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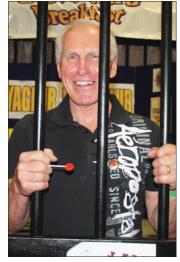
Printed in Canada Volume 122 Number 50

email: info@fortfrances.com

ISSN 0834-6283 PAP No. 07429



INSIDE



'Felons' wanted for fundraiser

Ever want to put someone you know behind bars and raise money for a good cause at the same time?

The Fort Frances Voyageur Lions are giving you that chance with its annual "Bail or Jail" fundraiser on Saturday, April 28

See story on A6



Gallery has new member

Kelly Big George is the newest artist at the Fine Line Art Gallery.

While she's always had an interest in drawing, the Barwick resident only really started working with paint and other media recently but quickly has grown into an accomplished artist.

See story on A12



Tough season for Lakers

It was a tough season for the Fort Frances Lakers-and made even harder with a tough series loss to the Dryden GM Ice Dogs in the SIJHL semi-finals.

See story on B2

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Plans in works for 'Pride Week' here

By Duane Hicks Staff writer dhicks@fortfrances.com

Fort Frances will join other communities in the region, and across Canada, in having its own "Pride Week" this summer.

Borderland Pride has asked council to formally declare the Week" in the Town of Fort

land Pride has been engaging with the community through roundtables, networking events, and social media to identify specific needs for Fort Frances and the surrounding area, cochair Doug Judson wrote in a letter to council.

"We have received significant week of July 9-15 as "Pride support and encouragement from area residents, businesses, and public-sector organizations

with a view to installing it as a new annual celebration for the region," he noted.

"This has been a task that we have been proud to take on, and we will soon be in a position to unveil the programming for Borderland's first-ever 'Pride Week,'" Judson added.

he pledged.

Celebration plans on July 14 include a flag-raising at the Civic Centre, a pedestrian "Pride" parade, and events at the new Rainy Lake Square here, which already has been reserved for this occasion.

Judson said the primary goal "The event line-up we are of "Pride Week" is to showcase preparing will be inclusive, suit- the community as a welcom-

Since last summer, Border- to hold a 'Pride Week' celebra- able for all ages, and open to ing, inclusive environment for all members of the community," LGBTQ2 young people, diverse families, and other individuals from equity-seeking groups.

"This is an important objective for any small community undergoing demographic and economic transition like we are seeing in Fort Frances and the Rainy River District," he stressed.

> Please see "Plans," A7

Kenora resident seeking NDP nod

By Duane Hicks Staff writer dhicks@fortfrances.com

Kenora correctional officer Glen Archer put his name forward to vie for the NDP nomination in Kenora-Rainy River riding.

Archer, who filed his nomination papers in mid-February, was approved last week by the party's executive to run.

Now he's making his name known across the riding.

"I've always had an interest in politics and the last several years, I was an executive board member for [the] Ontario Public Sector Employees Union and travelling all throughout our region and working very closely with [current NDP MPP] Sarah Campbell on some issues here," Archer told the Times.

'Our union and the NDP are very closely allied on things like Ontario Hydro, keeping our roads safe, and the lack of [road] servicing we're getting with the private contractor," he

"It's a very good fit that way. "I would never, ever had thought to step up against Sarah or, before that, Howard Hampton," Archer added. "But with Sarah announcing back in the fall that she would not be seeking re-election, I thought, 'Well, this is perfect. It's not going to be an infighting thing, it's not going to be setting up camps

politically or anything like that.' "I just thought the timing was perfect," he reiterated.

Archer also received a call from an NDP organizer asking him if he would run.

"I thought, 'You know what? If you've got the party asking for you, as well, the timing is right," he reasoned.

It's not known if any other candidates are seeking the NDP nomination in Kenora-Rainy River for the upcoming provincial election in June.

Local resident Matt Soprovich had announced his intention to seek the nod several weeks ago but revealed yesterday he was disqualified by the party brass in Toronto, citing "historical content on [his] personal social media feeds.'

> Please see "Kenora," A7



'Magic of Motown'

ing the "Magic of Motown," Dancemakers School of page A5.

Angelina Spuzak, left, Cara Eluik, and Paige Happy Dance's annual spring dance recital. Friends and famiwere among the students who performed the Jackson lies packed the theatre for the roughly 90-minute show Five's "I Want You Back" last Thursday evening durthat featured 26 numbers in all. See more photos on -Duane Hicks photo



'A Netflix Night'

"Rio" movie theme during the Border page B1.

Mackinnley McCormick, Marley Wrolstad, Skating Club's annual ice show, this year Mya McFarling, Emma Rea Pattison, and entitled "A Netflix Night," held Saturday Bria McFarling were all birds of a feather night and again Sunday afternoon at the while holding hands in performing to the Ice For Kids Arena. See more photos on -Jamie Mountain photo

Railway taxes up

By Duane Hicks Staff writer dhicks@fortfrances.com

The town will be getting more money from railway rightof-way property taxation this year—and will be asking the province to get an even higher rate if possible.

In a report from town treasurer Laurie Lindberg that council received at its regular meeting Monday night, she said the province announced March 28 that it will further reduce rate inequities by increasing the lowest property tax rates on mainline railway rights-of-way to a minimum of \$110 per acre for 2018.

This will equal about \$11,300 in railway taxes for

In 2016, the municipal rate was \$35 per acre (equal to \$3,600 in railway taxes) but it was increased to \$80 per acre for 2017, which bumped up the amount to more than \$8,200.

> Please see "Railway," A7





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