

UPSIDE DOWN UNDER

LETTER

Shopping at The Bay

BY MARVIN BAKER

If you live along the northern tier of North Dakota, there's a pretty good chance you have visited Winnipeg sometime in your life. If you live in northeastern North Dakota, there's a pretty good chance you have shopped at The Bay.

Called "The Bay" for a number of years to be more modern, it's actually the Hudson's Bay Company, which has been in business in North America for 355 years.

It was recently announced that The Bay, for many years the most prominent department store in Canada, is liquidating its merchandise and is closing.

In a written statement from The Bay leadership, it states, "After 355 years, it's time to say goodbye. To our valued customers - thank you. As we prepare to close our doors and shut down (thebay.com), we want to take a moment to express our heartfelt gratitude for your support and loyalty over the years. It has been our pleasure to serve you, and we are truly thankful for the trust placed in us. Select stores remain open as we continue running the closing sale. Visit your nearest location to shop while supplies last."

The nearest locations to North Dakota are at 1225 St. Mary's Road in Winnipeg and 201 1st Ave. S in Saskatoon.

Numerous department stores like Sears, Herbergers, Montgomery Ward and Daytons have all closed citing e-commerce as the greatest factor. But why is The Bay different?

It is the oldest corporation in North America, founded on May 2, 1670 in London. The company was granted a right of sole trade and commerce over an expansive area of land known as Rupert's Land, which comprised much of the Hudson Bay drainage basin.

The company had a commercial monopoly and functioned as a de facto government in Rupert's Land until it relinquished control to Canada in 1869, just two years after Canada was formally organized.

Two-thirds of what would become North Dakota was also part of Rupert's Land. The rest was part of the Louisiana Purchase. So, for 148 years until the 49th Parallel was established in 1818, much of North Dakota was in Rupert's Land and had the Hudson's Bay Company as a major retail business.

But things began to shift in the late 1700s. After Pembina was established in 1797, a fur trading operation called the Northwest Company established a fort at the confluence of the Pembina and Red rivers. The Hudson's Bay Company then set up trading posts at Pembina and at present-day Grand Forks, since the entirety of the Red River Valley was good for fur trading.

That territory extended west to include the Souris and Des Lacs River basins. And although no trading posts were established west of Pembina, numerous fur trappers from the Hudson's Bay Company were located throughout the area of Rupert's Land that would become northwestern North Dakota.

Rupert's Land also extended from Minnesota's Lake of the Woods to the west and into northeastern Montana.

So The Bay has been more than a department store for a very long time. The liquidation started in April and will continue until all of the stores are sold off.

After the fur trade turned to a department store focus, the first Hudson's Bay Company department store opened in 1926 in the same building that many of us have shopped in Winnipeg. That seven-story store is now closed and is now an historic site, and two remaining stores in the Polo Park Shopping Center and the St. Vital Centre are closing at the end of June.

Thus, the longest-running business in North America, that is intertwined with the history of North Dakota in more ways than one, was thought to be ending its reign. But Canadian Tire recently purchased the intellectual property rights of HBC for \$30 million, meaning many products will continue to be available long after The Bay closes all its stores.

Marvin Baker is a news writer for the Kenmare News and formerly Foster County Independent.



Retired Master Sergeant Jim Haugen standing by his picture at the Chieftain's wall of honor. Courtesy photo.

Chieftain gives thank you to veterans with "wall of honor"

The "wall of honor" for veterans at the Chieftain Conference Center is continuing to grow. Today I had the pleasure of meeting Jim Haugen, a local Carrington resident, who was showing the wall to his wife. Jim, who retired from the Army as a Master Sergeant, served in Afghanistan and Iraq during his service. His patriotism and dedication to our country showed as he pointed out at least four

other family veterans whose pictures are on the wall. If you look closely, you can see Jim's military picture when he was 17 years old (above his head to the right). Thanks to Master Sgt. Haugen and others like him who served our country with honor, we have the freedom to dine at the Chieftain and admire its veterans wall of honor ... as well as enjoy many other aspects of our lives. If you see any

of these men/women in town, I hope you will make it a point to thank them. Also, thanks to the staff at the Chieftain for creating this special wall for our community to enjoy. If you have a picture of a local veteran to add to the wall, please send it to chief@daktel.com.

Judy Keller, Secretary, American Legion Auxiliary Unit 25

GUEST

Father's Day: Why I still sleep with my window fans

BY TOM PURCELL

I fell asleep every summer night to the wobbling sound of a window fan - and I still do.



I grew up in a modest two-story home typical of the 1960s and 1970s - red brick on the bottom, white aluminum siding on the top. There were four bedrooms upstairs and a master bedroom downstairs (my parents' bedroom, which they added onto the back of our house in 1972).

Only one house in our neighborhood had air conditioning back then. It was locked up tighter than Fort Knox.

As I explain in my book "Misadventures of a 1970s Childhood," most houses were wide open all summer. This allowed the outside sounds to come in and the inside sounds to go out.

And no sound was more prevalent in the evening than the wobbling hum of window fans sitting on window ledges throughout the neighborhood.

My father was a master at driving the hot, stale air from our house. He installed an industrial fan in the upstairs hallway that sucked the cool evening air into our bedrooms and pushed the hot air upward through a roof vent.

It took him years to perfect his method, but by closing some windows and doors and adjusting others to varying degrees of openness - and by placing some window fans to bring cool air in and others to push hot air out - he tuned our house like a fine violin. He could drive down the temperature by 15 degrees or more in a matter of minutes.

I remember coming home on summer nights when I was in college. I'd open the front door and be greeted by a burst of cool air. Sometimes my father would be in the kitchen, leaning on the countertop with

his elbows as he ate his favorite snack - peanut butter crackers and ice-cold milk.

He'd hand me the peanut-butter-coated knife and I'd smear a couple of crackers. As we chomped away, we'd mumble through a conversation about college or the Pittsburgh Pirates or a variety of other topics sons discussed with their dads in the kitchen on such nights.

Other times, my father and mother would be lying in bed in the back room, the lights off, the television flickering as Johnny Carson delivered his monologue, the window fan humming. We'd chat for a spell before I headed up to bed.

A few years ago, I installed an industrial fan in my hallway ceiling. I bought a couple of window fans - one that blows hot summer air outside and another that pulls in the cool evening air.

The fans remind me of the constant presence of my father, who spent years tweaking and perfecting our house to make

life better for his kids.

He was an old-school dad. He lacked skill at articulating his love with words, but he was a master at showing it through endless actions.

We lost my dad three years ago, but his presence is strong in us still. He gave us order where chaos and emptiness would have been. His love permeated every nook and cranny of our home and our lives. It guides us still.

That's why I shut off the air conditioning most summer nights and run my fans instead. Their wobbling hum fills me with peacefulness and calm - and reminds me how blessed I was to have such a dad.

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See Tom Purcell's syndicated column, humor books and funny videos featuring his dog, Thurber, at TomPurcell.com. Email him at Tom@TomPurcell.com.

- Weekly Crossword -

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Type of bread
- 5. Range of mountains
- 10. Ended
- 12. Musical forms with a recurring theme
- 14. On the nature of being
- 16. Law enforcement agency
- 18. Australian flightless bird
- 19. Subway rodent
- 20. More dried-up
- 22. A beaver might build one
- 23. Suggestive of the supernatural
- 25. Art __, around 1920
- 26. American rocker Snider
- 27. Not or
- 28. Earliest human: __-Magnon Man
- 30. Firearm
- 31. Tough outer skin of fruit
- 33. Alternative form of a gene
- 35. Low shrub some call "fat pork"

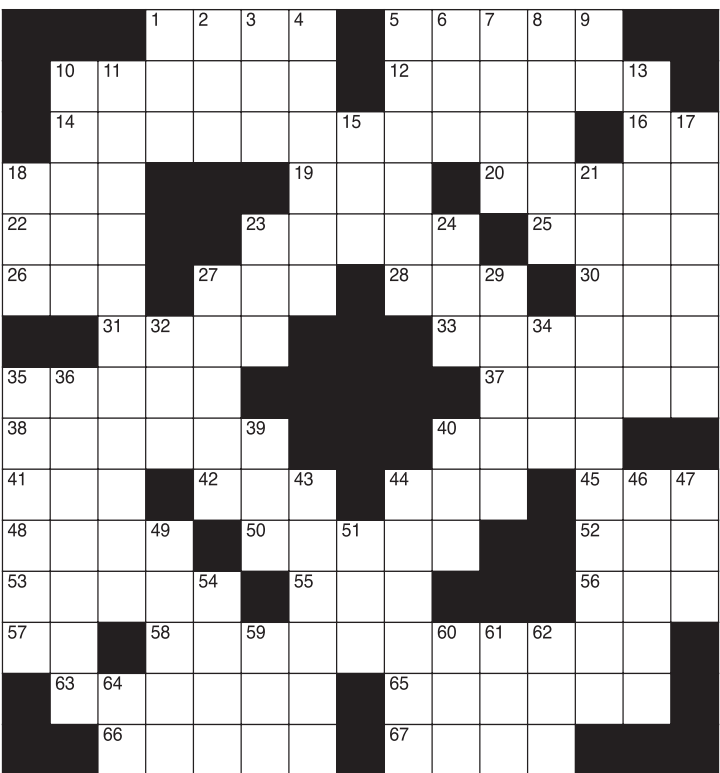
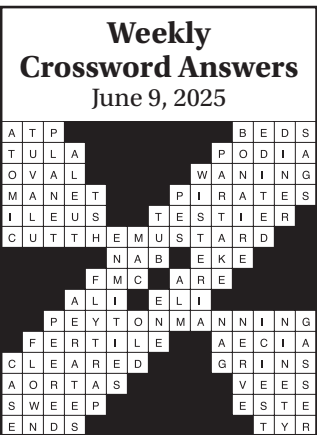
- 37. Plants in the chamo-mile tribe
- 38. Revolutionary War era spy
- 40. Portion of a book
- 41. Hoover's office
- 42. Title of respect
- 44. Tax collector
- 45. Cool!
- 48. Real estate
- 50. Boy's name
- 52. Airborne (abbr.)
- 53. Strongly recommends
- 55. Hit lightly
- 56. Bar bill
- 57. Atomic #54
- 58. Devotes again
- 63. Fish sauce
- 65. French stock market
- 66. Things that consist of two elements or parts
- 67. Tense

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Retired game show host Sajak
- 2. Equal (prefix)
- 3. Israeli city __ Aviv
- 4. Loved
- 5. A type of analyst

- 6. Ad __
- 7. Gasteyer and de Armas are two
- 8. Ran without moving
- 9. Opposite of yes
- 10. Diffuse clouds of gas
- 11. Mentioning one by one
- 13. Instruments used to dilate
- 15. Freshwater fish
- 17. Remotely-manned flying objects
- 18. Doctor of Education
- 21. Renewes
- 23. Not the start
- 24. Pitching stat
- 27. Small water buffaloes
- 29. Ceramic jars
- 32. I (German)
- 34. Something to toss on a fire
- 35. The process of flowing in
- 36. A series of acts at a night club
- 39. Egg of a louse
- 40. Inquire too closely
- 43. Travelers
- 44. Drink

- 46. Behave in a way that degrades
- 47. Electronic music style
- 49. Northern Ireland city
- 51. Upset
- 54. Stiff structure resembling a hair
- 59. Father
- 60. North Atlantic fish
- 61. 8th month (abbr.)
- 62. Make an effort
- 64. Commercial



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