Plan

The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF), Resolute FP Canada Inc. and the Ignace Local Citizens' Advisory Committee (LCAC) would like to advise you that the long-term Forest Management Plan (FMP) extension of the approved 2009-2019 FMP for the English River Forest has been approved by the Regional Director and is available for Inspection.

The long-term FMP extension extends the period of the current FMP to **September 30, 2019**.



The long-term FMP extension includes a description and a map of the planned operations that will be carried forward in the plan extension.

How to Access the Approved Long-term FMP Extension

The long-term FMP extension is available for Inspection at the following locations:

- Resolute FP Canada Inc., Ignace Sawmill, 1000 Mill Road, Ignace, ON P0T 1T0. Tel: 807-934-2640
- Resolute FP Canada Inc. office, 2001 Neebing Avenue, Thunder Bay, ON P7E 6S3. Contact: Matthew Hupf at 807-475-2458
- on the Ontario government website (www.ontario.ca/forestplans)

Interested and affected persons and organizations can arrange an appointment with MNRF staff at the MNRF Ignace Field Office to discuss the long-term FMP extension.

For further information, contact:

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Renseignements en français : Derek Johnson, R.P.F. au 807 223-7556.

LOCAL NEWS



RISKY RIDE: A pickup truck crashed through the wall at Adduono's Sheet Metal last Thursday.

Crash leads to charges being laid

Driver strikes sheet metal building while fleeing from police pursuit.

THUNDER BAY

By Leith Dunick -TB Source

A 27-year-old woman wanted on outstanding warrants was arrested and charged after allegedly attempting to flee from police on Thursday afternoon and slamming into a Vickers Street business.

Cheyenne Marie Bannon was charged with dangerous operation of a motor vehicle, flight from police, obstructing the peace and breach of probation.

Police, in a release issued on Friday, say just after 3 p.m. on Thursday an officer observed a person in a pick-up truck possibly wanted on warrants.

The officer turned on his lights and sirens and the suspect accelerated and sped through a stop sign at the intersection of Vickers Street North and Northern Avenue, sideswiping a delivery vehicle before crashing into Adduono's Sheet Metal at a high rate of speed.

The building sustained heavy damage and the vehicle was left inoperable.

The suspect was arrested at the scene and appeared in court on Friday morning. Bannon was remanded into custody with a future court date.

LOCAL NEWS



LEITH DUNICK

NEW MENU: Pine Tree Catering's Nikos Mantis, Shawna Deagle and Airport CEO Ed Schmidtke.

Airport food will soon be all local

THUNDER BAY
By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Persians, local craft beer and coffee and Thunder Oak cheese will all be on the revamped menu at the Thunder Bay International Airport.

Tim Hortons and Pizza Pizza will soon be a thing of the past.

Airport CEO Ed Schmidtke on Thursday announced that starting on Monday the facility will begin making the shift from national chain outlets to locally sourced foods, providing a taste of the city's growing culinary expertise to those arriving and departing Thunder Bay by air.

"It is absolutely a new era at the airport," Schmidtke said. "We're going to have Nomad, operated by Pine Tree Catering, offering food and beverage services that are as close to 100 per cent local as you can do at an airport."

"I think the community understands that for a town of around 115,000 to 120,000 people, we have an exceptionally high level of quality culinary services and we thought it would be a good idea for visitors to the region to be able to experience that in the airport."

Nikos Mantis, co-owner of Pine Tree Catering, said the menu has been carefully crafted to create a taste of Thunder Bay, so visitors can literally leave with a great taste in their mouths.

"Thunder Bay cuisine to us is kind of a blend of all the different groups that have immigrated from different parts of the world. So it's an integration of Finnish and Italian, Dutch ... and certainly with an Aboriginal connection being locally here on the land and just really drawing from all the different producers here, growing product that is quite unique to Northwestern Ontario."

Mantis, who co-owns the company with Shawna Deagle, said they've gone to great

lengths to source locally produced food.

Everything is also based on a grab-and-go style, for travellers on the move and in a hurry to catch a flight or connect with loved ones.

"In the mornings we'll have fresh-baked pastries that are made in house, ranging from croissants to muffins to scones and biscottis. We'll have hot oatmeal available. We'll have local Thunder Oak cheese plates as well as a bagel bar from Home Slice Bagels," Mantis said.

"Throughout the day we'll have a variety of grab-and-go options from sandwiches. We've got a pesto chicken wrap. We do a house-made pastrami and sauerkraut. We do a smoked lake trout poke, which is essentially like a sushi burrito with trout from Lake Superior. And local charcuterie, so we have cured meats and cheeses that are made right here in Thunder Bay."

Mantis said it's time to let the visiting public in on the secret that is local cuisine, which often comes as a surprise to many travellers.

"Thunder Bay is punching way above its weight class in the culinary scene and we're super proud to be a part of it."

Sleeping Giant Brewery is also jumping on board. The company's craft brews have been for sale at the airport for some time, but with renovations to the passenger lounge, they'll now be exclusive.

It's been a great experience, said general manager Kevin Brewer.

"I think for the airport specifically, it's a chance to prove that local can be great. It's a focal point for the city and I think whether you're coming or you're going, on a one-hour layover, in town for the weekend or going travelling for the weekend, I think you're going to see a real focus on the products that Thunder Bay has to offer."

Schmidtke said he expects the transition to be fully complete by February.

ANSWERS TO THIS WEEK'S PUZZLES

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PREVIOUS SOLUTION: "Rudeness is the weak man's imitation of strength."

— Eric Hoffer



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TB Life

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MOVED IN: Donnalyn Laughton (from left), mother Shelly and their dog Honey have a new McPherson Street Habitat for Humanity house to call home.

Habitat family moves in

THUNDER BAY
By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Nine-year-old Donnalyn Laughton says she felt bad her mother had to sleep in the dining room in the last place they lived, a one-bedroom basement apartment rental.

It's a sacrifice Shelly Laughton was only too happy to make, having moved from place to place after mould issues at the place they'd called home for eight years started making the two of them sick.

Donnalyn just wanted a place to call their own.

Two weeks ago the mother and daughter's dream finally came true, when they were handed the keys to a cozy, brand-new bungalow on McPherson Street, thanks to Habitat for Humanity Thunder Bay.

"I'm happy we both have our own room," said Donnalyn, who is visually impaired and can easily get around the open-concept layout of her new home.

"If mom didn't have me, this would never have happened," the visually impaired youngster said.

Shelley Laughton said being given a

mortgage by Habitat for Humanity is a life-changing moment.

She's always wanted to give her daughter a brand new home, but just couldn't make it happen financially.

"I rented for eight years on Northern Avenue and the house was OK, but it wasn't very good for us and in a bad neighbourhood," said Laughton, who also brought along four-year old dog Honey to her new home. "I'm pretty excited and happy that we can have this home."

The emotions are pretty high - or at least they will be, she added.

"I don't think that's kicked in yet. We've been so busy and so crazy the past few weeks," the happy mother said.

Habitat for Humanity helps would-be homeowners enter into the housing market by collectively building new homes on land donated to the organization. The homeowner is given an affordable, low-interest mortgage that they otherwise might not have secured going through a financial institution.

Randy Moore, CEO of Habitat for Humanity Thunder Bay, said the impact of the work being done can have a wide-reaching effect, despite being focused toward a single family - or in the case of next year's build on Leith Street, two families.

"One of the differences between us and a lot of other charities is a lot of charities affect a great number of people in a small way. We have a very significant impact on a smaller number of people," he said. "We deal with people who have struggled to make that step to become a homeowner, whether it was because they just haven't been able to save enough or their bills are too expensive.

"Rent in Thunder Bay can be pretty outrageous at times. We're able to help them become homeowners and from there, families thrive. They're able to save ... and eventually see children move on to university and it changes their lives and the lives of their entire family."

About 40 families applied to be the recipient of this year's home.

I'm happy we both have our own room."

DONNALYN LAUGHTON

TB Life

Fetching the Christmas tree

It was Saturday and under a brilliant, blue sky, my wife, Laura, and I drove down our trails on our quad, towing the manure cart behind to fetch a tree.

Wisely, prior to our adventure, Laura suggested that we grab a plastic tarp upon which the tree would lie as we trundled home to our victory celebration of hot chocolates. "I don't want our Christmas tree inside the house reeking of manure," she announced. Fair enough. Good point.

So off we rode – Laura, Farmer Fred, with Baxter, our dog, running alternately ahead of the quad or behind depending on how many wonderful distractions his nose discovered.

About mid-November Laura, son, Doug, and I were out for a walk winding up in the "Back 40" (almost all walks wind up there or, at least, must pass through that section of the property if headed to the several branching trails over which Laura rides her horse). We decided that while there we'd select a tree, this year's Tannenbaum. T'was the 'Dougster' wot done it. But, when Laura and I (and Baxter) arrived on Saturday to do the deed, we both decided to have another look-see largely because both of us had forgotten which tree it was that Doug had selected.

Walking was a tad tough since we were in the open, exposed part of what once was a



FRED JONES
RURAL ROOTS

field, not because of the snow depth since we really have yet to have any dump of size, but because the previous week of freezing temperatures plus brisk winds had created a crust; and with each step, the crust would suddenly 'give'. We didn't walk; we crunched. "Next snowfall out come the snowshoes," I announced.

Laura had 'crunched' to the other side of the track we had made. "How about this one?" she hollered.

"Looks good," I hollered back and 'crunched' my way over to Laura and the tree. While I was busy sawing away at the base of the tree trunk, Laura was unfolding the tarp and spreading it along the bottom of the cart.

The tree gently toppled and, with a bit of trimming of the lower branches, we lifted the tree into the cart.

"Now I want to go and gather balsam bows and red osier dogwood branches for the

mantel piece above the fireplace," Laura chimed.

We mounted the quad and drove to the entrance of what we call Mountain Trail along which there were balsam trees. Discovering branches from a rotted poplar tree blocking the way preventing the quad from going further up the trail, I removed, sawed, and tossed to the side while Laura headed up the trail to return with a big armful of balsam bows.

"There isn't any red osier dogwood here but there is plenty in the paddock by the road when we return to the house," she said; and so back we drove to Casa Jones, lifted the tree out of the cart, placed it against the hoosie wall, and they walked along the driveway to the appointed paddock to clip R.O.D. bows.

Over the next couple of days, I would be moving furniture to make room for the tree, then haul it into the house to set it up. I let it stand for the afternoon to thaw in its new setting before we decorate.

And in the evening, with appropriate seasonal music on the stereo, we festoon the tree with lights and decorations. Most probably there will be egg nog or hot chocolate with an added slurp of what my dad used to refer to as "false courage." For a bit more flavour, you understand.

Do you have an opinion to share?
E-mail the editor at ldunick@dougallmedia.com



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TB Life



SPIN TO WIN: Our Kids Count's Gladys Berringer pulls the winning ballot.

Show Me the Money winner nets \$50,000

THUNDER BAY
By Leith Dunick - TB Source

The holidays just got a little more festive for Manitowadge, Ont.'s Wayne Barsalou.

Last Friday his name was pulled from a rotating, gold-coloured drum at the Gateway Casino Thunder Bay, making him the \$50,000 grand-prize winner in the Show Me the Money Draw in support of Our Kids Count and the Kiwanis Club of Thunder Bay.

Our Kids Count's Gladys Berringer helped pull the name out of the drum and said she couldn't wait to get on the phone and let Barsalou know about his good fortune.

"I've had previous winners in disbelief, so when he wins his \$50,000, I'm sure he's going to want it," Berringer said.

"And it depends when he bought his ticket. If he bought his ticket back in December of last year when we launched this draw, getting a call almost a year later to say he's a winner is going to be like, 'OK, really?'"

After expenses, the lottery will provide about \$30,000 to the two charities, the money split evenly between them.

Berringer said it's a lot less than they'd hoped for, but a last-minute push made the raffle a success.

"We were quite nervous through the summer because it was going really slowly and we weren't sure we were going to come out in a positive way. So we did do a last appeal and we did work really hard in the last couple of months and Thunder Bay came through for us, so we have made this into a successful draw for us."

About half the tickets were sold, she added.

Ken Allan of the Kiwanis Club said in the end it was a pretty decent result for the two organizations.

"We were a little disappointed that sales weren't stronger, but it still will generate enough money for us to continue on with some of the projects and services that we have been supporting Our Kids Count with, as well as other groups in the community," Allan said.

"We support Our Kids Count as our major partner, but we've also worked with the Therapeutic Riding Association and other groups in Thunder Bay, trying to make the lives better for children."

Berringer said she's not sure if the draw will be back again, adding Our Kids Count will probably try another route for its next major fundraiser.

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TB Life

Santa Bus delivers goods

Transit Union hands over 10,000 pounds of food to food bank

THUNDER BAY
By Leith Dunick - TB Source

It was a record-setting haul during this year's Santa Bus food drive.

Members of the Amalgamated Transit Union Local 966 collected 10,000 pounds of food and \$2,800 in cash during the two-day event, which saw bus drivers and other transit personnel set up shop in front of the Metro on Arthur Street and No Frills in the Northwood Plaza.

The donations will go a long way, said Reino Pitkanen, chair of the Thunder Bay Food Bank, who said he was blown away by the generosity of the public.

"That's going to help us out until the end of March," said Pitkanen on Monday as the Santa Bus was unloaded by a team of volunteers in front of their Miles Street headquarters.

"We'll be good until then."

Pitkanen said the non-perishable food drive is key to their ability to serve a growing clientele, which has jumped from about 450 active users per month at the start of the decade to about 1,400 today.

"This is a very important part of our annual food budget. We'll make it to March with the (food) that we have now. Without it, we'd be struggling. We'd have to be paying for all that stuff, starting early in January and February and we don't have that type of money here for it."

He added they couldn't be more happy or grateful for the work put in over the past 24



FIGHTING HUNGER: Santa helps collect food on Saturday afternoon at the No Frills on Edward Street.

years by the transit workers.

"This is an awesome event. They do it every year and all the work and effort they put in really pays off for us," he said.

Ken Koza, president of ATU Local 966, said the public response was unbelievable.

"I'm actually at a loss for words. Last year we did 8,000 pounds. This year we're at 10,000, plus the \$2,800 in cash. It's awesome. We work hard every year to put on this event," Koza said.

"It's phenomenal."

Koza said bus drivers have a front-line view of the need in Thunder Bay, one of the main reasons they put in so much effort to make the Santa Bus a success.

"Transit operators, they're going throughout the community all day. They see what happens in this city. They know there's a need and we stepped up to help put this on and we just want to thank the people of Thunder Bay for all that they contributed," Koza said. "The same with Metro ... and No Frills."

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Second, Lose Weight! That's right, lose as much as 20-40 pounds in six weeks. Since beginning offering the **ChiroThin Weight Loss System** a little over 4 year ago, we have helped shed over **5500 pounds** off our clients!

Wayne, our rock star weight loss leader took off over 85 pounds since beginning and it has literally made him a new man! He finished his 4th six week program and is consistently losing more and more weight. We've had a few women lose over 30 pounds in six weeks, and what they tell us, it is the inches lost and dress size changes that they are the most thrilled about!

This scientific program also reduces Type 2 diabetes, reduces insulin demands, reduces risk for heart attacks and strokes and leads into a lifetime of healthy eating habits.

There are a number of strategies that work to help this program work. Intermittent feeding, hypoallergenic foods that are also low glycemic, anti-inflammatory and a free, all you can eat, vegetable list you can eat at meal times. There is also a homeopathic spray that has 25 ingredients



that help to reduce cravings, appetite and help to balance moods and detoxify your body through this healing process.

Extended benefits may pay for either quitting smoking and our Weight loss program under Chiropractic benefits.

For more information on either quitting smoking or losing weight, please call our office, Thunder Bay Wellness Centre at 343-7932 and schedule a free, no obligation consultation to learn more before you get started and begin your new year. Please read our reviews on our website and Facebook too.

Dr Alan Cranton DC, is a Chiropractor and retired Naturopathic Doctor practicing in Thunder Bay over 33 years at the Thunder Bay Wellness Centre (Cranton Wellness Centre) www.Tbaywellness.com



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TB Life



POPPED-A-PLENTY: James Ianetti of Canadian Tire, joins Pop's Kettle Corn owners Suzie Byerley and Kevin Laidler on Monday with a cheque for \$6,619 for the Salvation Army's annual kettle campaign.

Kettle corn sales help campaign

THUNDER BAY

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

A popcorn partnership has proven to be bountiful for the Salvation Army's Kettle Campaign.

The organization on Monday received a cheque for \$6,619, representing 6,619 bags of the tasty, locally made snack sold at Canadian Tire locations throughout Northwestern Ontario.

Suzie Byerley and Kevin Laidler, co-owners of Pop's Kettle Corn, agreed to donate 50 cent from each bag sold this year, a total matched by the retail giant.

"It's important because the Salvation Army is such a giving organization that we thought we would jump on board," Byerley said.

"We followed suit from the previous owner and kept the campaign going. We've done really well. They did really well and we've carried it on because we like to help people in the community."

The Salvation Army, which set a \$220,000 campaign goal for 2018, has collected about \$95,000 of that total with the popcorn proceeds added in, a number that has Major Lori Mitchell confident they'll be able to reach their target once again.

"We're tracking about the same as last year at this point,"

Mitchell said. "Things are going well. We do have quite a few empty spots right now for volunteers, so that would really be our push right now. We need people to call and be willing to stand on the kettle for an hour or two. If nobody's standing there, we can't raise money, so we really would like to have more

volunteers.

Mitchell said the Christmas Kettle campaign is key to being able to deliver their community and family services programming.

In addition to the Salvation Army's annual Christmas meal and toys for children in need, it helps supplement the cost of running their nightly soup van and school breakfast programs, to name just a couple of areas that benefit from the campaign.

To volunteer, phone 345-6492.

IN THE bay

arts | entertainment | culture



HOLIDAY FAVOURITE ON STAGE: A Christmas Carol will be playing at Magnus Theatre until Dec. 22.

Dickens tale rings true

The message of his famous Christmas Carol still resonates today

THEATRE

By Linda Maehans - TB Source

There's a reason why a cherished holiday classic lives on over the decades, even centuries.

A Christmas Carol harkens back to Victorian England. Yet the message of this stern and frightening and wondrous and uplifting tale is more relevant today than when Charles Dickens first penned his remarkable ghost story of a Christmas Eve in London, and the consequences for a lonely aging man named Ebenezer Scrooge.

An energetic cast of eight, with all but one in multiple roles in bringing the suspense to many-dimensional life for a delighted audience limits my room to describe each actor. Deliberately I say "many-dimensional life" because this is a ghost story of the first order. Once the spectre of Jacob Marley makes his terrific presence initially heard, then seen and felt throughout the theatre, there cannot be any doubters remaining. Prepares us well for our other encounters with the spiritual realm, especially the Ghost

of Christmases Yet to Come.

No need to wonder about their effect on Scrooge: these are abundantly clear. My heart went out, as I suspect did the hearts of most everyone else, to the quivering man alone in his quiet bed chamber when the clock begins to strike. No other mortal, robed only in his soft dressing gown, nightcap and slippers, could appear more vulnerable.

And so, a special word or two about our central character: Ebenezer Scrooge.

Mario Crudo enjoyed a quarter-century at the helm of Magnus Theatre as artistic director, and did a fine job at that. But now! Who could guess the soul of Scrooge at its gruffest, most frightened, then wizardly, and finally almost giddy with merriment and joy has been alive inside Crudo all this while. The soul of a spirit waiting to reveal and express itself to us at last. Kudos to Mario for his insight into this role. Wonderfully played!

Special praise, as well, for the entire creative team at Magnus led by current artistic director Thom Currie. Thanks for sticking to all the traditional details of plot

together with contemporary nuances of set and lighting to render this production so fantastic for audiences of any age or background. Sound-wise, the uniting folk-harmony lilt of accordion establishes an atmosphere off stage and, when called upon, becomes our front and center. Sometimes, also with violin, a Christmas Carol really does ring true in 2018.

And the costumes! What a pity people's wardrobes have declined since Victorian times. I mean it. Both male and female costumes, gowns; shawls and aprons; suits; vests and cravats; cloaks, hats; footwear; wigs: in this show all absolutely enchanting.

A small return to my opening remark, about the message delivered by ghosts past, present and future to a greedy man so poor in spirit. On Christmas Eve, no less. Yet it is not a message only for Christmas-time, and not only for Scrooge. In this our world of 2018 let's hope Dickens' observations reverberate far and wide, for they are needed now more than ever.

Magnus' A Christmas Carol will light the embers of your heart until Dec. 22. Go get warm.

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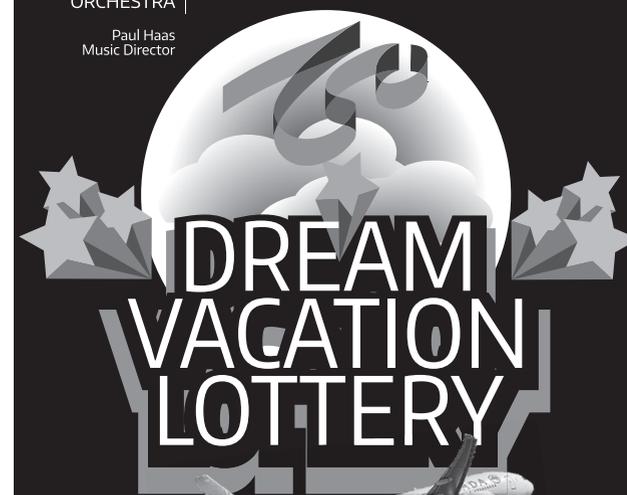


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IN THE bay

Hollywood and the Mandarin duck

Aging stars starting to become a force on television airwaves

Hollywood and the entertainment industry has always been obsessed with youth and beauty.

Aging, saggy, seen-it-before is rarely welcomed in television anymore. It's a dying breed. In fact, "aging Hollywood star" is practically a contradiction in terms. Especially when newer models are always around the corner.

But there are a handful left over in TV-land.

My own mother's beloved Mark Harmon of NCIS is a well-aged 67. His New Orleans counterpart, Scott Bakula, is 63.

Ted Danson, whose latest success



has come from *The Good Place*, is a 70-year-old silver fox. And *Criminal Minds'* senior profiler, Joe Montegna, is a vintage 72.

Yes, a few grand dames are still working too.

Candice Bergen returned to *Murphy Brown* fame at 72. Christine Baranski makes lawyers sexy at 66 in *The Good Fight*.

Sela Ward is leading the FBI at an unfathomable 62. And Betty White had a surprise career resurgence a few years ago at 88.

But the men certainly dominate the limited airtime when you include the likes of Alec Baldwin, Bryan Cranston, Kelsey Grammer, Ed O'Neill, Danny DeVito, Beau Bridges and Mandy Patinkin – all of whom continue to have starring roles on hit shows.

However, their appearance in said shows is still often lauded like a second coming that defies all odds. That's what makes them marketable.

Which means the aging star isn't really a dying breed. It's more like a Mandarin duck in New York.

The Chinese waterfowl that recently showed up, so far from its natural habitat, has had everyone in a flap. Tourists and residents alike have been

flocking to Central Park toting cameras and hoping to catch a glimpse of this spectacle of nature.

The bird is native to East Asia and thus, considered a rarity in the U.S. However, according to the experts, these pricey ducks are imported and kept as pets or shown in a zoo.

This one is thought to have escaped or been dumped by an owner who lost interest.

And his mysterious origin story has just added to the lore.

He seems to be having trouble with the language or the local customs because this fowl has run afoul with other birds on multiple occasions. But the public doesn't care.

His feathers are a glorious rainbow of colours, the likes of which most have never seen.

That is, unless they've been to East Asia or have any familiarity with

birds. Ironically, seasoned bird watchers say he's nothing special.

He's just an anomaly for the general public, and a marketable product for New York tourism.

Which makes aging actors the Mandarin ducks of Hollywood.

Few are welcomed beyond their native home.

When they are, most prefer the males with their colourful plumage, even if they have a slight attitude problem.

However, they're mostly kept out of sight except for select viewing, and are easily replaced with something shiny and new.

But Hollywood needs more Mandarins, including the less flashy females.

Just imagine how much more colourful our entertainment would be.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

- ACROSS**
- 1 Escutcheon band
 - 5 Heddles of a loom
 - 9 Shellac
 - 12 Balto-Slav
 - 13 Coptic clergyman
 - 14 Dance company (abbr.)
 - 15 Vegetable
 - 16 Nine muses
 - 18 Grandfather of Saul
 - 20 Mouthpiece
 - 21 Gob
 - 23 Corinthians (abbr.)
 - 24 Ringworm
 - 25 Competed
 - 26 Electric unit
 - 29 Dutch commune
 - 30 Poke
 - 31 Indo-Chin. language
- DOWN**
- 1 Wife of Andy Capp
 - 2 Mouse-spotter's cry
 - 3 Tense
 - 32 Silly
 - 33 Swan
 - 34 Conduct
 - 36 Cigarette: Brit. slang
 - 37 Smooth surface
 - 38 Fishhook point
 - 40 Arab
 - 41 Mess
 - 43 Bright-colored fish
 - 46 Collection of sayings
 - 47 One (Ger.)
 - 48 To be (Fr.)
 - 49 Hit on the head
 - 50 Powdered pumice
 - 51 Late

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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| N | O | R | M | R | A | M | A | P | A | N |
| | | O | E | C | S | C | A | T | H | E |
| V | O | D | | D | O | M | | E | D | H |
| A | B | I | | E | T | A | H | | A | T |
| S | E | S | | L | I | C | I | T | | A |
| A | X | L | E | | C | A | T | A | | L |
| | | O | D | E | | W | H | O | | I |
| R | A | C | E | | M | E | | E | S | K |
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| A | R | T | | I | N | I | T | | L | O |
| D | E | E | | L | E | N | O | | I | A |

- 4 Firm
- 5 Gambol
- 6 Indigo dye
- 7 Presidential nickname
- 8 Sweet Eur. chestnut
- 9 Dip
- 10 Sleeping
- 11 Cents (abbr.)
- 17 Noun-forming (suf.)
- 19 Hawaiian frigate bird
- 21 Stop
- 22 Opera heroine
- 23 Civil Aeronautics Board (abbr.)
- 25 John brown's dog
- 26 Strange
- 27 Created
- 28 Wharf
- 30 Jostle
- 33 Pronghorn
- 34 Jade
- 35 In agreement
- 36 Backward
- 37 Seaweed
- 38 Palm liquor
- 39 As soon as possible (abbr.)
- 40 General (abbr.)
- 41 Drop
- 42 Across (pref.)
- 44 "Blue Eagle"
- 45 General equivalency diploma (abbr.)

WORD SEARCH

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

- Ballad
- Bests
- Discouragements
- Dismount
- Drown
- Excise
- Expire
- Fables
- Fiesta
- Flame
- Flees
- Freeze
- Fronts
- Irascible
- Islands
- Jiffy
- Libels
- Lisping
- Neurons
- Papyri
- Prefer
- Queens
- Quirk
- Rattler
- Remotes
- Requiem
- Saint
- Sawing
- Shuns
- Simple
- Siting
- Slots
- Snails
- Squares
- Stalk
- Stamps
- Tools
- Warts
- Watery
- Wring

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| 9 | | | 5 | 1 | 6 | 3 | | |
| | 4 | | 3 | | | | | 7 |

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See page 9 for this week's answers

Sports

local sports news | information | coverage



FINAL WINNER: Ben Griffin, the 2018 Staal Foundation Open champion, is flanked by Jared, Eric, Jordan and Marc Staal at Whitewater Golf Club.

Staal Foundation Open won't be back in 2019

GOLF
By Leith Dunick TB Source

The Staal Foundation Open will not return to Thunder Bay in 2019.

Organizers on Tuesday announced the Mackenzie Tour-PGA Tour Canada stop at Whitewater Golf Club has been cancelled.

"Events like the Staal Foundation Open require a huge amount of work and dedication on the part of the organizers, sponsors and volunteers," said Walter Flaszka, board chair of the Thunder Bay Golf Classic, in a release issued to media.

"After five very successful years and over \$1 million raised for local charities, it is clear to the board and our partners

that the event has accomplished a lot for the region for which we are all proud."

Launched in 2014, the tournament quickly became one of the top stops on tour, a favourite with players who got to mix and mingle with hockey legends like Bobby Orr and Grant Fuhr, not to mention the Staals, whose family foundation was the event's title sponsor.

Staal family patriarch Henry Staal said it was a great five-year run.

"We are extremely proud of what the event has meant to the city of Thunder Bay and the region," Staal said.

"Our family has enjoyed being involved with the Mackenzie Tour and helping kids across the region for the last five years, and even though the tournament is ending we will continue to

support youth and cancer initiatives in the area."

The tournament routinely drew crowds of 14,000 to the tournament, first won by Wes Homan in 2014. J.J. Spaun, who captured the championship in 2015, has gone onto a stellar career on the PGA Tour, winning nearly \$2 million.

Tour officials, who expect to release their 2019 schedule in the new year, expressed appreciation for the five-year run.

"We would like to thank the Staal Family, all the volunteers, sponsors and the entire community of Thunder Bay for everything they have done for our players over the last five years," said tour president Jeff Monday.

"The Staal Foundation Open was an annual highlight for our players, and we truly appreciate the privilege it was to conduct such a great tournament in the area."

"We are extremely proud of what the event has meant to the city..."
HENRY STAAL



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06. Cottages
07. Commercial for Sale
08. Investment Property
09. Out of Town
10. Real Estate Wanted

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

MERCHANDISE

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

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41. Northward
42. Southward
43. Westfort
44. Rural

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47. Travel
48. Financial
49. Lost & Found
50. Personal
51. Notices
52. Tenders

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56. Training Courses

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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63. COMING EVENTS

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HOLIDAY DEADLINE

There will be no paper on Thur., Dec. 27th, 2018

Deadline for Dec. 20, 2018 Paper
RETAIL: Monday, December 17th, NOON
CLASSIFIED: Monday, December 17th, 4:00pm

Deadline for Jan. 3, 2019 Paper
RETAIL: Friday, December 28th, NOON
CLASSIFIED: Friday, December 28th, 4:00pm



HOLIDAY SEASON OFFICE HOURS

December 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 2018, 8:30am - 5:00pm

Closed December 25th & 26th, 2018
December 27th & 28th, 8:30am-5:00pm
December 31st, 2018, 8:30am - NOON

Closed January 1st, 2019

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year



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