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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2017

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Canadian Publications Agreement No. 0662445 Vol.14 No. 49

Former chief shows support for Levesque /3



Chippewa ride begins /4



Robert Bortuzzo getting noticed in St. Louis /16

Taxi deal closer

City council paving way to let cab companies set their own rates in an overhaul of its outdated taxi bylaw /5



NEW RULES: Companies like Diamond Taxi have been calling for the city to get out of the taxi regulation game and allow them to better compete with ride-for-hire companies arriving in town.

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Thursday, December 14, 2017



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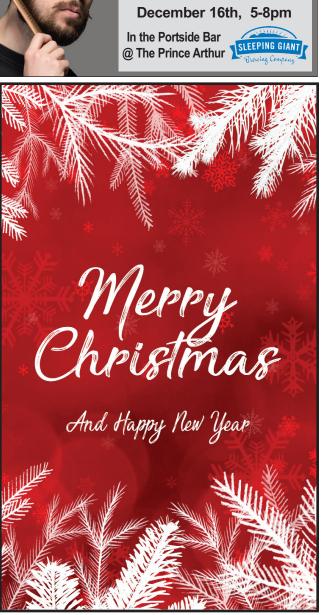


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Chief trial continues

LOCALNEWS

THUNDER BAY
By Doug Diaczuk - TB Source

The former chief of Thunder Bay police testified that he has briefed the police services board chairs and city managers in the past on confidential or sensitive matters.

Retired Thunder Bay Police chief, Bob Herman, testified on the sixth day of the trial against Thunder Bay Police chief J.P. Levesque for charges of obstruction of justice and breach of trust

Last week, it was revealed that Levesque informed Thunder Bay mayor, Keith Hobbs, that he was the subject of an extortion investigation by the RCMP. He also informed Thunder Bay Police Service Board chair, Jackie Dojack, and Thunder Bay city manager, Norm Gale, that he spoke with Hobbs about the investigation.

During his testimony, Herman said he has informed the chair of the Police Services Board regarding sensitive or confidential matters.

"The board has a right to know about operational issues that affect the community," Herman said. "I wouldn't want them to be blindsided."

According to Herman, the relationship between the board and the chief of police is supposed to be a partnership and there can be a blurring of the lines between operations and governance. All board members also swear an oath to keep sensitive issues confidential, he said, for example, matters discussed during in-camera

Herman also said he has informed past city managers about sensitive or confidential matters because of the city manager's role in the community. He used the example of a past city councillor being the subject of an investigation, during which Herman informed the city manager at the

Defence attorney, Brian Gover, then



ON BEHALF: Retired police chief Bob Herman testified for Chief J.P. Levesque.

turned his line of questioning toward Thunder Bay Police policies, particularly policies relating to the management of information and the freedom of information, which he said are at the centre of this trial.

Herman agreed that the policies serve as orders for the chief of police and it is at the discretion of the chief to deviate from those policies if a situation requires it.

"As chief of police, your discretion is a lot higher," Herman

said. "You can't be rigid about things. You have to be flexible depending on the circumstances."

Herman added that he has deviated from police policies based on his own discretion in the past, but agreed during cross-examination by counsel for the prosecution, Jason Nicol, that it was the exception to

the rule.

"He made a

decision he

felt was

best."

BOB HERMAN

"I can see how optically it wouldn't look the best but that's business," Herman said, regarding how other members of the rank and file of the police service may see it.

Turning to the relationship between Levesque and Hobbs, Herman said the chief and the mayor are required to have a professional relationship but he was not aware of a personal relationship between the two.

Before his retirement from chief in 2011, Hobbs and Herman became involved in legal action after Hobbs accused Herman of criminality when investigating a member of the Thunder Bay Police Service. Herman filed suit against Hobbs for slander and the mayor made a public apology.

During his testimony, Herman said he was aware Hobbs could be unpredictable, volatile, and difficult. He also said during Hobbs' time as a member of the police services board, he would be in contact with members of the police service regarding specific investigations because Hobbs would ask him questions about them with information that he could only have obtained from someone in the service.

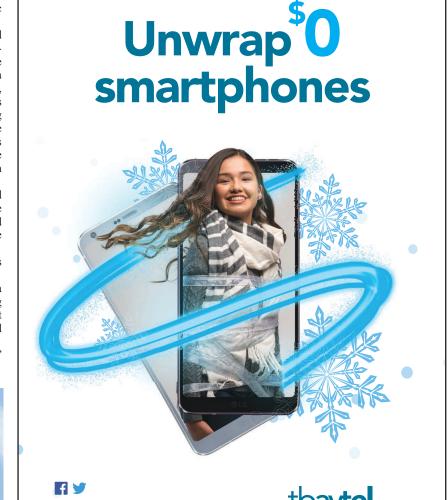
Herman testified that he believed Levesque was attempting to manage the situation when he informed Hobbs of the investigation by the RCMP.

"He made a decision he felt was best." Herman said.

Herman added that Levesque has a strong reputation in the policing community and the community at large when it comes to honesty and integrity

"His moral compass is set right," Herman said.







A mix of sun and clouds Probability of Precipitation: 30% HIGH -10 LOW -16

sun and clouds
Probability of
Precipitation: 30%

Flurries

Probability of
Precipitation: 60%
HIGH -10 LOW -11

Amixof

A mix of sun and clouds Probability of Precipitation: 30% HIGH-7 LOW-19 Scattered flurries

Mainly cloudy
Probability of

Probability of Precipitation: 30% HIGH-7 LOW-13

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LOCALNEWS

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Carousel being refurbished

THUNDER BAY
By Doug Diaczuk – TB Source

The historic carousel at Chippewa Park is a rotation closer to being restored to its former glory with the help of funding from the federal and municipal governments.

The 100-year-old attraction received \$300,000 in funding during an announcement on Saturday. Of that funding, \$100,000 will come from the Federal Economic Development Initiative for Northern Ontario, with an additional \$200,000 earmarked in the 2018 city of Thunder Bay budget.

"It feels great," said Donna Gilhooly, co-chair of the carousel restoration committee. "We are on a role now. We are committed to raising enough money to completely restore the carousel and protect it for the enjoyment of future generations."

The C.W. Parker carousel was built in 1915 and has been located at Chippewa Park since 1935 and is one of only three still operating in the world. According to Gilhooly, the carousel, which was designated as a heritage site by the city of Thunder Bay, will require approximately \$1 million in funding to be completely restored.

"It is a lot of money. But it's a very intricate process. The horses have to be stripped, the horses have to be



CHIPPEWA REVIVAL: Aldo Roberto, MP Don Rusnak, Donna Gilhooly and Lorraine Lortie Krawczuk with the carousel.

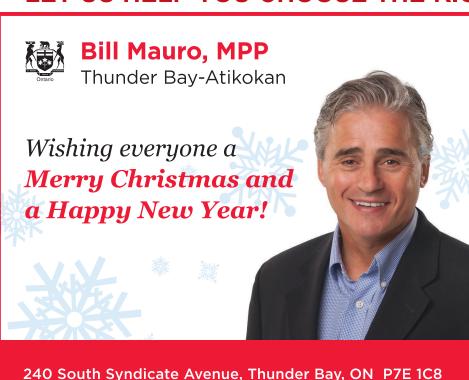
repaired. It's real craftsmanship kind of work. Plus the electrical needs to be repaired, the mechanical, the roof, it's a major project."

The money announced on Saturday will allow the

committee to begin work on restoring the horses, with 14 of the 28 horses undergoing restoration during the first phase. Additional work on the electrical and mechanical components will take place later.



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LOCALNEWS

Taxi bylaw overhaul nears

By Matt Vis - TB Source

An overhaul of the city's taxicab and vehi-cle for hire industry that has been years in the making inches closer to fruition but remains shy of the finish line.

The reformed bylaw, which would eliminate set rates for taxi companies and get rid of the limit on licences, was approved by Thunder

Bay city council during Monday night's committee of the whole meeting. The bylaw still needs to be ratified at a future council meeting, expected in the next two to three months, before being enacted.

Coun. Brian McKinnon, the point man for a subcommittee tasked with drafting the legislation, said the group has met more than 40 times over the past few

"In that meantime – the four years – there has been enormous change in the industry. Essentially, when we started there were two providers," McKinnon said. "Since then, we have nine providers. In other words, we have seven new players and they are playing in a different environment."

The process to develop a new bylaw began in 2012 when the Thunder Bay Police Services Board, which oversaw taxi regulation, initiated a review of the existing bylaw. The police services board formally requested the city to assume the responsibility in 2014.

The introduction of ridesharing companies into the Thunder Bay market slowed the process as administration attempted to create a level playing field for both the existing taxicab companies and the new application based entities.

> The bylaw would drastically alter the vehicle for hire landscape, as Thunder Bay would join Barrie as the only two known Ontario municipalities to eliminate rate regulation and allow providers to set their own fares. Other significant changes include reducing licensing fees to encourage market entry and establishing requirements for business licence holders to have 10 per cent of their fleet be accessible vehicles.

"We're definitely talking about opening the market up so people who want to go into business can and can charge what they deem necessary to charge for the service," city licensing and enforcement manager James Coady said.

"What we really think we're focusing on is security, accessibility, safety for customers. Not the rates and not the number of vehicles out on the road. We're also trying to regulate

the other entrants to the market.

Coun. Trevor Giertuga, who along with Coun. Iain Angus were the only two to oppose the bylaw, said he was concerned about the public backlash that could be unleashed from letting each entity determine their own fares.

There's a perception the rates are already too high, Giertuga said.

"When I hear admin say they're more concerned about the regulations than the rates, that concerns me. When I hear admin say they don't know what will happen until they remove this and see what happens and where it unfolds, that scares the heck out of me," Giertuga said.

"Why don't we wait for the only city in the province to complete their pilot project and see what happens. Instead we're going to dive in. You might drown, but we're going to drown with you. This is completely (speculative) and unproven whether this is going to decrease the rates. I'm not prepared to roll the dice with our most vulnerable people seniors, children and people who don't have vehicles and can't afford vehicles or insurance."

Craig Murphy, manager of the Student Transportation Services of Thunder Bay consortium that represents three local school boards, asked council to delay implementation of the bylaw to July 1,

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Editorial

EDITORIAL

Taxi rates under fire

or years, taxi companies have wanted control over the rates they charge.

They're particularly interested in being allowed to use surge pricing, upping the amount they charge in the busiest times of the day.

This, they say, would help them attract more drivers to the industry, and put more cabs on the road.

If it works, this would be fantastic.

Who among us hasn't waited for hours during the holiday season for a taxi to arrive to take them home?

The fear, expressed by many in the community, is that rates are already too high.

But in 2008, the last time a rate hike was approved by the city, the landscape was much different.

Uber and Lyft were unknowns in Canada.

Ride-sharing was rustling a parent out of bed to come get you at 2 a.m.

If the two local cab companies decide to raise their rates, they'll simply be encouraging companies like Uber and Lyft to descend on Thunder Bay. Both also use surge pricing.

Where there's a market, there's money to be made. Neither Uber nor Lyft need much in the way of overhead, just drivers who are willing to offer up their vehicles for rides.

In an economy like Thunder Bay, that won't be too hard. And, don't forget, the city has also said it will take a second look if gouging occurs.

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Help the animals

To the editor:

Christmas is a time of giving and let us not forget about all the pets who also need our support.

One such agency whose efforts to provide good caring homes for the animals in their care is the Thunder Bay and District Humane Society.

Whether your donation is monetary or food for these cats and dogs it will help greatly as these pets await adoption.

Adopting a pet at any time is a great idea and at Christmas can make that special gift.

More than 10 years ago I inherited a dog who has become a wonderful little buddy.

Over the years I have taken him to visit and entertain many of the city's senior citizens.

His presence has picked up the spirits of many seniors now residing in senior retirement and long-term care facilities. The Thunder Bay and District Humane Society is located on Rosslyn Road and your help now and throughout the year would greatly be appreciated.

> Ray Smith, Thunder Bay

Program off track

To the editor:

First Confederation College shut down its broadcasting program because there was low enrolment because the industry is shrinking.

People are not watching TV or listening to radio like they used to. The program was run by local broadcasters who have no major market experience. They're teaching from their small market experience.

They've had one year to come up with a curriculum that keeps them employed: digital media. That means throw away anything you know about traditional broadcasting.

"First of its kind as others are more broad, but this program is different than broadcasting." What the heck is that supposed to mean?

So they're teaching photography, videography, graphic design, and web design. All great skills, but not enough to become a specialist. Some of the best social media videos are ones that are organically produced. You don't need a diploma to put out a viral video. What you do need is the skills to figure out how to make those videos popular. How do faculty who've been stuck in the college bubble with experience from the '80s pass that along to today's students? They don't.

Do you want to suceed in social media? Take a communications course.

> Roberta Crawford, Via Facebook

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Parental benefit changes



We all know that every Canadian family has different and unique family circumstances. To help address these realities, the government of Canada recently implemented improvements to the existing Employment Insurance (EI) maternity, parental, and caregiving benefits.

The modifications will offer parents and family caregivers who are eligible to receive EI benefits with much more flexibility and easier access.

As a government, we believe that we must put families first in order to help them grow and prosper. I'm happy to report the updated benefits are now in effect, so I encourage you to apply.

One of the most significant changes to these programs is that parents who are awaiting the birth of a child are now able to choose the preferred parental benefit that best suits their

They can decide to take the standard parental benefit, over a 12 month period, or the newly announced benefit which extends the time a parent can take to care for their child to up to 18 months.

With either option, the criteria and conditions for receiving these benefits remain the same.

Adoptive parents have been provided with the same flexibility. They're able to choose between the standard option of parental benefits as well as the new extended option.

Expectant working mothers can also choose to begin receiving their maternity benefits earlier - up to 12 weeks before their due date. That is a month longer than what was previously allowed.

This increased flexibility allows moms-to-be a better ability to take into consideration their health and workplace circumstances before deciding when to begin their maternity leave.

For the first time, immediate and extended family members of children who are critically ill have access to a benefit that was previously only available to parents. This allows no child to be left without the care and support they deserve during a period that no parent ever wants to imagine.

We have also introduced changes to help support Caregivers who provide such an important role in caring for a critically ill or injured adult family member. Caregivers are now eligible to receive a benefit for up to a period

To help simplify the family caregiving benefit process, both medical doctors and nurse practitioners have been given the authority to sign medical certificates. This will streamline the application process, making it much easier and less stressful for Caregivers to receive benefits during trying times.

These recent changes illustrate the comprehensive commitments we made to support families. In addition to these EI benefit improvements, the Canada Child Benefit has made a significant difference to families across the country.

In the Kenora riding alone, from June 2016 to July 2017, 8,070 payments were made totaling more than \$73 million. That works out to an average yearly payment of \$9,130 to families.

With the holiday season quickly approaching, this time of year always serves as a reminder of how important family is. I am glad these improvements have been implemented to give all Canadian families the flexibility and support they need, expect and deserve. In my view, there is nothing more important in life than the ability to take care of your family and loved

Bob Nault the Liberal MP for Kenora.

Gifts under \$1M

Billionaires' friends need imagination at Christmas

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

This time of year I'm glad I don't know any billionaires because during the holidays they can be difficult to deal with.

Sure, they're fun to hang out with when they throw money around but Christmas shopping for billionaires is challenging.

Gifting the extremely wealthy can be daunting – nothing short of gold, frankincense and myrrh seems respectful enough.

Rich people deserve a nice Christmas too and we know from watching holiday movies that they are sad and lonely on the night

Wouldn't it be special if billionaires could wake up Christmas morning to discover they had finally made it to Santa's "nice" list?

Then, maybe they wouldn't be sad anymore and they would use all their money to help the less fortu-

It all depends on what they find under the tree - friends of billionaires need imagination and creativity to make the right choice.

In case I get to hang with billionaires some day I scoured the web for something nice but within my budget.

I may have to get a part time job – apparently the very rich have very expensive tastes.

I will include the suggested list prices although if you have to ask, you really can't afford it.

If your billionaire is old-fashioned with traditional values they might appreciate some home baking or a hand-made scarf for Christmas.

This is a risky strategy – the ultrarich may pretend to be one of us but they are, by definition, more greedy and materialistic.

They are rarely moved by sentiment or feel-good gestures and unless your gift has financial value, it has no value to billionaires.

Fortunately you can still find appropriate gifts for

under a million dollars. Might I suggest a seat on Virgin Galactic's first commercial voyage to outer space, set to launch in two years.

There are only 500 seats available and at a very reasonable quarter million dollars, they are selling out fast.

And at that price it's no big deal if your billionaire chickens out and decides not to go after all, it's the thought that counts.

Some risk-averse billionaires prefer not to leave the planet – how about a flight to Zambia where they can tour the world's largest emerald

During a two-night stay at the Royal Livingstone Hotel they will help design personal jewelry using their own 7 carat emerald.

This thoughtful gift experience includes dinner with the designer and his wife and is offered at a price point of \$300,000, tip included.

If you can spend a little more, what billionaire wouldn't love to find "yours and mine" limitededition Rolls Royce Dawns in the driveway?

One orange and one blue, they come equipped with V-12 engines, hand-crafted leather interiors and silver bonnets.

At just under a million bucks, these coupes are not recommended for Thunder Bay billionaires because they do not come with

block heaters.

"Rich people

deserve a

nice

Christmas

too..."

Finally, for very wealthy pet owners, what says Merry Christmas with more love and pizazz than the Amour, Amour Dog Collar?

It features 1600 diamonds including a 7-carat centerpiece, all set in white gold the crocodile collar just adds to the plush, cuddly appeal.

This canine accessory for billionaire dogs can be yours for just \$3.2 million.

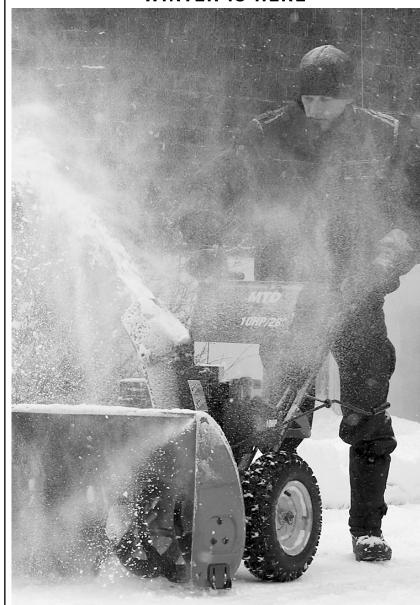
I understand it's hard enough being an ordinary billionaire without the added pressure of facing a sad and lonely Christmas.

If holiday movies have taught us anything, these poor rich people have problems of their own to face.

Billionaires need to find the perfect gift for their own friends and family, even ultra-richer than themselves.

And what can you possibly give a trillionaire for Christmas?

WINTER IS HERE



SNOW BLOWS: The City of Thunder Bay got its first sustained snow of the season last week. Homeowners had to dig out after the winter blast cut power to more than 11,000 homes.

HOW TO WRITE US:

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

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

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WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Are you satisfied with the city's snow removal efforts after this last snow fall? VOICE YOUR OPINION ABOUT THINGS THAT MATTER MOST.

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TO SHARE YOUR IDEAS AND VIEWS ABOUT OUR WEEKLY POLL QUESTION.

TOTAL VOTES: 686

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Thursday, December 14, 2017

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

THE THUNDER BAY PROFESSIONAL

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LOCALNEWS

POLICE IN BRIEF

Apartment invaded

Apair of suspects are in custody after three males allegedly forced themselves into a Cameron Street

In a release issued on Monday, Thunder Bay Police say the suspects on Sunday night about 8:45 p.m. forced 27-year-old and 34-year-old males into the bathroom of the apartment, where they were threat-

After the suspects left the apartment, the victims discovered a number of items had been taken, including a television, cell phone, wireless phone and a wallet.

The suspects were last seen heading toward May Street and police say they located a vehicle matching that of the suspects on South Brodie Street.

Two occupants were inside the vehicle at the time police stopped it on East Arthur Street for having an

During the stop officers noticed some of the reported stolen items at the feet of the passenger and the two men were arrested for possession of stolen property.

A further search revealed a box cutter in the right front pocket of the passenger, blade extended. Another knife, housed in a sheath, was found in the front console.

Police immediately seized the vehicle for further

Justin Matthew Collins, 30, was charged with possession of stolen property, carrying a concealed weapon and possession of a dangerous weapon.

He was remanded into custody.

The other male, whose identity has yet to be confirmed, will face charges of possession of a dangerous weapon, uttering threats, robbery, possession of stolen property and forcible confinement when he appears in court on Tuesday.

None of the allegations have been proven in court. The investigation is ongoing.

Robbery suspect arrested

25-year-old Thunder Bay man has been arrested after a pair of early morning robberies over the weekend.

say they received a 911 call from an employee of the Esso gas station on Arthur Street West at about 7:34 a.m. on Sunday, reporting a robbery that had just occurred

Minutes later, while police were searching the area for a suspect, a second robbery was reported, this time at the Shell Station further up the street.

The suspect was seen running south behind the gas

At 7:46 p.m. police spotted a person matching the description of the suspect standing beside a white vehicle at a nearby hotel parking lot.

An officer approached the male, who began resisting attempts to handcuff him.

A search later revealed the man had a knife in his pocket. Police say they also recovered the cash and other merchandise allegedly taken in the two robberies.

Thomas Raymond Bork was charged with two counts of robbery and resisting arrest.

He has made his first appearance in court and has been remanded into custody.

None of the charges have been proven in a court of

Wallet thief nabbed

embers of the public helped apprehend a suspect who attempted to rob Maltese Grocery.

Police, in a release issued on Friday, say a 73-year-old man was attempting to pay for his purchase at 12:50 p.m. on Thursday when a 26-year-old male entered the popular butcher and grabbed at the man's wallet. A struggle ensued and bystanders came to assist and subdue the suspect.

He was then released and ran southbound on Algoma Street, but staff from the store followed the suspect and identified him to police when they arrived on scene. He was arrested at the corner of Algoma and Ambrose streets.

Jeff Calvin Sharp, 26, was charged with robbery, has made a first appearance in court and has been remanded into custody.





LOCALNEWS



NEW MONEY: Minister of Housing Peter Milczyn speaks at Lakehead.

ID program gets boost

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

or most people, being able to whip out a piece of identification upon request is something they take for granted.

But there's a large segment of the population, in Thunder Bay largely either Indigenous, buried in poverty or homeless, who have no way to prove who they are.

Without ID they can't apply for jobs or bank accounts, they can't vote or receive social assistance and they're out of luck trying to find a decent place to live.

On Monday the Kinna-aweya Legal Clinic got a little help from the provincial government to help the city's vulnerable get back on track and get the identification they need to live productive lives.

Beth Ponka, the clinic's director of administration, said the money, part of the province's \$11-million Local Poverty Reduction Fund, will be used to hire a dedicated staff member to help guide those in need through the process.

"Our clients have mental illness, language barriers, cultural barriers. They need help navigating the system. They need help accessing ID and this program provides us with a staff person who can help our clients navigate the system and get the ID that they need," Ponka said on Monday morning after a news conference held at Lakehead University's Bora Laskin Faculty of Law.

Until now the program has been staffed with summer students and volunteers from the law school. They also got a \$7,000 stipend from the Advocacy Centre for Tenants of Ontario.

"That's the money we've been using to pay for the cost of the birth certificates and our personnel costs have been covered by volunteers," Ponka said. "This is a huge increase in our resources. It will help us to have someone to be able to provide that assistance to clients on an ongoing basis.'

Ponka estimated her clinic helped secure clients about \$1.2 million in benefits last year, money that in turn is spent in the community.

Housing Minister Peter Milczyn, whose ministry is also responsible for the poverty reduction strategy, officially delivered the money on Monday during a brief stopover in Thunder Bay.

He said the fund was created to support the work being done at the community level. In addition to the ID program, the province also provided support to Nishnawbe Aski Nation to provide safe and nutritious food through the Good Things Growing Among People

In total 14 programs will be funded across Ontario.

"Each community across the province knows the struggles their people are facing and they've often come up with really good solutions to help them deal with those struggles," Milczyn said.

"This particular announcement today of the 14 organizations that are going to share this \$5.3 million are all part of the Indigenous stream of the Local Poverty Reduction Fund - programs really tailored to the particular struggles that Indigenous people have here in the North."





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Thursday, December 14, 2017

NOTICE OF SUBMISSION TRANSPORTATION ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY REPORT (TESR)

Highway 61, Rehabilitation of Four Bridges & Detour

The **Ministry of Transportation (MTO)** has retained **Hatch** to undertake a detail design study and construction traffic management plan for the rehabilitation of four (4) bridges on Highway 61. The bridges are located between Neebing Avenue and Broadway Avenue in the City of Thunder Bay.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

10

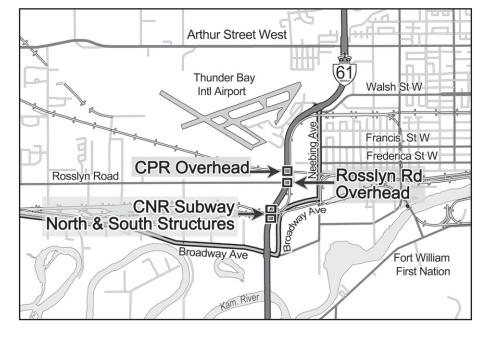
This project involves maintenance work on the following four (4) bridges on Highway 61:

- CPR Overhead at Thunder Bay Airport
- Rosslyn Road Overhead Bridge
- CNR Subway North Structure
- CNR Subway South Structure

Traffic Management During Construction.

A traffic management study has been completed to evaluate various options to reduce traffic congestion during construction. Based on an assessment of several detour alternatives proposed, as well as comments received during public/agency consultation, the preferred detour alternative being incorporated is:

Night Work / Detour. Maintaining two lanes of traffic on Highway 61 during day-time hours with a night time detour (9 p.m. to 7 a.m.) of Highway 61 traffic onto Broadway Avenue / Neebing Avenue. The public will be notified in advance of any road closures with posted signage and notices in local newspapers.



Duration / Timing of Construction Project. Detours will be in place for approximately 5 to 6 months. Work is expected to commence during the spring / summer of 2018.

STUDY PROCESS

This study is following the approved planning process for a Group B undertaking in accordance with the *Class Environmental Assessment* for Provincial Transportation Facilities (2000) (Class EA), with the opportunity for public input throughout. In accordance with the Class EA, a Transportation Environmental Study Report (TESR) has been prepared and placed on the Public Record for a formal review period between the dates of **December 14, 2017** and **January 25, 2018**. A copy of the TESR has been submitted to the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change and is available for review at the following Thunder Bay locations:

Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change Regional Office 3rd Floor, Suite 331 435 James Street South City of Thunder Bay Office of the City Clerk City Hall, 3rd Floor 500 Donald Street East **Brodie Resource Library** 216 S. Brodie Street

Waverly Resource Library 285 Red River Road

The TESR and additional project information will also be available at the project website: www.hwy61bridgerehab.com

COMMENTS

Interested persons are encouraged to review the document and provide comments by **January 25, 2018.** If after consulting with ministry staff and their consultants, you have serious unresolved concerns, you may request an individual Environmental Assessment (Part II Order or "bump-up") from the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change (Ferguson Block, 11th Floor, Wellesley St. W., Toronto, Ontario, M7A 2T5). A copy of this request should also be forwarded to the Ministry of Transportation at the address below. If there are no outstanding concerns after **January 25, 2018**, the project will be considered to have met the requirements of the Class EA and can proceed to construction. If you have any comments or questions regarding this project, please contact:

Beau Little

Project Manager Ministry of Transportation Planning & Design Section 615 James Street South Thunder Bay, ON P7E 6P6

tel: 807-473-2151 / toll free: 1-800-465-5034

fax: 807-473-2168

e-mail: beau.little@ontario.ca

Dale Wiersema, P.Eng.

Principal Project Manager Hatch 973 Balmoral Street, Suite 101 Thunder Bay, ON P7B 0E2

tel: 807-625-8728 / toll free: 1-888-529-8809

fax: 807-623-5925

e-mail: dale.wiersema@hatch.com

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, will become part of the public record.

Ontario

LOCALNEWS

Guards rally for change

THUNDER BAY
By Leith Dunick - TB Source

wo years after a riot that saw correctional officers taken hostage at the Thunder Bay District Jail, the guards who remain say they feel forgotten by the provincial government.

Brad Slobodian, the acting president of OPSEU local 737 and a 14-year veteran at the soon-to-be-replaced District Jail, says little has changed in the ensuring 24 months to facilitate safety for staff and inmates.

Other than changing doors inside the facility to open inward instead of outward, it's the status quo at the crumbling 91-year-old jail.

"The health and safety aspects in there, it's still bad in there as far as that goes," Slobodian said. "We still don't have sally ports in place that we should have had in place. We're still waiting on those. Staff is frustrated. Our management is frustrated. We feel forgotten.

"They've shown basic apathy toward us these past two years."

A sally port is a secure double-door entryway that allows the safe passage of inmates and an added layer of protection for correctional officers.

The province has promised to install them at the jail, but work has yet to get under way. It's scheduled to start in 2018.

"It's been two years and we're still working under the same conditions."

A total of five inmates were charged as a result of the riot, which caused \$132,000 worth of damage to the district jail.

Shawn Bradshaw, who leads the union at the Thunder Bay Correctional Centre, which will be merged into the new jail, said the province has also dropped the ball when it comes to body scanners that have been installed at the jail and now at his workplace.

Instead of allowing them to screen inmates already housed at the two facilities, the province only allowed guards to use them on new inmates or those who left to attend court or other appointments, and visitors.

Bradshaw is not surprised, adding it's a waste of millions of taxpayer dollars.

"It's frustrating, but you get used to the circus. But we're far from isolated in that. Every institution has major issues, but it seems that nobody really cares until something really bad happens. Then they only care as long as there's attention on it," he said.

The replacement facility is currently in the planning stage, with no set timeline to open. people | health | home | food | leisure

Public stuff police cruisers

More than 20,000 pounds of food was collected for drive

THUNDER BAY
By Doug Diaczuk - TB Source

t's the time of year for giving back, and those who serve the public every day, continue to step up to help those most in need.

Police officers across the city were busy stuffing cruisers full of food on Saturday for the 6th Annual Stuff-a-Cruiser Food Drive.

"We are very busy this year," said Ontario Provincial Police provincial Const. Diana Cole. "We've had a great response from the public."

This year officers from the OPP, Thunder Bay Police Service, Nishnawbe Aski Police Service, Anishinabek Police Service, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, and Canada Border Service Agency, were at eight grocery store locations including Odena Foods, Metro, Safeway, Superstore, and Walmart to collect food on behalf of the Regional Food Distribution Association.

"Last year we were over the 14,000 pound mark," Cole said. "We are hoping to exceed that this year. We've had a great response, and I think we are on target for that or more. All the officers have said donations have been coming in frequently and we are quite successful."

This year was a huge success, with the food drive bringing in more than 20,000 pounds of food and raising \$5,863 for the



FILLED UP: Const. Chris Head of the Nishnawbe Aski Police Service, OPP Provincial Const. Chris Stefanato, Thunder Bay Police Provincial Const. Gerald Duffy, Thunder Bay Police Provincial Const. Heidi Rieder, and OPP Provincial Const. Diana Cole were busy stuffing a cruiser at Safeway on Arthur Street.

RFDA and the Rural Cupboard Food Bank.

Cole added that all the officers volunteering are there for the same reason, to help those in need during this time of year, and ensuring everyone has food on the table for the holidays and the winter months to come.

But the success also relies on the generosity of the community, which Cole said gets stronger and stronger every year.

"The people of Thunder Bay and the surrounding communities are such generous people," she said. "It's such a generous community and city, that's the way this city is. They just want to help others. We are here as officers, and civilians, and volunteers, and we want to do the same for the public as well, help them out during this time of

Turkeys donated by leadership group

THUNDER BAY
By Doug Diaczuk – TB Source

There were some real concerns that the tires on Kelly Fettes' car would give out under the weight of more than 70 turkeys. But she was assured that just as long as she didn't hit any bumps, those turkeys would get to where they are needed most.

Last Saturday, Leadership Thunder Bay held its 3rd Annual Turkey Drive, loading up 75 turkeys from No Frills on Dawson Road, destined for the Regional Food Distribution Association.

"Last year we raised \$1,500," said Leadership Thunder Bay president, Matthew Villella.



GETTING STUFFED: Shawn Capnerhurst, No Frilis storeowner, Matthew Villella, president of Leadership Thunder Bay, and past president, Kelly Fettes, filled a car with 75 turkeys.

"This year we are at \$2,000 and we are purchasing 75 turkeys today and all the fixings and hopefully more for local families."

The money was raised from

graduates of Leadership Thunder Bay, as well as family, friends, and the community at large.

With the \$1,500 total last year, 52 turkeys and all the trimmings were donated to the RFDA, but with an extra \$500 this year, Villella was happy to provide even more food to people in need during this holiday season.

"I would hope it would mean that 75 families get turkeys and food that normally wouldn't be there," he said. "I know they are struggling with getting food in and this is a good way to help out.

"Leadership Thunder Bay prides ourselves on community leadership." MAKE A
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Big Red gets needed organ transplant

Big Red needed an organ transplant. Big Red is my elderly, diesel tractor. The horses required a hay bale in their winter paddock. Hay bales are delivered by me on board Big Red. But when I went to start Red, all I got was a 'click'. Red wouldn't start. Big Red needed an organ transplant.

Now I have written about this problem not too long ago and thought that it concerned the battery. After all, the battery is almost five years old. I had lugged the heavy thing out of the tractor and driven to town to a battery store thinking that it was time for a new one. But, surprise! The salesman tested the battery and pronounced it still good at holding a charge. Aha! So, the starting problem didn't entail the battery.

When I got home, I re-installed the battery and tried to get Red going, all I heard was "click". I twisted the positive connection on the battery thinking that



perhaps it was loose and only required tightening. That seemed to do the trick: no more "Clicks", and off we drove to accomplish the farm chores that Red was required to do.

Until the next time.

The next time Red refused to do anything but go "click", I hollered for help.

Donny is my main mechanic who lives just up the road. He is a very busy man but eventually he and his sons appeared and decreed that the problem was with the starter. It needing fixing.

So, I laboured at undoing the bolts and drove the starter to a "Starter and Alternator" repair gent and left it in his capable hands to await his assessment.

"Bad news,' he said over the phone, "you need a new starter." Dang! He told me that a new one would be available the next day.

Well, the next day we had freezing rain and snow. Rural schools were closed; school buses weren't running. I received no phone call until the day after. I drove to fetch the shiny, new starter, drove home, and hoped that I connected all the wires correctly.

Big Red now had a new organ, an essential organ needed to get Red belching diesel smoke ready for work.

Well, not quite. This new starter was a tad different from the old one. There were two clips on the solenoid instead of one. So, tow which one do I shove on the wire? I tried the top, turned the key,

and pressed the start button. It worked! Actually, it wouldn't stop turning over. What the...? I had to disconnect the negative post to make it stop.

What had gone wrong? I had attached all of the wires correctly and now this monstrous glitch. Was it a dud? Was I going to have to detach the brand new, still-shiny starter and return it to the shop where I bought it? Much frustration that I don't know machines and how they work, only how to run them.

Enter Drake

Drake is the boyfriend of a lass who rides horses with my wife. He is a heavy-equipment mechanic. He came when called, looked at the problem, tried a couple of things, and announced that the second clip was for a ground wire from the solenoid to the starter. Oh. Gee, the old starter didn't have one.

So, Drake rigged the wire and when I pressed the starter button, voila! Red's

engine fired up. But a nagging question remained: why was there no such wire rigging on the old starter?

Later that night over for supper, I regaled my neighbour named Dave, with my tale of woe. He said that he bet that on the old starter the actual bolts holding the device to the steel-plate on the tractor acted as a ground but this new one didn't. I recalled that when I tried to remove the old starter, I had to really haul on the wrench and finally I heard a "crack!" as the bolt released.

"That was how the starter was grounded," Dave said, "and by breaking the seal, you broke the ground between starter and tractor. Your new starter has a completely different grounding system"

So, Red is back in action. The organ transplant has been a success; and Farmer Fred discovered that it is never too late to learn a thing or two.

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Quit smoking and lose weight

To lose weight and quit smoking are two of the most common and sometimes most difficult New Year's resolutions a person can make and keep this time of year.

Fortunately, we have the means and experience to help you and your loved ones with these challenges and new years' resolutions. Share this article with them.

First, quit smoking! We've helped hundreds of people quit smoking in the first of three 45 minute sessions. The second and third appointments are there to "lock in" the new non-smoking lifestyle.

We use Cold Laser on over 30 acupuncture points that stop your craving the first session. Other points help with appetite suppression, moodiness, detoxification and give you a sense of well-being. Rob, our certified laser therapist uses a single probe cold laser to stimulate acupuncture points on your ear lobe, wrists and legs to help you to quit smoking. You walk out 45 minutes later and you are done! Period!

There is a free Laser workshop on how to quit smoking on December 19, 2017 at 7 pm. Call 343 7932 to reserve a seat

For more information, go to our website www.crantonwellness.com

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 3 year ago, we have helped shed over 4500 pounds off our clients!

Wayne, our rock star weight loss leader took off over 85 pounds since beginning and it



DR. ALAN
CRANTON
DC, ND (Ret)

ON HEALTH

has literally made him a new man! He is now on 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!

The weight loss program consists of a number of steps.

First, you are weighed in and other vital biomarkers are taken and recorded.

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Third, is the patented ChiroThin spray. The homeopathic spray has over 25 ingredients in it and its main purpose is to supress your appetite, eliminate your hunger pangs, increase your metabolism, and help you to detoxify.

We have had patients go on this program for a number of reasons.

One of the most dramatic stories is the woman who could not exercise or barely walk because of pain throughout her body and, she was putting on too much weight. Not only did she lose over 40 pounds in two rounds of six weeks but her pain almost completely disappeared. She was thrilled! Another reason that couples do the program together is to support one another as they go thru the program at the same time. Typically men will lose more than the women but the women lose 20-30 inches off their body which helps them in so many ways. We've had seniors well into their 80's take off 20-25 pounds and women after nursing their new babies come in to lose the 'baby fat'. Still others come in before a big life event like their wedding or a vacation to feel more comfortable in their clothes. We've even had work place office friends come in once they've seen the dramatic changes in their coworkers

Extended benefits may pay for both quitting smoking and our Weight loss program.

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

Dr Alan Cranton DC, ND(Ret) is a Chiropractor and retired Naturopathic Doctor practicing in Thunder Bay over 32 years at the Cranton Wellness Centre. www.crantonwellness.com.

Kids learn programming

EDUCATION By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Youngsters interact with technology each and every day.

But often they have no clue what powers

For that matter, neither do many of their teachers.

Last Wednesday students at Claude E. Garton Public School, along with their teacher, got a sneak peak at how to program simple motion in a Lego robot.

It was pretty cool, said eight-year-old Hunter Birch.

"I liked building the robot and how it could kick the ball. We built it out of Legos and used wires. We had to plug it into a computer and it worked," Hunter said.

Classmate Hadyn Jensen said building a working robot was a lot of fun and educa-

"It's important so you know how to work technology and stuff," he said, adding his favourite part of the day was seeing it actually work.

"It was fun," nine-year-old Hadyn said.

Teacher Allison Arnone said there were plenty of learning experiences for the

"They build the robot according to instructions. It's also a procedural thing. And each of the robots is based on a sample machine. For example, today we were working with a robot that works with a lever for the action," she said.

"Then they used the software to give the robot tasks, basically. Today the robot has an engine, a motor that causes an axel to turn and make the lever swing. We were trying for the first time to see what it would



HIGH-TECH KIDS: Claude E. Garton Public School students Vincent Fogal (from left), Caltlyn Embury and Paige Peremekso showcase a robot they built in class to learn about simple programming.

look like to program the robot to do that

Given the technological world students are growing up in, it's never too early to give them an authentic, hands-on experi-

"It's the best way for them to learn how to do it. If you think about it, they use this technology all the time, but they don't necessarily know how it works either. And if we don't teach them how it works, in the future they're not going to have the tools they need to be able to be in a world that relies so much on technology."

And who knows, she added, it might inspire a student or two to pursue a career in programming or robotics.

You never know, Arnone said.

"There are a lot of lucrative jobs in programming and you do think ahead about where they're going to go after they're finished school. And it's interesting. A lot of the students who find some of the things that we do less engaging will respond so much to this kind of learning because they feel like it applies to their own lives too.



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



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Wednesday, December 20th

"Longest Night Service" (a.k.a. "Blue Christmas") @ 7:00 p.m

Sunday, December 24th

Christmas Eve Services @ 10:30 a.m. (jointly with Current River at Knox) 6:30 p.m. (Family) 11:15 p.m. (Communion and Candlelight) Minister: Rev. Marlene Britton-Walfall Music Director: Betty E. White

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Magnus's fantastic Christmas Miracle

REVIEW
By Linda Maehans – TB Source

Usually my theatre reviews focus on the actors and their on-stage chemistry with one another and the audience, leaving little room to rave about the costume, lighting, set and props people: those behind-the-scene folks who do much in making live-on-stage magic happen.

Oh there's plenty of magic in Magnus' current production *Miracle on 34th Street*; I'd say because it remains true to the original 1947 gem, first penned by Valentine Davies and, here, adapted for stage by Caleb Marshall and Erin Keating.

But this time, and considering we have a big cast of 10 actors busily appearing and reappearing throughout a flurry of scenes, I've decided to shine a well-deserved spotlight on those whose talent is so clearly visible on stage, while they themselves are not.

Conjuring to an audience a landscape as large as Manhattan, NYC can't be easy; a landscape where behemoth department store rivals Macy's and Gimbels are smack dab in the middle of their Thanksgiving holiday season, and gearing up for Christmas straight ahead.

Set and lighting designers Laura Gardner and Adam Parboosingh easily float us up onto the many floors of



HOLIDAY SPIRIT: Sandy Winsby as Santa and Walter Learning as Kris Kringle in Magnus's Miracle on 34th Street now playing.

Macy's via a bank of glossy elevator doors that "ping" with delightful authenticity when we arrive.

Then, quickly, instead we land in Doris Walker's cozy parlour at home, a place where she and her daughter Susan have some of their heart-to-hearts.

As the story proceeds we're whisked

into in a most formal and formidable courtroom, the judge's bench towering above tables where lawyers are preparing their arguments.

Then to an austere interrogation room, a solitary light bulb above the chair where Kris Kringle sits unapologetically; we notice he's changed his regular red suit for sombre gray. Moments later, with a light "ping" we're back shopping at Macy's, or is it Gimbels this time?

Then back to another session in court. Near the end we realize we're outside in a beautiful snowy neighbourhood gazing at an inviting house with a For Sale sign out front.

Kudos to the crew who so smoothly and fluidly change all these scenes for us. In movie-making there are multiple cameras, cuts and re-takes and edits, to bring the story to life. Here this is entirely live-on-stage: well done! Special mention also to Hanna Laaksonen Korpi; her use and arrangement of props is wonderful.

And now to Mervi Agombar's costumes.

I've often thought how dapper men would look, how glamourous women would be, if fashion were to revert back six or seven decades.

Certainly a big part of this production's charm are the costumes. Even the youngest actors look great. Okay, one costume cannot be attributed to Mervi's fashion instinct and flair:

Kris Kringle's bright red suit with white cuffs, black belt and boots is not one of her creations.

But it's not the actual Santa suit the audience, young and old, is drawn to.

It's the man himself.

A single-out spotlight goes to the actor who convincingly, effortlessly it seems, steps into his role for this production. Walter Learning has what it takes to make us believers, one and all.

Directed by Thom Currie, *Miracle on 34th Street* is on until Dec. 23. Catch some holiday magic.



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Trebek and Jeopardy still chugging along

What gameshow has won a Peabody Award. several Daytime Emmys and will soon be inducted into the National Association of Broadcasters Hall of Fame?

What is Jeopardy!, Alex?

You got it. After 34 years, the gameshow with an exclamation mark in its title still gets 23 million viewers every week. And its host, Alex Trebek, has personally won five Daytime Emmys and a Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences for his role on the show.

Of course, everybody loves Alex

What's not to love? He's handsome but not pretty. He's intelligent but doesn't make us feel stupid. He's only missed one show in his tenure as part of an April Fool's Day switch-up with Wheel of Fortune's Pat Sajak. And he's Canadian.

In fact, Trebek only falls behind

37 Noun-forming

38 Acquire with difficulty

41 Magic word

49 International

44 Russian

objects

39 Portuguese coin 40 Moving target indicator (abbr.)

47 Western alliance

Organization (abbr.)

50 Doughnut-shaped

51 Treasury agents 52 Nat'l Basketball

53 Low caste Hindu

55 Came down with

Assn (abbr)

54 Bone: Gr

(suf.)



Dick Clark and Bob Barker in lists of the most popular game show hosts, beating out the handsome Jeff Probst, the charming Chuck Woolery, or even the flirtatious Richard Dawson.

And that's despite a rather inauspicious moustache that has popped up again and again over the years.

But it's the game show that has me stumped. I'll be the first to admit. Jeopardy! is downright addictive. It's fast moving and tests your knowledge.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

WARP

EC SEW DRAPE

INIAFBIELIS

SAONEATFPCP

AERO

PSST

PROWLING

SRI

NNEHUDSON

GOP

26 Roosts

PALE

27 East Indian grass

29 Belong (3 words) 32 Bachelor of

Metallurgy

36 Actors' Equity

28 Jewish month

SPA

GAUGES

R I O



STILL GOING: Alex Trebek and Jeopardy are seen by 23 million people each week.

Most of the time, the people playing are just regular folk who apparently studied encyclopaedias as children.

(For those of you unfamiliar with the term, "encyclopaedias" were like paper versions of Wikipedia except that the information was always accurate.)

Now, on a good day, most of us could answer twenty to fifty percent of the questions. Of course, we usually parrot the answer or nod as if that's exactly what we were going to say. Oddly enough, we don't feel stupid for the answers we get wrong. Instead, we are strangely pleased when we get one that those genius players missed.

And unlike Wheel of Fortune, in which pure nitwits can lose and still walk away with \$20,000 or NBC's newest gameshow The Wall, which has up to twelve million dollars on the line, Jeopardy! prizes are often comparatively small.

So why is it so popular? Game shows have seen an ebb and flow over the decades. In the '60s, producers

were caught fixing the games for popular contestants to improve viewer ratings. So the U.S. government considered outlawing them altogether.

Then during the '70s and '80s, a rash of new shows popped up covering everything from dating to cards to wordplay. Of course, what people really loved were the growing cash

Ironically, during that same period Canada too joined the gameshow genre with Definition. However, its top prizes included a sheep-skin coat, a refrigerator or a trip to "beautiful downtown Toronto."

But Jeopardy! has stayed true to its course with tough questions and moderate cash prizes. It's one of the few times we know that people on television have really earned their money.

And maybe that's why it's still so

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CROSSWORD PUZZL

ACROSS

- Six (Ital.) Associate in Aeronautical Engineering (abbr.)
- 8 Egg-shaped 12 Basin 13 Rom. public
- games 14 In proper shape
- 15 Bridle part 16 University official
- 17 Isthmus (abbr.) 18 Heckler 20 Selective Service System (abbr.)
- 22 Needlefish 23 Corroded
- 24 Jesus (abbr. 27 Kernel (pref.) 29 Broth (Scot.)
- 30 Roman numeral
- 31 N. Caucasian language 32 Start
- 33 Office of Defense Transportation (abbr.) 34 Posed for a
- portrait 35 Must (Scot.) 36 Alcoholic

- Subject (abbr.) Great Lake Character
- Hung. violinist Girl's name Noted physicist

Anatomical duct 10 Self (pref.) **DOWN** 11 Licentiate in Theology (abbr.)

CAA

SSR

19 Beam

Amer, patriot

IMPI

INVERTED

- 23 Discuss 25 Act of concealing
 - 39 Swiss-French 40 Roman number
 - I007 Printer's direction
 - 42 Pulpit 43 Protective ditch
 - 44 Stock (abbr.) 45 A toilet in England 46 Arrival (abbr.)
 - American Medical Staff (abbr.)

WORD SEARCH

CRKQPJLYCHLRRFM QKOW ENSDYEUS PZADAGESWRS S S V SHRAREANB L R B R HAKTRLERFYSEEEZ ITARODADDTN TTAPMSIKIEAIO TGMA AXTEAMONG V G N I ETIRTOHSPUXQC SRAPSLLEPSSIMEF

Actor Stubbed Adages Erase Lover Swear Adoration Fashion Lurid Syrup Albeit Firearm Misspell Taste Among Gored Nasal Trite Atlas Ultra Baker Heads Priest Upshot Buying Usual Cacao Itchy Rilina Usurp Cases Weans

ENIGMA" CRYPTOGRAM

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TM Enigma cryptograms are created from quotations and proverbs from around the world. Each letter stands for another letter. Hint: "I" = "T

"IEJ ZFWLJ CX PVRIEWVT WA IEJ PSCGVI CX OWXJ RCG JMLEPVTJ XCF

- EJVFR QPBWQ IECFJPG

for the bees." - Marcus Aurelius F222

3

WI."

PREVIOUS SOLUTION: "That which is not good for the bee-hive cannot be good

Sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9.

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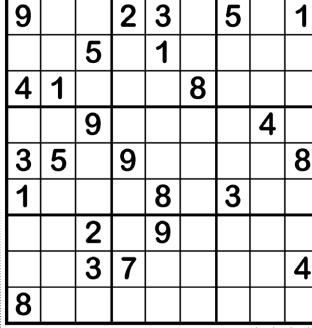
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LIDAY DEADLI

There will be no paper on Thur., Dec. 28, 2017

Deadline for Dec. 21, 2017 Paper RETAIL: Monday, December 18th, NOON

CLASSIFIED: Monday, December 18th, 4:00pm **Deadline for Jan. 4, 2017 Paper** RETAIL: Friday, December 29th, NOON

CLASSIFIED: Friday, December 29th, NOON

HOLIDAY SEASON OFFICE HOURS December 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 2017,

8:30am - 5:00pm December 22nd, 8:30am - Noon

Closed December 25th & 26th, 2017

> December 27th & 28th, 8:30am-5:00pm December 29th, 2016.

8:30am - Noon Closed January 1st, 2018

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year





Sports local sports news | information | coverage

Bortuzzo hitting his stride

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Robert Bortuzzo and the St. Louis Blues are flying high.

The Thunder Bay defenceman, in his fourth season in St. Louis, is enjoying the ride. A true regular, top-six defenceman for the first time in his seven-year National Hockey League stint, the rugged 28-yearold is finding opportunities at both ends of the rink, contributing points at a careerhigh pace and helping clear a path in front of goaltenders Jake Allen and fellow Thunder Bay product Carter Hutton.

It's all about going with the flow, suggested the 6-foot-4 Bortuzzo.

"Training camp went well and I knew what I wanted to do this year. I've done some good things throughout the year to elevate my game," Bortuzzo said. "I've been happy to be in there every night. It's an exciting time around our team right now. Things are going well."

The Blues have vaulted themselves into the Stanley Cup contender mix, their 21-8-2 tying them with Tampa Bay for most points in the NHL.

It's great coming to the rink each day in a winning environment, Bortuzzo said.

"We knew going into the year we were going to be a strong team. But you still have to come in and prove it every night. Different teams have different goals and

ours is obviously the big one. It's an exciting time and exciting to be a part of it.'

Bortuzzo is hoping to bang and bruise his way to the coveted Stanley Cup title, ranking second on the Blues with 63 hits, good for 38th overall in the league and 16th among defencemen.

For best-friend Hutton, a former teammate with the Fort



HOT START: Robert Bortuzzo has a goal and four assists in 28 games with the Blues this season.

Allen want to see in the defensive end.

"It's an

exciting time

around our

team right

now."

ROBERT

BORTUZZO

"He's playing dynamite," Hutton

"We spent a lot of time this summer working hard together, so I see the amount of work he puts in. It's paying dividends here. He's an integral player and a big piece of our team and our locker room."

Normally a stay-at-home defender, he's shown a propensity to pinch in on offense in 2017-18, and while he'll never be mistaken

William North Stars, it's just what he and for Bobby Orr or Paul Coffey, he's happy

to be able to contribute from time to time in the opponent's end, where he's got a goal and four assists this season in 27 appear-

"If you can chip in at any point, it's nice. We've got a big group of mobile defencemen. Not everyone's offensive and not everyone's defensive. There's some things guys do better than others. I'm just trying to play solid defensively and if we can chip in here and there, I'm happy to do

Bortuzzo, in his career, has nine goals and 25 assists in 233 NHL games.

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Streaking North Stars win sixth straight

SIJHL By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Alex Maticic was probably the most motivated player on the ice on Saturday night.

It showed.

The Thunder Bay North Stars forward scored once and added an assist, but saved his best for last, potting the only goal of the shootout to vault his team to a 5-4 come-from-behind triumph over Maticic's former team, the English River Miners (9-12-3).

The victory extended the North Stars (16-7-3) winning streak to six games.

No one was happier to see the shootout goal slip past Miners goalie Michael Lenko than Maticic, a 21-goal scorer with English River in 2015-16 who started the season with the Melville Millionaires of the Saskatchewan Junior Hockey League.

"For me, this is a team that I played for, so obviously it's a little rougher for me to be out there. But trust me, it feels pretty good," the 19-year-old Thunder Bay native said.

"It's the first two games I've played against them in my hometown of Thunder Bay."

With the ice chewed up, Maticic took a bit of a different tack than the other five shooters in the shootout, firing from long-range rather than trying to beat Lenko, who made 50 stops on the night, with his moves.

"Coming in I took an angle and the goalie did a great job covering the net. He took away the short side, which is where I wanted to shoot. He thought I was shooting shelf and he took that away. The five-hole opened up and I took my shot and it went in."

Thunder Bay coach Rob DeGagne said Maticic, who has 11 goals this

season was next on his list to shoot.

"Maticic's good to that one side. But when I was looking on the bench, it didn't look like he had any room to sneak that in there and he snuck it in there. I didn't save him for that particular reason. He was the next guy I thought would give us the best chance to win," DeGagne said.

It took a third-period comeback just to get into position to claim victory.

After the puck bounced off Owen Belisle late in the first to stake the Stars to a 1-0 lead, it was the Miners who took control.

Captain Jared Janke scored his 18th of the season with 27 seconds to go, then defenceman-turned —forward Sam Cirone edged English River in front just 35 seconds into the middle frame. Spencer Milen doubled the lead twoand-a-half minutes later.

Shane McKay got one back at 12:54



GREAT FIND: Alex Maticic has 11 goals and 19 assists in 25 games this season.

of the second, firing a puck from the corner that bounced off Lenko's shoulder and across the goal line. But

Lakehead

the Miners had the answer on the power play, Jacob Siebenga taking advantage of missed clearing opportunities by Alex Leonidas and Avery Siau, beating North Stars goalie Dougie Newhouse for a 4-2 lead.

DeGagne offered words of wisdom at the break.

"I just said there are three kinds of guys – you can make it happen, watch it happen or wonder what the heck happened. I said 'go make it happen' and they did. Our older guys stepped up, it was their time," DeGagne said.

Brendan Gillis completed a tic-tac-toe play to halve the Miners lead 2:37 into the third, then with two opponents in the box, Maticic tied it at 17:42, Ryan Mignault blasting the puck off the end boads where it ricocheted straight to his teammate's waiting stick.

Mignault had earlier in the third rang two pucks off the post.







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18

- 01. City Homes02. Rural Homes
- 03 Mobile Homes
- 04. Lots / Acreage
- 05. Condos For Sale 06. Cottages
- 07. Commercial for Sale
- 08. Investment Property
- 09. Out of Town
- 10. Real Estate Wanted

FOR RENT

- Houses
- 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 corn
- 23 Misc For Sale
- 24. Antiques 25. Music
- 26. Office Equip.
- 27. Machinery 28. Pets & Livestock
- 29. Food
- 30. Misc. Wanted

VEHICLES FOR SALE

- 32. Trucks
- 33. Vans 34. Motorcycles/ATV's
- 35. Campers/Trailers
- 36. Motor Homes
- 37. Marine Equip
- 38. Snowmobiles
- 39. Parts & Repairs

YARD SALES 40. Current River

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

MISCELLANEOUS. NOTICES, TENDERS 45. Auctions 46. Health

- 47 Travel
- 48. Financial
- 49. Lost & Found
- 50. Personal
- 51 Notices 52. Tenders
- **BUSINESS & SERVICES**

53. General Services 54. Home Improvements

- 55. Bus. Opportunities
- 56. Training Courses

EMPLOYMENT

57. Help Wanted

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 63. Coming Events64. Craft & Flea Markets
- 65. Happy Ads
- 66. Cards of Thanks 67. In Memoriam
- 68. Death/Funerals

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50. PERSONAI

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Deadline for Jan. 4, 2017 Paper RETAIL: Friday, December 29th, NOON

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December 22nd, 8:30am - Noon

Closed December 25th & 26th, 2017

8:30am-5:00pm

Closed January 1st, 2018 Merry Christmas



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HOLIDAY SEASON

8:30am - 5:00pm

December 27th & 28th,

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