Hummer: the pride of China

WASHINGTON — An American flag the size of Labrador Taps defiantly and loudly in the breeze. Below it, sworried ranks of faded automobiles gleam impatiently in the autumn sun. Lincoln, Corvette, Camaro, the hot-tempo pride of what once was General Motors, the forgotten corporation that once was the pride of America itself.

And there are more star-spangled iron out here in the dealer’s lot, a row of Hummer H1 “mid-size” pickup trucks, billing and looking like saucers, waiting for someone to hand over US$41,000, turn the key and unlock the beast within.

The H1 is the rank of the Hummer line; a featherweight compared to the original H1 and down-sized H2, yet still frightening enough to your rear-end mirror with its toothy grill-work and hum-sized tires, a Jeep hallmark. Built in Louisiana, a grandchild of the High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle that helped achieve a walker for the United States Army during the first Gulf War of the first George Bush, today’s Hummers remain an archtype of macho’s extravagance, the cynosure of a fuel-hungry age. As a Schwarzenegger on wheels — the Terminator drives an H3 hybrid — the Hummer is American impudence and arrogance amalgamated, or at least it was until this summer.

Government would rather you didn’t read this series

The Free Press began an investigation into TB on Manitoba reserves in spring 2008. The very story is about the provincial government’s efforts to forget the number of cases. Provincial officials claimed releasing the number of cases would jeopardize their ability to manage the infectious disease.

Federal officials also argued the information could stigmatize the community.

It took months of research — via sources, documents and some First Nations chiefs were concerned releasing the information would jeopardize their ability to manage the infectious disease.

The British Medical Journal 2009 report said federal health officials and some First Nations chiefs were concerned releasing the information would jeopardize their ability to manage the infectious disease.

The Province of Manitoba’s TB control program was upheld that decision.

It’s an excuse they’re using to cover up inadequacies,” said Dr. Earl Hershfield, former director of the province’s TB-control program. “It took months of research in order to see the issue.

Visit the interactive TB website at winnipegfreepress.com/tb to:

❯ Watch videos and see slideshows
❯ Click on interactive maps to learn more
❯ Scroll through 100 years of TB history in Manitoba
❯ 24/7 on-line information to learn more about TB in other parts of the province.

Alphonse Denechezhe with his daughter in his mother’s living room in Lac Brochet. He sleeps on the coach, a son and daughter bed down on the floor.

Denechezhe has the “sickness” and he hopes he’s not spreading it to his children.

Continued

THE KILLER NEVER LEFT

Long forgotten, TB explodes on northern reserves

AC BROCHET — It’s minutes before 10 a.m., and Alphonse Denechezhe has just finished his morning spilt into a plastic cup. He puts it next to the others on a wooden shelf in the living room, near where his young son and daughter are sleeping on mattresses. Denechezhe, 42, will take the samples to the nurse, but it could be weeks before anyone knows whether his recent coughing fits and night sweats are what he fears.

Denechezhe calls it “the sickness,” the disease that just won’t go away.

He’s watched tuberculosis devastate his family and plague his community for years.

Continued

TV hyperbole: Networks, cable firms clash / H12

WILLIAM BOLLEY
THEO FLEURY
ROSINA SINOPOLI
JON WALDMAN & GREG OLIVER
ERIN BOLGER

Launching
Launching
Launching
Launching
Launching

Sportsline
Playing with the Stars
The Happy Baker: A Doctor’s Guide to Emotional Eating

Grant Park (3)
Morden (3)
Polo Park (4)
Grand Park
Grand Park

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TUBERCULOSIS: THE FORGOTTEN DISEASE

Northlands First Nation in Lac Brochet, one of Manitoba’s remotest communities, has earned a dubious distinction as a global TB hot spot. It and several other Manitoba communities have officials who will not name recorded some of the highest rates of TB in the world since the mid-1990s.

More than a decade ago, Denechezhe watched his ex-wife nearly die of TB of the brain in a Winnipeg hospital isolation room. He and all 10 people who lived in the same three-bedroom house tested positive for TB, too. He was supposed to wear a mask and take medication for nine months to cure his “sleeping TB.”

But Denechezhe doesn’t trust medication, not even Tylenol. He stopped taking the TB pills when he couldn’t handle the intense side-effects of nausea and fatigue. He failed to finish his medication again two years ago, after a nurse warned him the disease could strike at any time.

Now, he’s been coughing for weeks and worries he’s already infected his young son who started coughing days go.

“Maybe it’ll kill me. I don’t know,” said Denechezhe. “But this sickness seems to be carrying on. We got rid of it for a little while, but it seems to pop up left and right.”

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“One of the challenges in being treated, but sometimes the bad choices are inevitable.”

It’s been more than three decades since the last assurances in the province died down and tuberculosis faded in the minds of most Manitobans.

But TB never went away. It is still rampant in First Nations communities in northern Manitoba. And it’s a perfect storm: an acute shortage of TB medication that has long neglected the poverty that helps TB thrive.

TB is a barrier to overall health. Where there is poverty and suffering, there is TB. And where TB strikes, there is a lack of proper running water, sanitation and poor overall health.

That same deadly mix has hit us in the north the same as right here. It’s a scourge on reserve communities as well.

Medical experts trained for years that a major problem was vaccination in the north of TB outbreaks and the living conditions that contributed to them were not addressed. The warning was unheeded, and the chances explained by Canadian Chief Public Health Officer Dr. David Butler-Jones were unheeded.

In northern Manitoba, living conditions and some recent TB rates are often described as Third World — many houses are dirt and running water, and multiple families are housed in overcrowded homes that are cold and damp. The high number of TB cases in the north has led to the establishment of a plan to investigate what federal health officials are doing to control the current rates of infection disease such as TB on reserves.

Grand Chief Rossot Nesbitt has long been vocal on the issue. The Assembly of Manitoba Communities has petitioned Canada’s auditor general to investigate what federal health officials are doing to control the current rates of infection disease such as TB on reserves.

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This is the first time this information has been made public.

CONTINUED ON H4, HS
It smouldered for 40 years, then exploded.

**It's been a Good Week for...**

**Peter Donolo**

...now a vice-president at the Liberal background-headquarters and a former Liberal government chief of staff, replacing Janis Irwin, one of the most controversial politicians in Alberta, who has recently stepped down.

(Donolo) has been a key figure in the Liberal party in Alberta for many years, having worked closely with former Premier Ralph Klein. He is known for his strong leadership and his ability to build bridges between different groups.

**Zawi Hawawse**

Egyptian government's new prime minister, replaces Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, who resigned earlier this month. Hawawse is a career diplomat and has extensive experience in foreign affairs, having served as Egypt's ambassador to the United Nations and as the country's deputy foreign minister.

**Sarah Palin**

...former Alaska governor, former GOP vice-presidential candidate and a proponent of the Republican presidential candidates in 2012. The report is expected to run around 20 million dollars less than广告 according to reports, while the campaign has also faced criticism for its financial disclosure documents, which have been questioned by various sources.

Palin has been a controversial figure in recent years, having supported various controversial policies and initiatives. She has been involved in several legal disputes and has faced criticism for her comments and actions.

Continued from H3

The green house looks exactly identical to the other dozen sandwiched close together in “central” Lac Brochet on a slope near the lake. The two bedrooms and one bathroom are the only divided rooms in the house, and there is little room for furniture and people in the small space.

Theresa Denechezhe, who lives in the two-bedroom house with five other family members, the grey house looks almost identical to the other dozen sandwiched close together in “central” Lac Brochet on a slope near the lake. The two bedrooms and one bathroom are the only divided rooms in the house, and there is little room for furniture and people in the small space.

Denechezhe says she is living in the two-bedroom house and daughter shop in a small corner on the first floor. The weather and food there are in front of us and in a little village. The food there is very fresh and the house is small and very clean. It’s not supposed to be this way,” she said. Denechezhe, who works in the local office, works for in the local office. Half of Lac Brochet’s houses were included in a recent report and mostly half of those listed at least one person, mostly women, the head of their household. There were also areas of up to people per household — four times the Canadian average.

Continued

Please see H5

It’s been a Good Week for...