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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2017

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Canadian Publications Agreement No. 0662445 Vol.14 No.5

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Norskies win on-ice battle with North Stars /20

# Hogarth under fire

Province orders a third-party intervention after issues arise at St. Joseph Care Group's long-term care facility /3



NEEDS HELP: Hogarth-Riverview Manor faced a no-admissions order late last year and has had its authority temporarily taken over by a third-party group in the wake of the latest issues.

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LOCAL NEWS

# Third party takes over Hogarth Riverview site

Issues continue at long-term care facility in 2017

**THUNDER BAY**  
By Matt Vis – TB Source

The day-to-day management of the 543-bed Hogarth Riverview Manor has been turned over to a third party, with the provincial health ministry finding “reasonable grounds to believe that (St. Joseph’s Care Group) cannot properly manage the long-term care home.”

A Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care issued a mandatory management order to St. Joseph’s Care Group in October on the grounds of “ongoing non-compliance with resident care requirements, protecting residents from abuse, not following plans of care and not meeting reporting obligations to the director (of the long-term care inspections branch).”

Tracy Buckler, the president and chief executive officer of St. Joseph’s Care Group, said the organization worked with the ministry to select Extencicare Assist to come in and collaborate with the existing management and staff to make the necessary changes to achieve compliance.

“It came as a bit of a shock, to be honest, but we’re at the point where we can say that we’ll make the best of this,” Buckler said on Friday, adding St. Joseph’s Care Group’s goal is to meet the standards to have the ministry rescind the order within the next year.

“We’re absolutely going to come out of it at the end a better home that’s being operated at a very high level, quality manner. Our residents and families deserve this.”



**HOPEFUL FOR FUTURE:** St. Joseph’s Care Group CEO Tracy Buckler says Hogarth-Riverview Manor will be a better facility when all is said and done.

The expanded Hogarth Riverview Manor opened in January 2016, adding 320 beds to its existing 96-bed facility to bring its licenced capacity to 416 beds. The capacity was further increased to the current 543 this past

May, though there are 64 permanent funded beds that are not filled due to staffing shortages.

Buckler noted the “dramatic” increase in residents over a less than two-year span but said the relocation of 300 beds from the city-operated Dawson Court and Grandview Lodge former homes for the

aged largely necessitated moving quickly to get the facility operational.

“I don’t think we could have extended those timelines. I think there is always opportunity to do things different if you had the chance, to make some more plans, to be able to really get all the education and training, get everything done ahead of time if possible,” Buckler said.

“I’m not sure it was possible and I

think our team did absolutely the best they could with the situation and the circumstance.”

Key areas of non-compliance identified by the ministry through 18 inspections since the January 2016 expansion included reporting matters to the director, following plans of care, ensuring policies of zero tolerance of abuse and neglect to residents was being adhered, developing 24-hour admission care plans and protecting residents from abuse.

One example raised by the ministry was during a three-month period this year, the person who held the responsibilities of St. Joseph’s Care Group’s vice-president seniors’ health and home administrator had no prior long-term care home experience.

As well, of the home’s five clinical managers, only two had been in that role prior to 2017.

“There aren’t enough people out there with long-term care home experience,” Buckler said.

A cease of admissions had been placed on the facility from Nov. 7, 2016 to Jan. 18, 2017 by the ministry.

**“It came as a bit of a shock...”**  
**TRACY BUCKLER**

## Weather Forecast

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Mainly sunny	A few flurries	A mix of sun and clouds	Mainly sunny	Scattered flurries	Mainly sunny
Probability of Precipitation: 30% HIGH -11 LOW -15	Probability of Precipitation: 40% HIGH -5 LOW -13	Probability of Precipitation: 30% HIGH -12 LOW -21	Probability of Precipitation: 40% HIGH -15 LOW -25	Probability of Precipitation: 40% HIGH -21 LOW -27	Probability of Precipitation: 20% HIGH -22 LOW -27

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LOCAL NEWS

# Grace Place shelters more homeless

**THUNDER BAY**  
By Matt Vis - TB Source

For the past 10 years Gary and Melody Macsemchuk have operated Grace Place, a street outreach ministry where they provide food, clothes and assistance to those in need. But they've known there are needs that extend beyond their day-time hours.

In October, Grace Place began a six-month Out of the Cold pilot project, a 10-bed overnight shelter for people who would otherwise be left to fend for themselves on frigid winter nights.

"Being open during the day, we see the need," Gary Macsemchuk said on Thursday.

"We've built relationships with the people that can access the shelter. We knew there was always a need of 10 to 15 individuals in the city that needed

a place to stay and risked dying on the streets when it's -30C outside."

The program, the culmination of three years of planning, is being funded through a combination of federal and provincial dollars - \$74,000 from the Ontario Trillium Foundation and \$58,000 through Ottawa's homelessness partnering strategy.

Bonnie Krysowaty, a social researcher for the Lakehead Social Planning Council, said the new program works collaboratively with existing emergency shelters. In many cases, individuals are brought to Grace Place by Shelter House's SOS program.

"Shelter House and Salvation Army work very closely together to ensure people are housed and that nobody is turned away and nobody is left out in the cold," Krysowaty said. "That

collective impact has enabled Salvation Army and Shelter House to not worry that somebody may die out in the street at night."

Whether it's being banned from the other facilities, legal barriers such as restraining orders, or simply lack of space, Macsemchuk said there are multiple reasons that could keep people out of the shelters.

A point-in-time count of the city's homeless population conducted in 2015 found there were at least 289 people forced to turn to the streets.

With beds almost always filled and overflow space used at both Shelter House and Salvation Army, a similar trend has already developed at Grace Place.

"We're at capacity every night. We could use more beds than 10, for sure," Macsemchuk said. "The need has always been there and the people, before the shelter, would sleep in parkades and stairwells."

Those who need shelter are accepted nightly and go through an in-take process before being provided with a hot supper. When they wake up in the mornings, they are offered breakfast and a bagged lunch.

Those amenities are an example of Grace Place providing more than just a place to stay, Krysowaty

said. "The networking that Gary and Melody have been able to do with those organizations have enabled people to be able to find out this place

exists, get to it through SOS services perhaps and even possibly get connected to services that will help them get (identification), to gain benefits, possibly life skills programming and even solutions to housing and supports that will ensure successful housing for those clients," Krysowaty said.

The money will allow Grace Place to operate the shelter throughout the winter, with a current expected end date of March 31, 2018.

"We imagine this program will remain full until March 31 when funding has ended," Krysowaty said. "Unfortunately, there is no more funding for the 2018-2019 season so we'll really have to work at that. There are some grant applications going in but yes, secure funding for this kind of program would definitely be beneficial for Thunder Bay.



GARY MACSEMCHUK



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## LOCAL NEWS



MATT VIS

STATE OF THE CITY: Thunder Bay mayor Keith Hobbs delivers his annual state of the city address on Monday, Dec. 18

# Mayor delivers state of the city address

Hobbs uses what is expected to be his final state of the city address to reaffirm his belief that he will be cleared of charges by "the court of law"

**CITY COUNCIL**  
By Matt Vis - TB Source

Delivering what is expected to be his final state of the city address, Keith Hobbs reaffirmed his belief that he and his wife will be cleared of criminal charges.

The Thunder Bay mayor, who along with his wife Marisa are facing charges of extortion and obstructing justice, addressed what he called the elephant in the room on Monday night and thanked his wife for her "courage in helping a stranger and her young daughter out of a horrible situation."

"This compassion is something that I believe is needed more in our society. We are paying a huge price for that kind deed but we are stronger for it," Hobbs said as Marisa sat in the gallery of council chambers.

"We have no doubt that the court of law – not the court of public opinion – will clear our name and that the truth will one day wash to shore."

The couple, along with Mary Voss, were each charged by the OPP in July for allegedly attempting to extort high-profile lawyer Sandy Zaitzeff to purchase a house by threatening to bring a criminal complaint forward to police, according to court documents. Both the mayor and his wife are also each facing an obstructing justice charge for allegedly attempting to interfere in the RCMP's extortion investigation.

Zaitzeff is facing numerous charges including multiple sexual offences involving a minor. As well, Thunder Bay Police Service chief J.P. Levesque stood trial on breach of trust and obstructing justice charges for disclosing that Hobbs was under investigation for extortion. The verdict on Levesque's trial is expected in January 2018 and none of the other charges have been proven in court.

Hobbs took a three-month paid leave of absence after the charges were publicly announced before returning to office in September. At a city council meeting in April, Hobbs publicly announced he would not be

seeking a third term as the city's mayor during next year's municipal election.

"I've done the best that I can do in the seven, going on eight years as mayor," Hobbs said in an interview following the meeting. "If it's not enough, people will tell me about it I'm sure and tell everyone about it. I think I did my best and I'm not apologizing to anyone for anything we've done."

During the more than 30-minute speech, Hobbs on multiple occasions became emotional as he teared up and his voice cracked while recounting highlights of his two terms, specifically hosting the 2011 Special Olympics Ontario Winter Games.

"Seeing their faces and feeling the energy at the venues was an experience I will never forget," Hobbs said.

And while he cited many accomplishments, Hobbs acknowledged there are certain areas where more progress is needed.

The mayor identified the ongoing work in renewing the city's relationship with the Indigenous population to bridge racial divides that he acknowledged put the city under the national microscope.

"We have placed a great deal of emphasis on this monumental challenge put before our city," Hobbs said.

"Through the Anti-Racism and Respect Committee, to our response to the Seven Youth Inquest, the work that we do must move our city to a place where all families thrive, regardless of race or status."

Hobbs also issued caution to the next council, which will be seated when the next state of the city address will be delivered by his successor, that hard work and determination will be required.

"Juggling the challenges of a fair budget, along with embracing our role in committing to a new relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people and becoming the city we all want," Hobbs said of what lies ahead. "Those changes will, I'm sure, be challenging but hugely important for our future."

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# Editorial

## EDITORIAL

# Speaking out in 2017

For many, 2017 was a year to forget. But it's also important to remember.

It was the year of speaking up. Locally, the Indigenous voice got louder, Canada's first people making it clear the status quo isn't working.

Culminating with the deaths of two more teens in the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway, coupled with previous investigation efforts, local Aboriginal leadership said enough's enough and pushed for answers from police, which they got in the form of an Office of the Independent Police Review Director review of both the Thunder Bay Police and its police board.

It was a long time coming and anyone expecting the accusations to go away anytime soon is mistaken.

It was also the year of the woman, who spoke out en masse, naming names after putting up with decades of sexual misogyny in the workplace.

The #MeToo campaign has taken down some of Hollywood's elite, and no doubt there are plenty of politicians and entertainment types on both sides of the border wondering if their shoe is the one that drops next.

For decades both groups have had their claims brushed aside.

Hopefully this is a sign that the era of not listening has been reduced to the history books, despite the enabling behaviour of many on both sides of the political spectrum.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, Thunder Bay.

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## Sounds of the season

To the editor:

The 2017 Sounds of the Season hosted by the CBC in Thunder Bay demonstrated it is possible to ensure that every Canadian has access to affordable food.

CBC annually orchestrates hunger mitigation events across the country in support of food banks.

Last year CBC Thunder Bay and the RFDA filled a plane with food and flew it to one remote First Nation Community in Northern Ontario.

In 2016, Sandy Lake was the beneficiary of the efforts of Wasaya Airways, the Gleaners of Southwestern Ontario, producers from the Leamington area, Truckers for Change and a number of local and regional donors.

This year we are piloting what could be a model for collaborative food distribution through the north.

The team includes three commercial air carriers (Wasaya Airways LP, Perimeter Aviation, North Star Air), plus one private company plane from KBM Resources Group; which are teaming up to ship an estimated 35,000 pounds of food to eight communities (Sandy Lake, Kasabonika, Nibinamik, Weagamow, Sachigo, Eabametoong, Neskantaga, Marten Falls).

It is a collaborative effort to deliver food from the most southerly region of Ontario to the remote regions of Northern Ontario.

It is a charitable project to deliver food to those individuals and families that struggle with poverty, living in isolation, where air travel is the primary form of transportation.

The Thunder Bay Airport was the centroid for this year's event; collecting food and donations to assist in this massive undertaking.

The airport came alive with the Sounds of the Season, as planes load, and depart down the runway, destined for remote communities across Northwestern Ontario.

It was a celebration of sorts, as we acknowledge what can be accomplished by targeting our collective resources and passions to serve.

The RFDA is looking forward to long term capacity solutions for: storage, collection, and distribution.

Canada has an abundance of surplus food that goes to waste.

We can re-direct some of this food through a network of charitable and commercial channels, into the hands of hungry Canadians.

There are ample opportunities to build a northern economy by working in partnership with First Nation communities to develop indigenous resources and achieve food sovereignty.

Infrastructure is often the missing link in remote communities to manage larger volumes of purchased or donated food and products.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Dedicated funding is a pre-requisite. The most significant barriers always come down to leadership and our ability to work collaboratively.

Governments at all levels, businesses, and charities belong at the same table.

*Volker Kromm,  
Executive Director  
Regional Food Distribution  
Association*

### PSW shortage hurts

To the editor:

I understand that part of the problem at Hogarth-Riverview Manor is that there are not enough PSW workers.

This also results in people taking up hospital beds as they can't be moved to a home.

They need to make these positions more attractive (increase pay, reasonable work load) so that people will want to become trained and work them.

*Lori Ruberto,  
Thunder Bay  
Via Facebook*

### Province pays less

To the editor:

There's no incentive to go work at Hogarth-Riverview Manor as an RPN.

I'd be taking a \$5-an-hour wage cut. I hear it's pretty unsafe.

They pull nurses from other floors to do meds for residents they don't know. MARS aren't checked.

No thanks. I worked hard for my licence and I plan to keep it.

*Danielle Belanger,  
Thunder Bay  
Via Facebook*

### Kettle shortage solution

To the editor:

Maybe the Salvation Army should modernize and get an interac machine with tap?

I never carry cash, but I'd probably tap them a few bucks. Gotta spend money to make money.

*John Lavalley,  
Thunder Bay  
Via Facebook*

### Students stuck in town

To the editor:

There would have been a lot more Confederation College students from out of town leaving, but they kept apartments and their spots in the residence not knowing if or when the strike would end.

Their apartment rent money or money from residence rent they had no choice but to keep paying for

would not be refunded so rather than lose thousands they were again held hostage and forced to stay.

Then they go back only to have to write midterms. What?

Writing exams on what? How they survived the strike? I guess they won't be failing any students, that would really make the teachers look bad.

Maybe attending college in Manitoba is a better choice.

*Betty Blake,  
Thunder Bay  
Via Facebook*

### Too many studies

Nevermind the locations of the proposed splash pads.

How about the fact that our city council and administration constantly seem to pay top dollar for feasibility studies and then do nothing about the results and recommendations of those studies for so long that instead of spending the money on the topics of those studies we turn around and spend money on more studies?

It seems that our council is addicted to having studies done but not so addicted to doing the work that the studies say needs to be done.

*James Varga,  
Thunder Bay  
Via Facebook*

# Perspective

## Flight before Christmas

A Thunder Bay spin on the classic Christmas tale

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

'Twas the night before Christmas and in Thunder Bay, the heart of the Giant was melting away. Out in the harbour lay Nanibijou, quietly sleeping for a century or two.

The winter snow covering him gently for years was melting and flowing – the drops looked like tears.

Something was happening, it just wasn't right for the Giant to be greening on Christmas night.

He was stirring and trembling, we couldn't believe he was actually shaking the snow from the trees. The heart of the Giant was broken, they say, by the gloom in the region and in Thunder Bay.

He shook, was he shivering, would he soon be awake - was there something to do, some precautions to take? His slumber was troubled, not restful, not deep – he needed compassion and kindness to sleep.

Then, out at the airport there arose such a buzz, I turned on the radio to see what it was.

It was city folks packing up goodies, like elves, for families in the region just like themselves.

Far out in the Boreal Forest

somewhere there were families with children, facing despair. Kind people responded with food and supplies and they loaded their planes and they took to the skies.

And everyone knew as they flew out of sight, there'd be smiles on the faces of children that night. They relied on the kindness of others, it seems, as they clung to their culture, traditions and dreams.

That Christmas Eve we were driving along to a holiday feast with the family throng.

When there in the shadows, alone in the snow, stood a homeless young man about twenty or so.

He asked for a dollar, the absolute least – we gave him the buck, took him home, shared our feast.

He sat at our table, we set him a plate and he ate and he ate and he ate and he ate.

He left after dinner though he still had no home but he felt less abandoned, less sad, less alone.

And later that night in the snow, on the street, he ran into a friend even worse off than he.

He reached in his pocket and found his last buck and he gave it to him and he wished him good luck.

And just as he gave his last dollar away he felt better than ever on any Christmas day.

The planes and their cargo were

lively and quick - some children were scanning the sky for St. Nick. When what to their watery eyes did appear, but a speck in the sky - was it Santa, reindeer?

As the planes were unloaded it was perfectly clear how this great act of kindness made a difference this year.

It brought smiles to the faces of our neighbors in need and the donors and pilots were happy indeed.

Your spirits are lifted, your heart fills with song when you take acts of kindness and pass them along.

All over the region and in Thunder Bay, everyone's heart was embiggened that day.

And out in the bay the snow clung to the trees and the Giant, now drowsy, began to re-freeze.

He'd seen the planes flying, the homeless man's gift - the kindness he saw gave his spirits a lift.

He was comforted, satisfied, we all were too - there was only one thing left for Nanibijou.

As the blanket of snow slowly fell, slowly crept, the Giant was happy, he settled and slept.

'Twas the night before Christmas and in Thunder Bay, the heart of the Giant was guiding our way.

Merry Christmas to all my friends.

### CHEERING ON THE GIVING SPIRIT



**CHRISTMAS CHEER** Percy Sutton, coordinator of food with the Christmas Cheer Fund, prepares donations for the 1,600 holiday hampers that were given out on Tuesday and Wednesday.

DOUG DIMAZIK

## A look back in history: 19th Century Newspaperman

During the isolated winter months of the mid 1870s two handwritten newspapers were started in Thunder Bay, one in Fort William (The Perambulator) and one in Prince Arthur's Landing (the Thunderbolt). They poked good-natured fun at each other, a practice that turned nasty in the decades to come.



THUNDER BAY  
MUSEUM

### HOW TO WRITE US:

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

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

Address them to:  
Thunder Bay Source  
87 North Hill Street,  
Thunder Bay, ON P7A 5V6  
Fax: 345-9923

Email: [ldunick@dougallmedia.com](mailto:ldunick@dougallmedia.com)

Visit our website: [www.tbnewswatch.com](http://www.tbnewswatch.com)

### THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

your  
VOICE

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TOTAL VOTES: 674

YES 86.5%  NO 7.8%  NO OPINION 5.6%

# ONTARIO GOVERNMENT NOTICE NOTICE OF STUDY COMMENCEMENT

## Highway 61 Planning and Preliminary Design Arthur Street to Loch Lomond Road

### THE STUDY

The Ontario **Ministry of Transportation (MTO)** has retained **BT Engineering Inc. (BTE)** to undertake a planning and preliminary design study to determine the appropriate strategy for the future widening for two sections of Highway 61 (Part A and Part B), in the City of Thunder Bay. The Highway 61 Study Area and the two Local Study Areas are shown on the map below.

The Study will consider the needs for the two Local Study Areas, assess alternatives and identify a Preferred Plan for improvements to address the immediate, interim and long-term planning horizons. The Study will consider similar Ministry studies undertaken in the 1990's.

At this time, widening improvements to this portion of Highway 61 are not approved for construction in the 2017-2021 Northern Highways Program.

### THE PROCESS

This study will follow the *Class Environmental Assessment for Provincial Transportation Facilities (2000)* planning process for a Group "B" project, with the opportunity for external agency and public consultation throughout the project. Three (3) Public Information Centres (PICs) will be scheduled during the study. Notices providing the date, time, and location of the PICs will be published in this newspaper and on the project website. Upon completion of this study, a Transportation Environmental Study Report (TESR) will be prepared and made available for a 30-day public review period. The TESR will document the Recommended Plan, the planning process and the identified effects and proposed mitigation measures.

### COMMUNITY CAFÉ

A Community Café will occur in the first few weeks of the study to help define the scope and issues. Persons wishing to participate in the Community Café should contact the BT Engineering Project Manager below to register. The Community Café is scheduled for:

**Date:** Wednesday, January 17, 2018

**Time:** 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

**Location:** Best Western Plus Hotel, Amethyst Room

### COMMENTS

We are interested in hearing any comments that you may have regarding this study. You are encouraged to make your concerns and input known to the Project Team at your earliest opportunity. Early communication of concerns in the study allows the greatest opportunity to address them. If you wish to obtain additional information or provide comments, or wish to be added to the project mailing list, please contact the Consultant Project Manager or MTO Senior Project Manager listed below:

#### Steve Taylor, P.Eng., Project Manager

BT Engineering Inc.  
100 Craig Henry Drive, Suite 201  
Ottawa, ON K2G 5W3  
tel: 613-228-4813  
tol-free: 1-855-228-4813  
fax: 613-280-1305  
e-mail: [steven.taylor@bteng.ca](mailto:steven.taylor@bteng.ca)

#### Rick Inman, Senior Project Manager

Ministry of Transportation  
615 James Street South  
Thunder Bay, ON P7E 6P6  
tel: 807-473-2049  
toll-free: 1-800-465-5034  
fax: 807-473-2168  
e-mail: [rick.inman@ontario.ca](mailto:rick.inman@ontario.ca)

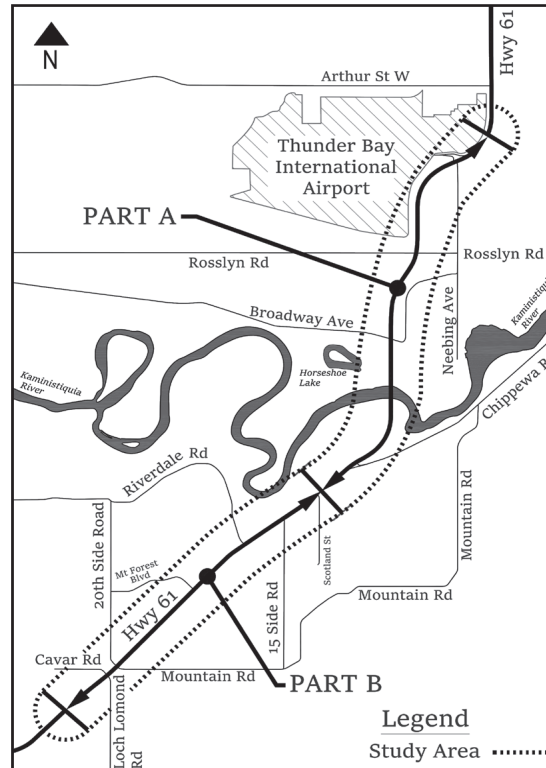
### WEBSITE

A website [www.MTOhighway61.com](http://www.MTOhighway61.com) has been created and will be updated regularly with information regarding the study. The website also provides an additional means for you to communicate your comments and concerns. You are encouraged to keep up-to-date on the project by regularly visiting the website.

### ACCESSIBILITY

If you have any accessibility requirements in order to participate in this project, please contact one of the Project Team members listed above.

Any comments received pertaining to the study will be collected under the *Environmental Assessment Act* and all information will be collected in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (2009)*. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.



**OUT OF THIS WORLD:** Thunder Bay Police Insp. Alan McKenzie holds up fragments collected from a crater where a possible meteorite may have touched down last Wednesday night on Highway 61.

# Possible meteorite strikes Northwest

## SCIENCE

By Doug Dlaczuk - TB Source

**W**hat fell from the sky last week on the city's south side near Highway 61 still remains a mystery, but a geologist at Lakehead University said a lot of the signs do point to a possible meteorite strike.

Stephen Kissin, a geology professor at Lakehead University, has been examining small fragments recovered from the site of what could be a meteorite striking the ground on Highway 61 near Mount Forest Boulevard.

"It is a little problematic because the site was dirty and there were old pieces of asphalt in it as well, and they are all dirty, so it's difficult to tell just by quick looks exactly what's there," Kissin said.

The strike occurred last Wednesday at approximately 11 p.m. during the Geminid Meteor Shower. Residents in the area contacted police after reportedly hearing a loud explosion that shook nearby houses. A small crater was found on the side of the highway by police who were investigating the incident.

Kissin said it is looking hopeful that fragments recovered are in fact from a meteorite, but it cannot be conclusively determined until the fragments are cleaned and examined using an electron microscope.

According to Kissin, meteorites are identified by the internal structure, and not the shape, as many people believe.

"There are three kinds of meteorites," Kissin said. "Iron meteorites, stony meteorites, which this likely is, and the most common kind are chondrites, they have tiny little round structures in them called chondrules."

Kissin compared this possible strike to an airburst that happened over Quebec in June, 1994. The St. Robert Meteorite was seen over Montreal and left behind several large fragments over a seven kilometer area, or ellipse.

If the strike in Thunder Bay was similar, it may have left behind other larger fragments that just haven't been found yet.

"It certainly seems there would be larger fragments, if they made it to earth," Kissin said. "That's another problem. So much of the earth is covered by water anyway, so if they land in water, that's the end of the story. But it was almost certainly larger than what we saw here because of the loud detonation and the shock-waves people reported."

Kissin said it still remains an open question regarding exactly what caused the crater and explosion last Friday based on the samples collected. But he hopes to have more definitive answers in the coming weeks as the samples undergo further testing.



## LOCAL NEWS

# Verdict in Levesque trial expected late next month

The verdict in the trial against Thunder Bay Police chief J.P. Levesque is expected to be read on Jan. 25



**VERDICT EXPECTED:** Thunder Bay Police chief, J.P. Levesque pleaded not guilty to charges of obstruction of justice and breach of trust.

was the focus of an extortion investigation by the RCMP after a complainant came forward alleging Hobbs was attempting to extort attorney, Alexander Zaitzeff, into buying a house for then partner, Mary Voss.

Hobbs, along with his wife, Marisa Hobbs, were charged with extortion and obstruction of justice last July and Mary Voss is also facing a charge of extortion.

During testimony, Thunder Bay deputy chief, Sylvie Hauth and Levesque himself testified that the decision to inform Hobbs of the investigation was to protect Hauth and prevent the situation from leaking to

the public or the media. Levesque described it as a form of risk management, and detailed the difficulties in dealing with Hobbs who he described as “unpredictable” and “verbally volatile.”

Nicol concluded his case by arguing that Levesque’s actions were a clear and overwhelming case of breach of trust, while Gover argued Levesque made no attempt to hide his actions, nor interfere or tamper with any possible investigation into Hobbs.

The verdict in the trial is expected to be read on Thursday, Jan. 25 at 10:00 a.m. in a Thunder Bay courtroom.

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## LOCAL NEWS

# Quicker cardiac care

Heart attack victims will have faster access to cath lab

## HEALTH

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

When it comes to surviving a heart attack, seconds count.

To combat the danger, Superior North EMS paramedics and staff at the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre's cardiac catheterization lab have taken an important step to help fast-track patients facing a possible life-and-death situation, cutting as much as 15 minutes off the time it takes to be seen by a cardiac specialist.

En route to the hospital, paramedics will be able to transmit data from a 12-lead electrocardiogram to the cardiology team, the results of which could spring them into action if the test's ST elevation indicates a heart

attack might be occurring.

This could be the difference between living or dying, said Terri Gurney, manager of the hospital's cardiac catheterization lab.

"From the ambulance, we're going to have this picture relayed to our cardiologist on call. That cardiologist on call is going to review that picture of the 12-lead ECG. He's going to talk to the paramedics ... and this is all while you're en route to the hospital," Gurney said on Wednesday.

"At that point, if they determine that yes, you're having a heart attack, our cardiologist will activate the team, and by the time you get to the hospital we should have that team en route."

Until now, it's been largely a guessing game. Paramedics took about 18 months to complete the training.

Superior North EMS Deputy Chief Andrew Dillon said it takes time to be properly able to put the 12 leads on a patient and then interpret the data produced through the test.

The change isn't as much how

patients are treated when paramedics arrive, but how they're treated moving forward.

"Previously our medics would go in, assess, treat and would still perform this 12-lead (test). They would do their interpretation and would patch through to the hospital, providing that information to the emergency department," Dillon said.

"The problem was there was a lag time at the emerg department in terms of getting the cardiac cath lab prepared or the information to the cath lab ... We needed to figure out a way to get that data transmitted to the cardiologist quicker."

Gurney estimated 900 patients each year get stents to open coronary arteries. About 150 patients need to get to the lab immediately. She cautioned anyone who suspect they might be having a heart attack to ensure they call paramedics first, and not try to get to the hospital on their own.

"Everything's just going to happen so much faster for you," Gurney said.



**LIFE-SAVING TASK:** Paramedic Andrew Cugletta practices the 12-lead electrocardiogram test, the results of which can be transferred from ambulance to hospital en route.

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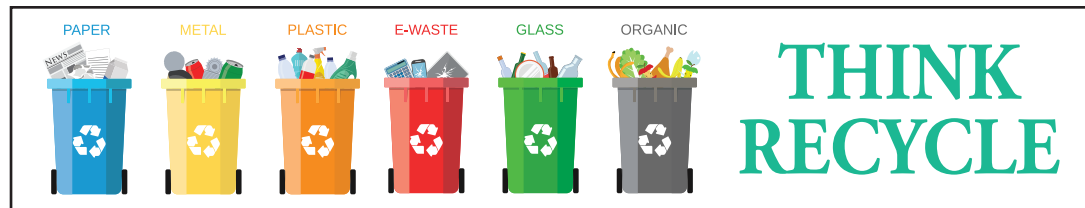
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# LOCAL NEWS



MATT VIS

COMING SOON: Colin Kelly, Confederation College's director of applied research and chair of the school of business, hospitality, and media arts, gives a tour of the construction of the school's TEC Hub.

## Tech hub continues

**THUNDER BAY**  
By Matt Vis – TB Source

The new \$19-million building on Confederation College is on target to be finished during the coming months and to be ready for the start of the next school year.

Construction on the Technology, Education and Collaboration (TEC) Hub, which is connected to the McIntyre Building near the William Street entrance to the campus, has progressed throughout the year to the point where it is now fully enclosed.

Confederation College president Jim Madder said the 45,000-square-foot space will allow the school to enhance its industry skills and sustainability instruction, advanced manufacturing technology and innovation and incubation.

"Everything from working with our First Nations partners of doing introductory levels of skills that could lead to trades in a whole variety of fields, we just don't have the space and the type of equipment to have that occur," Madder said on Friday at a news conference announcing the building's construction status.

"Larger manufacturing, greater diversity in the types of manufacturing programs that we have being able to serve our regional manufacturers. A lot of our work with teaching manufacturing students is to do projects for industry and to do projects with industry. Prototyping for industry itself, doing those initial productions of them just to make sure their ideas will work as well."

The new building will house the college's existing engineering technology programs and allow for the relocation of the aerospace manufacturing program. There will also be space for skilled trades programming, with a particular focus on Indigenous students.

Those programs are in demand not only by students but by prospective employers,

Madder said.

"The number of people coming out of all of our technology (programs) are very well employed very, very quickly," Madder said, adding the new building is designed in a way that it can be adapted and reconfigured in the future.

Funding for the project was first announced in the 2016 provincial budget, with Ontario putting forward a total of \$9 million.

Thunder Bay-Atikokan MPP Bill Mauro said the creation of the TEC Hub will have regional implications.

"We have a shortage of people in those particular areas so the capacity of the college to train more people in some of those areas will be good for the labour force in Northwestern Ontario," Mauro said.

The provincial dollars were subsequently matched by Ottawa and federal Employment Minister Patty Hajdu said enhancing skills training will prepare workers to enter a constantly evolving economy.

"We've all heard about the rapid change in technology and how it's driving an analysis really across many countries about what kinds of skillsets we need. With a TEC Hub like this and a focus on innovation, I think we're well poised to make sure we can adapt as a region as our economies adapt," Hajdu said.

The emphasis on skilled trades is particularly important when there are as many as 120,000 such jobs unfilled across Canada, which particularly affects the mining and forestry sectors in Northwestern Ontario, she added.

"What we need to do is talk about how, first of all, critical those professionals are to our economy and how well-paying those jobs are. These are good, decent jobs," Hajdu said.

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# TB Life

people | health | home | food | leisure

## Cribs cheer up Christmas

### EDUCATION

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

**S**tudents at Superior Collegiate and Vocational Institute joined forces to help make Christmas a little brighter for 70 families.

Together they pitched in and help build 70 hardwood doll cribs, decorating them colorfully with iconic characters like Calvin and Hobbes and Sesame Street's Bert and Ernie or cuddly cartoon depictions of panda bears, sheep and even a fun-loving snake.

The cribs will be turned over to the Christmas Cheer campaign and delivered to youngsters in need around Thunder Bay.

It's a great feeling to be involved, said Grade 11 student Paul Brown.

"I had a lot of fun working on them," said the 17-year-old Brown, who helped cut out the pieces and sanded them down.

"It was a lot of fun and I'm glad that these cribs get to go to kids that don't have a whole lot."

That's what the Christmas season is all about.

"I personally I feel have more than enough, but it's not fair for people who don't have enough. I feel special and honoured to be able to give cribs to people who don't have them," Brown said.

Classmate Matthew Whatley, 16, said it was a pretty cool project.

"A lot of time and effort went into these and I'm very glad I got to be a part of it," Whatley said. "It's just such a nice feeling and experience to be able to build something that goes to a great charity organization such as Christmas Cheer."

"It's nice to see that something that we can do in school that follows what we're learning can be used to give to people who



**SUPER GIFT:** Superior Collegiate students built 70 doll cribs for the Christmas Cheer fund.

need help and who don't have a lot."

The project has been in place for a number of years at the north-side high school, though teacher Rob Dacey says he tries to change up the template each year.

The build took two of his classes approximately a month to complete, with the assistance of two other classes who helped with the finishing touches.

Each crib also comes with a stuffed animal or handmade knitted doll.

"It started off I think I did 20 and it's grown through the years," Dacey said. "It just keeps increasing."

In addition to helping out the less fortunate, it's also a great learning experience for the teens who work on the project, he said.

## Salvation Army kettles falling short

### THUNDER BAY

By Nicole Dixon - TB Source

**W**ith less than two weeks from the end of the campaign, the Salvation Army's Christmas Kettle campaign is falling behind last year's total.

Charity officials on Wednesday announced they have raised \$96,536 in 2017, about \$9,000 less than they had at this point last year.

"The stormy weather last week did have an impact on the campaign with stores closed, fewer shoppers in the open stores and volunteers unable to get to their kettle. We are still confident that we will be able

to achieve our goal but will need the community to continue supporting the campaign," spokeswoman Gail Kromm said in a release.

Kromm added these funds are crucial in order to maintain local programs.

All proceeds raised help with Salvation Army's Christmas needs and ensuring they are able to meet the needs throughout the coming year.

"Demands for our services continue with many people in the city struggling financially," Kromm said.

Donations to the Kettle campaign will be accepted until Dec. 23 at the following locations: Superstore, Intercity Shopping

Centre, Grandview Mall, Walmart-Memorial Ave., Walmart-County Fair, Walmart- Arthur St. Market, and the LCBOs at Arthur St., Thunder Centre, and Dawson Rd. as well as the Kiwanis Tree Lot while they are open.

Beyond donating to The Salvation Army's physical Christmas kettles, donations can be made on-line through the Thunder Bay kettle at: [www.FilltheKettle.com](http://www.FilltheKettle.com).

Credit Card donations can be made by calling the local office at 345-6492 or donations can be mailed to The Salvation Army, 545 Cumberland St. N., Thunder Bay, ON P7A 4S2.

**TB Life**

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<p><b>PRESBYTERIAN</b></p> <p><b>Lakeview Presbyterian Church</b>                  278 Camelot Street                  The Rev. Harold Hunt, Minister  <b>Sunday Worship at 10:00 a.m.</b>                  Sunday School &amp; Nursery Provided  <b>Phone: 345-8823</b> ♿</p>	<p><b>Knox Shuniah United Church</b>                  1 Shuniah Street • 345-5065  <a href="mailto:knoxshun@tbaytel.net">knoxshun@tbaytel.net</a>  <a href="http://knoxshuniahunited.webs.com">http://knoxshuniahunited.webs.com</a>  <b>Sunday, December 24th</b>                  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)  <b>Sunday, December 31st:</b>                  Service @ 10:30 a.m.                  followed by Hospitality                  Minister: Rev. Marlene Britton-Walfall                  Director of Music: Betty E. White                  ♿ Sunday School lovingly provided.</p>
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LEITH DUNICK

**GIANT DONATION: Municipal workers, employees of the Thunder Bay Public Library and Superior North EMS give their United Way donation last Wednesday.**

# City gives United Way \$153K

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

The city’s municipal fundraising campaign has come to the rescue of the United Way of Thunder Bay once again.

City staff, together with Superior North EMS paramedics and workers at the Thunder Bay Public Library on Wednesday revealed they’d collectively gathered \$153,362 for the charitable organization, helping push the United Way past the \$1.5-million mark in its quest to raise \$2.55 million in 2017.

“It’s because of the mission of the United Way and the importance of supporting our community,” said municipal campaign co-chair Kelly Robertson.

“The key three objectives are to help our

kids be the best they can be, to help create possibility out of poverty for individuals living in poverty and to help nurture a strong community here in Thunder Bay. These are very important objectives that our campaign supports and I think that’s what drives our participation in the campaign.”

Though not as large as last year’s give – it fell short by about \$60,000 – the United Way’s Jared Zieroth said it was a huge chunk of money, about six per cent of their overall target and he welcomed it with open arms.

The money will be put to good use, he promised.

“The City of Thunder Bay employees have been with the United Way and supported the United Way for more than 22 years. It’s been this community supporting and upwelling in their community to say this is how they show

that they care for their community,” Zieroth said.

“Over the last 10 years they’ve raised almost \$1.6 million to be able to support this community. It’s a fantastic thing for me to be able to experience as the executive director, to have that level of support from the city.”

Municipal employees gave the largest chunk of change to the campaign, which saw payroll deduction contributions grow, Zieroth said.

Their tally was \$120,823, while paramedics contributed \$29,181 and library staff gave \$3,258.

The campaign closes on Dec. 31. Zieroth said he still expects plenty of corporate campaign donations to be turned over between now and then and remains confident they’ll hit their 2017 target.

## Christmas Tree Recycling

**After the holidays... between Dec 26 & Jan 12, bring your tree to one of the many Christmas tree collection sites.**

Remove all ornaments and remove plastic tree wrap before dropping your tree off at the collection site.

Do **NOT** put trees out for curbside garbage collection.

The chipped trees are added to the compost pile at the City’s landfill site.

In the spring, when the compost is mature, it is provided to residents free of charge to enrich flower gardens and lawns across Thunder Bay.

**Look for the CHRISTMAS TREE DROP-OFF SITE sign.**

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# Snowarama's set

Annual event scheduled for Feb. 10 at Grand Portage

## THUNDER BAY

By Leith Dunick - TB source

For the 15th straight year, riders in Northwestern Ontario will head south of the border in support of Easter Seals Ontario.

Rhonda Harrison, a senior development officer with the organization, said more than 100 people are expected to take part in the 2018 Snowarama event, held on the trails surrounding Minnesota's Grand Portage Lodge and Casino.

"Everyone looks forward to it," Harrison said. "They make a big weekend out of it. It's a lot of fun."

Riders are invited to journey along either the short or long trail and along the way there will be a bonfire, prizes, a dinner and live entertainment featuring the band Tempted Fate.

Frank Vecchio, the marketing manager at the casino, said the event is always exciting for everyone

involved, and of course it's for a great cause.

"It's all for the Easter Seals kids. It's a great event. We had more than 120 riders last year and raised a lot of money," Vecchio said. "We were the No. 1 Snowarama event in all of Ontario."

To help celebrate the 15th anniversary of the Thunder Bay event – it's been taking place for 40 years across Ontario, including Atikokan – the casino is providing bonus prizes to participants. For every \$100 dollar raised, the minimum to join the fun, riders will get a ballot to win one of 16 prizes, including a trip to Las Vegas.

Riders who choose the short course will make their way around trails on the Grand Portage reservation, while riders who choose the long course will venture about 100 kilometres onto the Gun Flint Trail and need a Minnesota trail permit, which costs \$51 and are available at Ryden's Border Store.

Over the course of 15 years the event has raised more than \$400,000.

To participate and register, visit [www.snowarama.org](http://www.snowarama.org).

"Everyone looks forward to it."  
RHONDA HARRISON



LEITH DUNICK

**READY TO RIDE:** Emilie Pike, 7, is this year's Easter Seals Ambassador and on Tuesday, Dec. 12, 2017 helped launch the 2018 Snowarama event with Grand Portage Lodge and Casino marketing manager Frank Vecchio, Grand Portage Trail Association president Tony Slader and Easter Seals Ontario's Rhonda Harrison.

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LEITH DUNICK

**WHEELIE NICE:** Westgate's Colin Grant (left) and John Louks helped refurbish bikes at the school.

# Students restore bikes for charity

Donations will be given to Christmas Cheer

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

One child's worn out bicycle is another child's shiny new Christmas present. That is, with the generous help of a group of Westgate Collegiate and Vocational Institute students, who spent the past few weeks restoring about 80 used bikes, which will be turned over to the Christmas Cheer program and handed out to children who might otherwise go without during the holiday season. Fifteen-year-old Don Teskey said it was great learning experience for everyone involved and a fantastic way to help out others at Christmas.

**"I think we learned to be thankful for what we have, because other kids don't."**  
**DON TESKEY**

"I think we learned to be thankful for what you have, because other kids don't have all the things you have and it's nice to give back to kids who don't have bikes," Teskey said. Classmate Huntir Brinc said it was a lot of work, but worth every second. "We got these bikes off the street and then we cleaned them all up. We fixed

them up for the kids who can't afford bikes for Christmas, just to get kids outside having fun," he said. The project was a partnership with Bikes for Humanity, who donated many of the used bikes to the south-side school.

Others were given to the program from the community. Blaine Hill, chair of technology at the high school, said students have been refurbishing bikes for several years now, first for Bikes for Humanity, an organization that ships bicycles overseas to Africa. From there it evolved to include children's bikes, which they decided to hand out locally.

"The students at Westgate have always bought into this program. When they get to give something back to the community and restore the bikes, they like working on it. There are a lot of technical items they get to repair. They love doing it," Hill said. "And actually some of these students have had Christmases where they didn't get anything under the Christmas tree, so one of these used bikes can really make a difference in somebody's life."

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The students that came out that needed community service hours work so hard gathering and loading the food on the Santa Bus!

Without this support the Santa bus would not have been the success that it was!



Thunder Bay TRANSIT



# The Christmas season on the Farm

Well, the Day is almost here. And this year me and mine have actually been feeling quite Christmassy for some time. I guess the snow “laying round about” had something to do with it. There is an excitement in the air that began to percolate as soon as December arrived.

Part of that ‘excitement’ was authored by daughter, Beth, who announced on December first: “Welcome to the first of Christmas.” She said the same thing about Halloween when October rolled around: “Today is the first of Halloween”. Her enthusiasm is infectious and thus two of my favourite festive events on the calendar, are both sacred and profane all rolled into one.

My wife, Laura, was actually keen to fetch a Christmas tree early in the month. We had driven the trails through the woods on our quad pulling the cart that contained my trusty



**FRED JONES**  
RURAL ROOTS

chainsaw. A previous trail tromp had revealed the windfall damage. It seems of late that every time we walk through our bush we discover more trees blown down across the trails. On one such trail we found a spruce, still quite young with the trunk width at the base only about four inches. It was the very top of the tree, about twelve feet in length, that blocked passage.

I fired up the saw and severed the top and we then drove on to discover a lot more windfall on that particular trail. Most of what we encountered were thin tag alder or very young

poplar that the heavy, wet snow and ice had bent over the trail, preventing passage on horseback. There were a few larger examples of spruce and balsam that had also succumbed. Four hours later, tired, and eager to be comfy back in Casa Jones with a mug of something hot, we came across the top of that severed spruce. Laura asked me to halt so that she could inspect the spruce top, now a potential Tannenbaum.

“Okay, it isn’t very flush and one side barely has any branches at all but that is the side we could put against the wall. Come and take a look,” she said.

“Well, it is the right length. I only have to cut off two or three small branches at the base,” I agreed. So, we hauled it home.

The tree sat outside against the wood pile for a week-and-a-half before I brushed off the snow from its branches

and brought it into the house. Not bad. I thought that I’d have to hold it up with cleverly concealed string but no, it stands erect all by itself.

We decorated over several days dragging the decorations in their bins up from the storage room in the basement. What we discovered was that due to the spindly nature of the tree – almost a proto-Charlie Brown Christmas tree – we needed to use only half of the decorations.

Early in the morning or late at night, I like to turn off all of the lights in the living room but for those on the tree and, with a fire in the fireplace, sit with a mug of something hot to alternately look at the flickering flames making dancing shadows on the ceiling and walls or at the lights of the tree especially as they are reflected off of the ornaments.

The stockings are hung at the fireplace, one for each human inhabitant

and one for Baxter, our pooch. The two cats also get treats on Christmas Day as well but somehow their stockings over the years have gone missing.

Everyone receives treats on the day. When the horses bend down their heads to munch morning grain, they discover included carrot and apple pieces.

There. We are all set for this special occasion. Christmas music has been playing (not Bing or Perry or Nat. I prefer traditional carols sung by a choir with a large pipe organ.) for two weeks now. And the celebration doesn’t end on Boxing Day. After all, there are twelve days of Christmas.

So, I wish you all a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from me and mine that includes people of both human, feline, canine, and equine persuasion. I will talk to you in 2018.

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DOUG DIACZUK

**FANCY FOOTWORK:** Brandon Thibodeau, 13, learns the finer points of breaking a tackle from Ottawa Redbacks defensive lineman, Nigel Romick during a two-hour skills clinic on Saturday.

# Kids learn skills from a Grey Cup champion

Nigel Romick of the Ottawa Redbacks was back in his hometown for a second time to participate in Training with a Pro: Football Edition

**THUNDER BAY**  
By Doug Diaczuk - TB Source

Thunder Bay is known as a hockey town, producing numerous pro-athletes. But another sport is gaining popularity in the city, and young football players were given the opportunity to train with one local athlete who has made it to the big leagues.

Training with a Pro: Football Edition was back for a second year with Canadian Football League player, Nigel Romick, teaching important skills to more than 40 local athletes while also supporting PRO Kids Thunder Bay.

"It's great," said 13-year-old, Brandon Thibodeau. "This is an experience we never get. We finally have someone from Thunder Bay in the pros so it's a great experience."

"He is teaching us how to properly get by a defender and get through the bags properly and just have a good time," Thibodeau added. "Football is getting a lot bigger in Thunder Bay."

It's also a great experience for Romick, who agreed that football is a growing sport in Thunder Bay, with more and more kids hitting the field.

"It's not just hockey or track," he said. "Giving back to the kids for football is good because it opens their eyes that they can make it somewhere. I started playing

football in grade 10 and I'm at the pros right now."

Born and raised in Thunder Bay, Romick started playing football in grade 10 at St. Patrick's High School. After graduating, he went on to play for the Saint Mary's Huskies and was drafted by the Ottawa Redbacks in 2014. Two years later, the Redbacks would win the Grey Cup.

A total of 42 aspiring football players participated in two clinics for kids aged five to nine and 10 to 13. Throughout the day they learned skills like passing, defending, running, and tackling from Romick and members of the Thunder Bay Minor Football Association. And while everyone was having fun out on the field with a pro-athlete, there were some really important lessons to learn, too.

"I like to joke around with them, have fun, and show them how to tackle and keep your head up and chest up," Romick said. "Spinal injuries and head injuries are so common these days that I'm teaching them how to tackle safe. It's good to teach them early."

For 10-year-old, Carter Girardin, trying to avoid a tackle from a Grey Cup winner like Romick, has been an experience he won't soon forget.

"He taught us how to do offensive and defensive drills and we had a little challenge when we got the ball and we played two hand touch," Carter said. "It's very honouring because I realize he grew up in Thunder Bay and now he's out there in the big leagues."

Romick said it has been great seeing so many kids smiling and laughing as they play the sport he loves, with many familiar faces back again for the second year in a row to have more fun on the field.

"It's great feedback," he said. "They've been smiling and having a good time. They said how much they enjoyed it last year and came back this year."

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# IN THE bay

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## Holiday cheer in neighbourhood

**THUNDER BAY**  
By Doug Dlaczuk - TB Source

The holidays are a time for gathering together and this year, the city of Thunder Bay, the Thunder Bay Police Service, and the Indigenous community are using the season to build stronger relationships and stronger communities.

Last Saturday, children in the Blucher/Picton/Windsor and Limbrick neighbourhoods received a special visit from Santa Claus, who handed out gifts, shared in some carols, and served up a holiday feast.

"It fills my heart," said Geraldine Mamakwa, a resident in the Blucher/Picton/Windsor neighbourhood. "Everything is so good in here."

"I like this, the sense of community," she continued. "It's about togetherness. Everybody in the neighbourhood will come together and have a festive season."

The holiday event is one of many steps established through the Friendship Agreement, which was signed last September between North Caribou Lake First Nation, Fort William First Nation, the city of Thunder Bay, and the Thunder Bay Police Service.

Maryellen Thomas, who has been



**A CHEERFUL MEETING:** Kids in the Picton/Blucher/Windsor neighbourhood had the opportunity to meet Santa Claus during a special holiday event last Saturday.

contracted by the city of Thunder Bay for Indigenous relations, said in light of what has been going on in the city in recent years and the strained relationship between the city, police, and the Indigenous community, it's time to start working together to make real change.

"We have to start somewhere, building relationships," she said. "We have to have that engagement. We

have problems, issues, and challenges, but we also have solutions. We can't keep fighting with each other. We have to start somewhere to work toward the solutions."

Members of the Thunder Bay Police were also participating in the holiday event, serving up a traditional holiday feast. Thunder Bay city councillor, Frank Pullia, who is also the child advocate for the city, said the

Friendship Agreement is meant to ensure children and youth feel safe and inclusive when they come to the city.

"What you see today is the neighbourhood coming together with the police, transit, Santa Claus, councillors, Indigenous relations office, and you can see the kids having a great time," he said. "It's just a way to reach out and establish that trust and relationship that may have been missing in the past. We need to move forward in the spirit of collaboration."

Pullia recognizes that it takes time to build a strong and lasting relationship in any community and he said this is just one step in a multi-step process.

"This is just the beginning," he said. "The relationship is ongoing. This is an opportunity because it is Christmas now to have Santa Claus bring some gifts and spend some time together."

And jolly ol' Saint Nick was definitely a hit with all the kids, who crowded around, opened gifts, and sang and smiled to celebrate the season.

"It's really good to see the community to come together, with the police too, and everybody to gather to show that things are really good for the kids," Mamakwa said. "I'm really happy to see this event coming at the Christmas season."

## Margaret Atwood set to speak in Thunder Bay

**LITERATURE**  
By TB Source Staff

Legendary Canadian writer Margaret Atwood is coming to Thunder Bay.

The author of *Alias Grace* is scheduled to host a book signing and speak

about another one of her novels, *The Handmaid's Tale*, starting at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 10 at Chapters.

The 78-year-old author and poet has been awarded the Arthur C. Clarke Award, the Governor General's Award, and is a companion of the Order of Canada.

Atwood is well known for her fiction, including *Surfacing* and *The Edible Woman*, as well as her speculative fiction titles such as *Oryx and Crake* and *The Handmaid's Tale*, which was awarded the 1985 Governor General's Award and has been turned into a TV mini-series on

Bravo. She is also a well-known contributor to Canadian literary theory and wrote about the Canadian identity in her book *Survival: A Thematic Guide to Canadian Literature*.

Atwood will sign up to two books per person during the event.

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IN THE bay

# Creative job titles in reality and on TV



nobody knew what she actually did. Years later, she reconnected with that fame-fueled man and followed him to a big white house where she got an office. But again, nobody really knew what it was she did for her \$180,000 per year paycheque.

Then one day, Omarosa Manigault-Newman was fired. Or quit, depending on who's telling the story. And reporters discussed it for days. But they still didn't really know what she did.

Most of us who work have a job title of some kind. Of course, political correctness has changed some of them over the years. Janitors became Custodial Engineers. Airline Stewardess became Flight Attendant. Bartender became Mixologist.

Historically, Town Crier is probably the most insulting until you realize

what the job actually entailed before the onslaught of Twitter.

Furthermore, changes in technology and industry have created new jobs altogether with modern titles that many of us are still learning. Digital Marketing Managers and Social Media Analysts were created as people turned to technology-based interactions. But it's a slow learning curve and many titles still require explanation.

A popular question of the 90's surrounded *Friends* character, Chandler Bing, and what he did for a living. I watched for ten years and never totally figured it out. But according to Wikipedia, he was an IT Procurements Manager, specializing in statistical analysis and

data reconfiguration. I still don't know what that is.

Of course, the entertainment industry is bursting with bizarre job titles. Movie credits read like a second language. You'll find names like: grip, dolly grip and key grip; gaffer; foley artist; best boy; child, animal and python wranglers (yes it's real, no it's not snakes); and fixer.

Meanwhile, television puts those titles front and centre. A recent episode of *The View* featured a Lifestyle Expert. It sounds like someone who specializes in breathing.

And some people on television are creating job titles to suit their ego. Recent seasons of *The Bachelor* and

*Bachelorette* featured individuals who listed their jobs as Twins, Erectile Dysfunction Specialist, Manscaper, Hipster, and Canadian. (Apparently, it takes a lot of work to be this polite.)

Other shows merrily use whatever job title the person being interviewed wants. A recent search dug up a Pornography Historian, Smarties Expert, Penguinologist, Paperfolder, Bread Scientist and Cheese Authority.

So I guess it's no surprise that nobody in the media fully understood what a reality-show personality like Omarosa did at a White House run by another reality-show personality. Officially, the role of Communications Director for the Office of Public Liaison was created specifically for her.

Or at least, the job title was.

**"Of course, the entertainment industry is bursting with bizarre job titles."**

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

### ACROSS

- 1 African antelopes
- 5 Information collection
- 8 Keg
- 12 Equal (pref.)
- 13 Conveyance
- 14 Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering (abbr.)
- 15 Musical composition
- 17 Construction bar type
- 18 Doctor of Social Science (abbr.)
- 19 Large pill for an animal
- 21 Electromotive force (abbr.)
- 22 Dull color
- 23 Family relatives
- 25 Anesthetic
- 28 Legislator
- 31 Make a mistake
- 32 Twice
- 33 "Last Days of Pompeii" character
- 34 Upon (3 words)
- 36 Burning desire
- 37 S.A. rodent
- 38 Minutes (abbr.)

- 39 Shooting match (Fr.)
- 41 Negative ion
- 43 Hindu sage
- 46 Waterless
- 48 Marsh plants
- 50 Bridge (Fr.)
- 51 Comparative ending
- 52 Highlander
- 53 Egypt. cross
- 54 \_\_\_ Rogers, cowboy
- 55 Cloud (pref.)

### DOWN

- 1 Gallons per capita per day (abbr.)
- 2 Temple
- 3 Vases
- 4 Thus (Lat.)
- 5 Foremost segment of an insect
- 6 National (abbr.)
- 7 Wakens
- 8 Chicago Board of Trade (abbr.)
- 9 Salamander wool
- 10 Harness together
- 11 Cut
- 16 Ivory (Lat.)
- 20 Commit an offense
- 22 Robinson Crusoe's author
- 24 Child (Scot.)
- 25 Individuality
- 26 Measure of weight
- 27 Toddy (2 words)
- 28 Wife of Thor
- 29 Or nearest offer (abbr.)
- 30 Kidney (pref.)
- 32 Tavern guard
- 35 Professional Golfers' Association (abbr.)
- 36 Contraction
- 38 Dusty (Scot.)
- 39 Mulberry bark
- 40 Golf club
- 42 Daughter of Asclepius
- 43 Seed of cereal
- 44 Unappetizing food
- 45 Isthmus (abbr.)
- 47 Doctor of Theology (abbr.)
- 49 Army service number (abbr.)

### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



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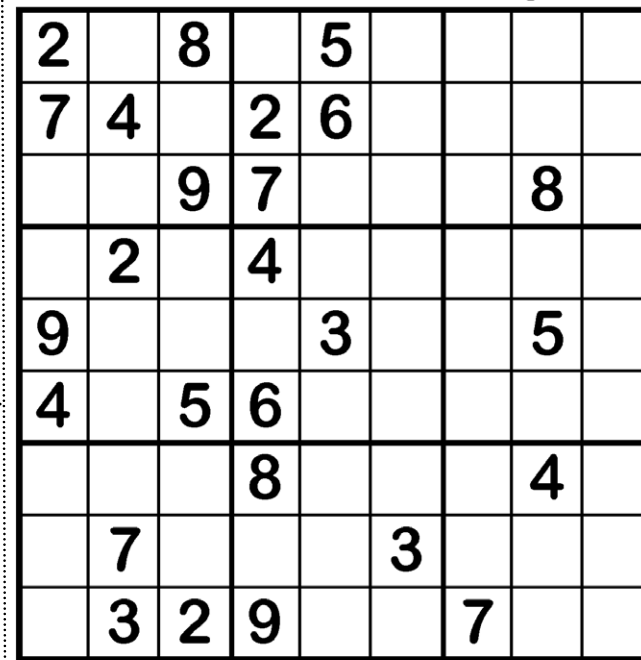
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Best Wishes for a Happy New Year.

## Sudoku

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



# Sports

local sports news | information | coverage

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Debbie Majjala Chair-ity Spokesperson

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THROWING PUNCHES: Thunder Bay's Owen Bellsle (left) duked it out with Thief River Falls' Alec Severson last Saturday night.

## Norskies sweep Stars

Parker Simonson scores twice in 6-3 triumph Saturday

SIJHL

By Leith Dunlick – TB Source

The bounces just didn't go the way of the Thunder Bay North Stars.

The Thief River Falls Norskies, on the other hand, proved sometimes it pays to be both lucky and good.

Parker Simonson buried his second of the game late in the second to give the Norskies the lead for good, though not everyone thought the quick shot made it under the cross back and across the line.

Whether it did or not really doesn't matter.

The Norskies (28-1-0) were awarded the goal, took back the momentum and cruised to a 6-3 win, their 10th straight and 28th in 29 games this season.

North Stars coach Rob DeGagne was in the no column, but wasn't faulting the on-ice officials.

"We we're playing with them, we were coming on and it was 2-2 and they got a goal that didn't go in. We watched it on television and it didn't go in. Mistakes are made. Maybe we lost our composure a little bit and we can't. We're a young team and we lost our composure and it cost us," DeGagne said.

The goal came at the 14:35 mark of the middle stanza. Within four minutes they'd added two more, Blair Lindholm beating Dougie Newhouse for his 10th of the season, Alec Darnam connecting for a short-handed tally that extended Thief River Falls' lead to 5-2 through 40 minutes.

"They got a lucky one," said North Stars captain Joe Newhouse. "We were sloppy and they capitalized on their chances. That's what good teams do."

The two teams traded goals twice early in the contest. Connor Bowey got things started with a power play goal just 76 seconds after the opening face-off, Brad Thrower in the box for an early trip.

He'd make up for it six minutes later, a quick wrist shot fooling Thief River Falls goalie Bailey Schmitzg. Simonson, the leading goal-scorer in the Superior International Junior Hockey League, potted his 26th of the season in a scramble in front of Dougie Newhouse. But Evan Maticic lifted the North Stars into a 2-2 tie

early in the second, firing a shot through traffic that found the back of the net.

Things got a little rough in the middle frame, Thunder Bay's Owen Bellsle and Thief River Falls' Alec Severson both tossed for a fight.

The North Stars (16-9-3) also lost Avery Siau late in the second, handed a misconduct, game misconduct and a gross misconduct for something DeGagne maintains a frustrated Siau didn't say after emerging from the penalty box following Simonson's go-ahead goal.

"There was someone from the crowd who yelled the referee's name and they kicked the player out because they thought it was the player that yelled at the referee."

In fact it was team co-owner Kris Kellaway who made the offending comment. Siau could be subject to a three-game suspension if the penalties stand.

Thrower, who failed to connect on a 2-on-0 break with Ryan Mignault, scored a late power play goal in the third, his 16th, but Cody Aarvig added an empty netter to round out the scoring.

The Stars wrap up their pre-Christmas schedule on Dec. 20 in Dryden and next play at home on Jan. 10.

**"We're a young team and we lost our composure and it cost us."**  
ROB DEGAGNE

sports NEWS

# Ballot might clear up a bit

**OPINION**  
By Leith Dunick – TB Source

It's early, but it's starting to look like a crowded Baseball Hall of Fame ballot might get thinned out a bit this time around.

With about 10 per cent of the vote revealed, thanks to Ryan Thibodaux's annual ballot tracker, a few things are becoming abundantly clear.

Power-hitting first baseman Jim Thome and Atlanta Braves third baseman Chipper Jones appear to be locks to gain entry to Cooperstown on their first try. Both have earned more than 90 per cent of the known ballots and are well on their way to enshrinement.

Holdover candidate Vladimir Guerrero, one of the last Montreal Expos player with a real shot at getting into the hall of fame, has 91.5 per cent of the vote in his second attempt to pass the 75 per cent standard needed for election, and he too looks like a good bet to get in.

That should mean at least five players will be inducted in 2018, with former Detroit Tigers greats Jack Morris, who also played for the Toronto Blue Jays, and well-deserving shortstop Allan Trammell getting the nod from the hall of fame's veteran's committee.

Not going to lie, I thought Trammell was robbed by the writers in his first go-around and am really happy he's getting a plaque.

Now here's where things get interesting.

As of last Thursday night, two other players were trending over 80 per cent of the vote. Reliever Trevor Hoffman, who missed by a handful of votes in 2017, has 81.6 per cent favourability rating, while ex-Seattle designated hitter and two-time batting champion Edgar Martinez is a tad higher at 83.7 per cent. Hoffman actually gained votes on private ballots last year, a good sign for the one-time all-time saves leader.

Add in the possibility of Mike Mussina finally nudging his way in – he's at 75.5 per cent and climbing – and there's a chance next year's class hits



**SUPPORT:** Hall of famer Pedro Martinez (left) could be joined by former Expos teammate Vladimir Guerrero in 2018.

eight players, while removing six names from the ballot all at once.

That's really good news for someone like Curt Schilling, whose post-career conservatism hasn't exactly endeared the World Series hero to voters' hearts.

At 69.4 per cent, he's got an outside shot at a 2018 election, but would likely be a shoe-in next year when Mariano Rivera, Todd Helton and the late Roy Halladay are likeliest to garner heavy vote totals.

It's also good news for the steroid-suspected duo of Barry Bonds and Roger Clemens, both of whom are above 70 per cent after 49 ballots were made public, but both of whom also tend to lose check marks from voters who don't reveal the names they

chose.

Last year Bonds and Clemens dropped about 10 percentage points on private ballots after getting about 63 per cent of the public vote.

A large class also frees up votes next year for a holdover like Larry Walker, who has two more years of eligibility left and has nearly doubled his support from a year ago to 40.8 per cent.

The same can be said for 2017 first-timers Omar Vizquel, Andruw Jones and Scott Rolen, though it likely won't help Johnny Damon and former Minnesota Twins hurler Johan Santana, who look likely to drop off the ballot with less than five per cent of the vote this time around. Neither player has picked up a single vote yet.

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07. Commercial for Sale  
08. Investment Property  
09. Out of Town  
10. Real Estate Wanted
- FOR RENT**  
11. 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 corner  
23. Misc. For Sale  
24. Antiques  
25. Music  
26. Office Equip.  
27. Machinery  
28. Pets & Livestock  
29. Food  
30. Misc. Wanted
- VEHICLES FOR SALE**  
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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
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63. Coming Events  
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66. Cards of Thanks  
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**73. INFORMATION**

**HOLIDAY DEADLINE**  
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*  
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## ANSWERS TO THIS WEEK'S PUZZLES

G	N	U	S		A	N	A		C	A	S	K		2	6	8	3	5	9	4	7	1		X	S	E	G	D	U	N	K	N	V	F	S	B	X	S		
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**73. INFORMATION**

**Weekday Mornings with Kaile & Dee**

**73. INFORMATION**

**LOCAL TB LIFE IN THE BAY SPORTS**

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**74. GIFT IDEAS**

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MTHS



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**5.99% O.A.C.**  
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MTHS



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MTHS



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MTHS



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MTHS



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MTHS

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**2014 KIA FORTE KOUP EX**  
full power package, power sunroof, remote starter package, only 32,528km, stk K8002A

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**2015 JEEP PATRIOT HIGH ALTITUDE 4X4**  
4cyl, auto, air, cruise, tilt, pw, pdl, heated p/seat, leather, cd/mp3, bluetooth, sat radio, alloys, tint, sun roof, remote entry/start, 47,427km, stk PC8545

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full power package, bluetooth & heated seats, Dynamax All Wheel Drive, only 70,037km, stk PC8436A

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workhouse, 6.2L V8, ready to tow your load, only 51,363km, stk PC8484A

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**2011 FORD F150 XTR SUPERCREW 4X4**  
full power package with 3.5L Turbo, power folding side mirrors, tons of add ons, only 133,437km, stk PC8477A

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