MSS graduates' awards for 2021: See Pages 12 and 13

II.IN EXPOSIT FISHING • YACHTING • CAMPING • HUNTING "Published Weekly On the Largest Freshwater Island In The World"

Vol. 142, No. 33 \$1.43 + GST Little Current, Ontario Wednesday, January 5, 2022



AWARD-WINNING PHOTO-Manitoulin photographer Peter Baumgarten has been recognized with the 2021 Canadian photograph of the year award, in the epic landscape category. Mr. Baumgarten is one of 13 outstanding photographers who won awards in the Canadian Geographic photos of the year competition. The award-winning photo is reproduced here with his permission. **SEE STORY ON PAGE 14**

Canada and Indigenous child care advocates agree on terms of dispersing \$40 billion fund

OTTAWA—It was a nail-biter that went down to the wire, but the 14year battle to resolve a dispute over the shortcomings of Canada's Indigenous child welfare system has finally come to a settlement. The federal government had already set aside \$40 billion to fund the claims, but the final negotiations faced a December 31

tions took place following a Human Rights Tribunal ruling that ordered the federal government to pay out \$40,000 to each individual impacted by the federal child welfare system that fell far short of the services that were available to non-Indigenous chil-

dren and families in care.

"It's awesome," said Assembly
of First Nations Ontario Regional

Police on lookout for hit and run driver in M'Chigeeng cyclist injury

Anishnaabe Police Service is requesting the public's assistance in relation to a fail to remain motor vehicle collision that took place in the community and left one person with serious injuries.

UCCM Anishnaabe Police Service is currently investigating the fail to remain motor vehicle collision on the M'Chigeeng First Nation. On Sunday, December 26, shortly after 5 pm, UCCM Police Service received a report of a motor vehicle collision that between Highway 551 and Cor-

Island restaurateurs reel at new closedown mandate

...continued on page 9

time coming, but we are finally here. There is still a lot of work to be done, but I hope that work gets done quickly so the funds can go out to those who deserve it.

Regional Chief Hare noted that while the estimated \$40 billion set aside to settle the claims might seem like a lot of money, but this must be put into perspective.

"People will say, 'oh look at all the money they are getting'," he said. "But when I look at how much is being given out in the NHL abuse cases, one just recently for over \$1.2 million for just one case of abuse, you have to wonder. They were looking at \$40,000 for each of those individuals who were impacted—\$1.2 million for the one, \$40,000 for the many. Where's the balance there?'

Still, Regional Chief Hare said

...continued on page 10

occurred on Cross Hill Road, that news of the settlement is still

MANITOULIN—The provincial announcement on Monday that Ontario is closing indoor dining at restaurants, bars and other food and drink establishments until January 26 (although outdoor dining with restrictions, takeout, drive through and delivery is still permitted) has been met with sadness, disappointment and concern by representative Manitoulin businesses. The measure is only one the province is taking as it shuts down activities of all sorts at businesses and services across the province in an effort to curb the spread of COVID-19, in particular the Omicron variant.

"I'm saddened, disappointed and overwhelmed. I

can't understand why this is happening again," said Denise Callaghan, owner of The Anchor Inn Hotel in Little Current. "It's a sad day in the restaurant

Ms. Callaghan said that, due to the measures taken by the province, "we will have to cut back hours and staff, and close our doors for indoor dining. These people also have kids, and mortgages like a lot of other people. In 21 days, hopefully we can get back to

Judith Martin, owner of The Codmothers in Gore Bay remarked, "I don't know what to say any more. It's terrible, this is a step back. And the help the gov-

...continued on page 10

Fire razes Green Bush home after Christmas

Total loss, no insurance

GREEN BUSH—The home of Jamie Rozell and Linda Cannard was completely destroyed by a December 27 fire. The fire call came in at 2 pm and the Northeast Town fire department responded, but the home was fully engulfed by the time they arrived and was a total loss. The family is without insurance.

Thankfully, there were no injuries reported at the scene, but one of the family members suffered a health setback following the incident and was hospitalized

Fire Chief Duane Deschamp noted that the dwelling was in a remote location with a poor access road, so, although three units responded, only the 4x4 rapid response unit was able to reach the fire.

The family lost all of their belongings in the fire and friends and family are rallying to their aid. A trust fund has been set up at all Island BMO locations and donations can be dropped off at 16 Cockburn Street East in Little Current or at 77 Duke Street in Mindemoya. Both family members do have clothing.

A GoFundMe account was set up by Hailey Rozell for the couple and EMTs can be sent to dragonfly2_blue@hotmail.com.



Fire destroyed this Green Bush home on December 27. The homeowners were

Michigan withdraws Line 5 challenge in federal US court

by Michael Erskine

MICHIGAN—The State of Michigan has dropped its case seeking to enforce Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer's November 2020 revocation and termination of energy giant Enbridge's Line 5 pipeline running along the lakebed through the Straits of Mackinac.

"Enbridge is pleased by the State of Michigan's decision to drop its case to enforce its November 2020 notice of revocation and termination related to Line 5," said Enbridge media spokesperson Ryan Duffy, following the announcement. "Enbridge will continue to pursue its case in federal court to affirm federal jurisdiction over Line 5.'

Earlier this year, Canada invoked the 1977 Transit Pipeline Treaty, complicating Michigan's plans to have the case heard in state court. US federal judge Janet Neff issued a jurisdictional order noting that "the federal issues in this case are under consideration at the highest levels of this country's government.'

The 70-year-old pipeline supplies much of Michigan and surrounding states' propane and is an integral part of both Ontario and Quebec's energy supply.

Enbridge has vowed to keep operating the pipeline and was successful in having the case heard in federal court. "Enbridge will continue to deliver safe, reliable and affordable energy to Michigan and the region," noted Mr. Duffy. "We will continue to pursue the Great Lakes Tunnel to house a replacement section of Line 5 so that it can continue to serve the region safely."

The referenced tunnel would run more than 200 feet below the lakebed and encase the pipeline in a concrete-lined tunnel, which Enbridge alleges would shelter the pipeline from potential leaks

...continued on page 9

KENJGEWIN TEG

Mino Niibaanamaan!

KENJGEWIN TEG

Wishing a safe and happy holiday season to our staff, students and community members of the Mnidoo Mnising area from Kenjgewin Teg.

The Kenjgewin Teg campus locations will be closed for the holiday break from December 20 to December 31 and will resume operations on January 3, 2022; pending local safety guidelines and restrictions, a remote working and learning environment may be in effect.

374 Highway 551, PO Box 328, M'Chigeeng 705-377-4342 www.kenjgewinteg.ca

Canadian Welding Bureau (CWB) Certification

CREDENTIAL: CWB Certificates

PROGRAM LENGTH: 4 months (14 weeks)

START DATE: Spring 2022 - April 25th

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Spring 2022- April 8th

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Fundamental procedures and principles are introduced, practiced, and refined. Techniques are developed for fillet and groove welds. Proficiency in flat and horizontal positions will be developed. Vertical/Overhead positions can also be learned depending upon student capabilities. On completion of the course students will test for CWB certification in SMAW and GMAW Flat and Horizontal*

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

What you will learn:

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- Welding Theory Welding Safety
- SMAW (Shielded Metal Arc Welding)
- GMAW (Gas Metal Arc Welding)



Kenjgewin Teg is a



PROGRAM OF STUDY

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- Welding Safety
- Practical Operations (Shop)

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Participants can enroll in the courses if they are 18 years of age (or older) or if they have earned an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (or equivalent) or pass our standard application and questionnaire required for acceptance.

TUITION FEES/COSTS

\$3,670.00 - Includes Welder Kits and Jackets

SUPPLIES REQUIRED BY STUDENTS

- Work Boots (CSA Approved, Steel Toed)

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PROGRAM OVERVIEW

In keeping with traditional Anishinabek pedagogical approaches to education, the learning in this course models the content of outdoor experiential education in that much of the teaching and learning is experienced outside of the classroom; this will provide candidates with a model they can take with them to their own

Additionally, and most significantly, is the participation of local community members and Elders whose guidance can counsel both the instructors and candidates in their progressive learning throughout the course. There will be fluid movement between the virtual classroom and the outdoors: candidates will be provided with the opportunity to learn with knowledge holders and Elders and/or resources from community members in the virtual learning space.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The AQ - Outdoor Experiential Education course is 125 hours; open to candidates who meet the entry requirements identified in the Teachers' Qualifications Regulation. Successful completion of this course will be recorded on the candidate's Certificate of Qualification and Registration. *

and negistration. "Additional Qualifications (AQ) courses are intended for holders of a General Certificate of Qualification and Registration (CQR), including individuals who are certified with conditions. Ontario candidates who do not hold a certificate transitional and temporary certificate holders, and others may be admitted to AQs, when specific requirements and limitations have been followed. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic and the disruption to services, the Ontario College of Teachers has revised its practice of requiring certification with a General CQR before the end of the course as long as all those being admitted/enrolled into AQs have completed their pragram of professional education prior to enrollment in the course.

SESSION DATES

Location: Online/Remote Learn February 21st, 2022 - April 22nd, 2022

Course will be held synchronously and asynchronously throughout the week, including some scheduled synchronous evenings

asynchronous hours to total 125 hours required for the course

TUITION FEES

\$600.00 per person*

Fee includes DEE Resource Kit required for course, that will be supplied to registered participants via priority courier. Important Note; Participants are responsible for their own inte-connection, computer hardware, and computer software. For improved learner success to access and participate in online content, participants should have a reliable internet connection and a unctioning reliable laptop and hardware. Accessing online content for the course through a mobile device (cell phone) is not





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Inspired Learning!

Every attempt is made to ensure the accuracy of information provided in this fact sheet with our valued Post Secondary partners. KenjgewinTeg and its partners reserve the right to modify any course program, curriculum, fee, timetable or location at any time. As a community based delivery program with its partner this program offering is subject to approved funding and sufficient enrolment.

KENJGEWIN TEG

The Manitoulin West Recorder



Fuel the Fire TV will have 13 episodes of the show airing for US audiences over the next few months. In photo is host of the show Neil Debassige and pro staff member Aaron Case.

Fuel the Fire TV expanding to the US market

by Tom Sasvari

MANITOULIN—Fuel the Fire Television (FTFTV) productions will be expanding its market area and in turn promoting the Manitoulin Island area by having 13 episodes of the show running in the United States (US) for audiences there, over the next few months.

"One of our goals is to expand our brand and grow our viewership and promote and highlight Manitoulin Island," said Neil Debassige of M'Chigeeng, producer/host of Fuel the Fire TV on Manitoulin Island. "We will have a total of 13 episodes airing on television in the US."

Mr. Debassige explained, "The World Fishing Network is owned by the Outdoor Sportsman Group in the United States which also runs the Outdoor Channel in the U.S. and The Sportsman Channel Canada here."

"Our partnership with them has opened the opportunity to grow the brand of FTFTV and bring our program to a larger audience: that being the captive TV market in the US," said Mr. Debassige. "What many people don't know about the outdoor networks is that they are pay for play, not pay to play. That means that we secure our broadcasting contracts through a production company, which in our case is Fuel the Fire TV Productions Inc. We produce the program on our own finances, and we generate revenue through advertising. We secure advertising minutes and approach interested companies looking to grow their own brand through advertising."

"Being a small Manitoulin business in an ultracompetitive market has its challenges. For instance, we want to showcase what the island has to offer on an international stage but realize the budgets are

 $... continued \ on \ page \ 9$

Proposal for Gore Bay/Gordon Barrie Island transfer station cost share nearing completion

by Tom Sasvari

GORE BAY—A final proposal for a new cost sharing agreement between the Town of Gore Bay and the municipality of Gordon/Barrie Island on the transfer station operating costs is close to being completed.

"I think this proposal is pretty fair, personally," stated Jack

Bould, a Gordon/Barrie Island Councillor and a member of the Gore Bay Gordon/Barrie Island joint transfer station committee at a December meeting. "I will put forward a motion to take it back to council."

This comes after a recommendation had been made by the town of Gore Bay general gov-

ernment committee to propose revisiting the cost sharing agreement of the transfer station with Gordon/Barrie Island.

If approved, it would see the cost of operations and garbage disposal shared equally on a 50-50 basis between both municipalities, and the cost of transportation of garbage materials from the transfer station to Dodge Landfill in Espanola based on actual volumes, as identified, which would be 60 percent for Gore Bay and 40 percent for Gordon/Barrie Island.

Michael Lalonde, treasurer for he town of Gore Ray told the committee, "I will go through the proposed cost sharing proposal. The contract with Dodge Haulage is up for renewal at the end of the year. They (Dodge) based the cost on the number of households (taking in permanent households, seasonal and commercial) in each. They (Dodge) sent me the last contract and there was no mention of the amount of garbage or volume of garbage materials that are transported to their site in Espanola."

"Based on the actual costs per household (permanent, seasonal and commercial households on the 2021 contract) it worked out to be 51.99 percent for Gordon/Barrie Island and 48.01 percent for the Town of Gore Bay," said Mr. Lalonde. "Looking forward in the new contract, and taking in the 2016 census numbers, the new numbers are very close to a 50-50 basis, being off by just .07 percent (50.07 percent for

...continued on page 8

Billings is in need of a fire hall, but lacks the funds to make it happen

hy Tom Sasvari

KAGAWONG—Regardless which of three options Billings Township decides on for a renovation or new build of its fire hall, it will cost anywhere from between over half a million dollars to \$1.7 million. And, while council agrees that work on the fire hall needs to take place as soon as possible, no funding is available at the current time for the township to tap into.

"The reality is, we've known for several years the current fire hall is in disrepair," stated Billings mayor Ian Anderson at a council meeting December 20. "This work is long overdue and we need to get on with this project."

Billings office staff had recommended that council discuss the options presented by Tulloch Engineering in the fire hall scoping report they had completed and to schedule a meeting of council dedicated to the one issue of the fire hall early in 2022.

Last fall, council contracted Tulloch Engineering to prepare a "fire hall renovation versus new build report," to examine the costbenefit and implications of the two approaches. Tiana Mills, township deputy clerk and Martin Connell, Billings fire chief met with Tulloch representatives on October 27.

The estimated costs determined by Tulloch Engineering for renovating the existing fire hall would be \$556,250.00 plus HST. Option two, demolishing the existing fire hall and constructing a new building of the same size and configuration, has an estimated cost of \$845,000.00 plus HST, design and permitting costs. Option three would see construction of a new firehall on an alternate site, suitable for the size of the proposed fire hall development and would cost \$1,753,875.00 plus HST. As well, for the "new build option," an alternative building site has not been identified, and additional costs for property development and site servicing will also be required.

"If you examine the report, the most obvious solution would be option number one to renovate the existing firehall building," said Councillor Bryan Barker.

...continued on page 8



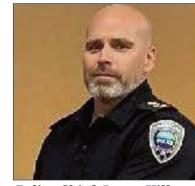
Billings township council will be making a major decision this year, as to whether to renovate the current building or have a new fire hall constructed.

UCCM Police Commission appoints James Killeen as new chief of police

MANITOULIN—The United Chiefs and Councils of M'Nidoo M'Nissing Anishnaabe Police Commission announced December 24 that a new chief of police has been appointed from within their ranks. Acting Chief of Police James Killeen applied for and was offered the position of chief of police, effective November 25, 2021.

Chief of Police James Killleen was initially hired with UCCM Anishnnabe Police Service (UCCM APS) as detective inspector on April 12, 2021. He spent a few weeks with the service before being appointed as acting chief of police (May 5), where he remained until his recent appointment as chief of police, explained Derek Assiniwe, chairperson of the UCCM Police Commission.

"Chief Killeen brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the role, having worked most of his career with the Greater Sudbury Police Services (GSPS) in different capacities," explained Mr. Assiniwe. "His proven leadership with GSPS, his time in the acting role here at UCCM APS, only serve to make his appointment as chief of police the logical next step in his distinguished



Police Chief James Killeen

police career."

"The UCCM Police Commission looks forward to working with Chief of Police Killeen as we move to implement the use of body cameras for all officers, continuing to work through this pandemic and the challenges that this has brought, and working with all our partner agencies to combat drugs, crime, and other issues our communities face," said Mr. Assiniwe.

"On behalf of the UCCM Police Commission and UCCM APS Officers and staff, I would like to congratulate James Killeen on his appointment as Chief of Police," concluded Mr. Assiniwe.

Manitoulin Ice Showdown 2022 cancelled

MANITOULIN—After much thought, and in the interest in the health and safety of our anglers, Wikwemikong Tourism and The Manitoulin Expositor have decided to cancel the 2022 edition of the Manitoulin Ice Showdown.

Wikwemikong Tourism started the event as the Wikwemikong Ice Fishing Derby in 2008 which has now evolved into the Manitoulin Ice Showdown following a partnership with The Expositor in 2018. The goal of the event has been to increase visitor spending during the winter season and to promote ice fishing opportunities on Manitoulin Island.

Event partners have been closely monitoring the trajectory of the COVID-19 pandemic and with the continued uncertainty of the virus and financial risks associated with hosting the event, the decision was made to cancel for 2022.

Organizers understand the importance of community investment from both Municipal and First Nation partners and must maintain those relationships to safely host this major event. "The current Covid-19 situation has once again forced us to come to this decision, but in the interest of community safety we must do our part to keep Manitoulin Island safe." states Wikwemikong Tourism Manager Luke Wassegijig.

The Manitoulin Ice Showdown was the last major event hosted on Manitoulin Island in 2020 before the rise of COVID- 19. The event brought in record breaking numbers with over 700 anglers coming from across the province and injecting much-needed returns into the local economy. The 2020 Manitoulin Ice Showdown solidified the event as one of Northern Ontario's premier destination ice fishing tournaments.

Event organizers look forward to celebrating the 2023 Manitoulin Ice Showdown in a big way with even more lucrative cash and prizes. Although the Manitoulin Ice Showdown 2022 is cancelled, the event partners encourage people to get out this winter and enjoy the past time in a safe and responsible manner.

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"who dares not offend, cannot be honest"

One Manitowaning Road

<u>editorial</u>

New lockdown is a time to support our Island merchants

The latest pandemic restrictions, announced by the province on Monday, fell hard on Island businesses, particularly restaurants still reeling from the last time they were shut down. It is a testament to the resilience of Manitoulin's merchants that so many doors remain open and that is largely thanks to the loyal Island customers who have stood by them throughout this once-in-a-lifetime ordeal.

It is no secret that the amount of online shopping has skyrocketed during the pandemic, as it is giant international online retailers that have been the main beneficiaries of the pandemic restrictions. If in doubt, any trip to one of the Island's landfill sites will give testament through the growing mountains of discarded cardboard shipping boxes that greet the eye on any given day.

Island merchants have weathered many a storm. Like most rural businesses, Manitoulin's merchants have had to struggle against the currents of the economies of scale that permit stores located in larger urban centres to cut margins to levels unsustainable for smaller operations. Now, even those urban-based businesses a couple of hours drive away are feeling the pressures from online competition.

Anyone walking down the business sections of Little Current, Gore Bay or Mindemoya today are greeted by a vastly different landscape than that of a generation past. In once example, the street outside The

Expositor office in Little Current once boasted two hardware stores located in the downtown core, a grocery store, two jewellery stores, a shoemaker, clothing outlets and even a department store. While clothing stores do remain, as does a small niche grocery outlet, these are a pale shadow in comparison to days past.

"Use it or lose it" is an oft-heard phrase in the health industry, but that same sentiment applies to retail stores and services. Unless the custom comes in the front door of a business, its doors will soon be closed forever.

Islanders often express surprise when entering a Manitoulin business when they discover the items they have been spending copious quantities of time and treasure to source far afield can be found just around the corner at their friendly neighbourhood merchant.

So, for the sake of our friends and neighbours, and the sake of our own access to services and supplies near home, take a few moments to explore what a local merchant has to offer. Shop local and, in place of that evening out at a restaurant that you can no longer enjoy due to the latest restrictions, take a little time out for some takeout until we can all once again gather with friends at our favourite Island eatery.

In the meantime, stay safe, mask up and go wash your hands—we can do this.

<u>letters</u>

The Big Lake mistake

Writer outlines several flaws in the decision making process

To the Expositor:

After reading the somewhat disappointing news of the decision to terminate the lease agreement for the Big Lake schoolhouse, I feel compelled to offer some inputs that I, personally, believe are amicable to the satisfaction of all parties concerned.

First let me state that I am not a Haweater but did spend over seven marvelous years on your beautiful Island. Right on the edge of Big Lake itself, so I have fond memories of the schoolhouse and activities that were always on the go by some of the stalwarts in their day. Carol, Marjory, The Kellers, Moodies, Youngs, Cannards, Drydens and so on. There are many more I could add add.

As an outsider, I look at this situation that has developed between the Council and the concerned citizens of the Big Lake area and must state my opinion on the matter via this message.

After reviewing the methods used to determine this decision, I find it flawed, and for several reasons.

First off, I cannot believe for the life of me that the repairs to the building would run \$200,000.00. Whoever quoted you must be looking at one colossal profit margin. I would never in my life go with only one estimate, and especially one that is so blatantly overpriced as this one is. Mistake number one.

I believe after reviewing several estimates/ quotes a determination should then have been taken by the Building Committee. The estimates should have been proposed in a manner that would explain in detail what each portion of the quote is for.

The matter of the schoolhouse water damage and possibility of mould was first determined over two years ago. I realize the Covid virus issue created disruption galore, and the council's objectives were included in this disruption. Still, I have to ask, just why did it take so long to come to the present conclusion to terminate the lease? My initial thoughts on this were: If the schoolhouse is in such bad shape, why has it not been shut down earlier to the public? If indeed mould had

been detected, should the appropriate action have been to call in the local Health Inspector to determine the extent of mould and if the building is safe for use as it is. I do not know if this action was taken but it would make sense to me to have it done.

I note that the council's close vote (4-3) to terminate the lease was carried by members who do not live in the Big Lake area. Funny how that happens, you may say, but you have to also think about it like this. If, hypothetically, the vote had been for the updating of the school, then we can assume (and the four that voted against and further action to save the building will most certainly cherish the fact that now there is \$200,000 still in the kitty for just possibly something in their respective areas). All hypothetical as I said earlier. Council has to vote, irrelevant of area or issue as they represent the entire location of Central Manitoulin.

But this brings me to my final issue. There are overwhelming concerns by many residents about the decisions for this lovely and well utilized heritage building, but its demise is being determined primarily by people who do not live in the area, have minimal knowledge of its use, and it appears are quite insensitive to the concerns of the locals who all share their fond and happy memories over the years at the building.

Here is my proposal, which I believe to be fair.

Offer an opportunity to conduct a residential vote in the old Sandfield ward of Big Lake. Yes, I know it's not in the books as a norm. but I think the response would be shocking and the schoolhouse would be repaired at fair value cost, leaving the local residents with a happy resolve and the council a bit prouder for handling this in a diplomatic manner.

Mike Robertson London, Ontario Formerly of Big Lake

The digital world is leaving too many behind

Dependancy on technology has already done more evil than good in our society

To the Editor:

The government wants to go digital as proof of vaccinated people but not everybody has this damn garbage technology or uses it. What the heck is wrong with them anyway, to think how everybody uses this technology? What they should do is to provide plastic coated vaccination cards as proof. Spend the money this way instead of trying to save it for yourself. How sickening to see this government becoming so dependent on this garbage technology. I see this technology as laziness for the government, to us, or anybody else and that it's a lot better doing

things in person instead of relying on this garbage technology. People need to wake up and see how this technology is probably ruining your life. Myself, I can see how much damage it has done already in our society. It is not good at all. There is more evil in it then the good. If anybody understands about life like I do, they would know this because this technology is about the dark side of life, people getting blinded from the truth.

Ronaid Osawabine Wiikwemkoong

A constructive thought on taming a dangerous intersection

A truly grate concept

To the Expositor

Regarding the recent article ('Central councillors, Mike Mantha unhappy with first glance at MTO ideas for hazardous intersection', page I, December 17, 2021) about a councillor's frustration with the traffic accidents at the intersection of (Highways) 551 and 542, I do have a suggestion. Every summer I spend three weeks near Mindemoya and I know that intersection can be dangerous. On many country roads in

Ontario, as you approach a stop sign, your tires hit a section of pavement that is grated and makes a loud noise in your car. It lets you know that you're coming to a stop sign. It is called a rumble strip. I do know it works.

I hope this idea is useful,

Colleen Honderich Kitchener

Annual Mindemoya Christmas bird count reports average tally

MINDEMOYA—Each year, Ontario Nature hosts a count of the birds found in Ontario at Christmas time. The count usually contains a couple of surprises, especially on Manitoulin.

This year's Mindemoya Christmas Bird Count tally was provided to The Expositor by birding enthusiast Chris Bell.

Mr. Bell reported 3,761 birds of 46 species as being counted during the 48th annual Mindemoya Christmas Bird Count, held on Saturday December 18.

"The species count was average but was four fewer than last year," noted Mr. Bell. "The birds were counted by 28 feeder watchers and 21 birders, all of whom had taken part in previous years. The species count of 46 was right on the average number for the past 48 years, but four below the 50 spotted last year. The 15-mile 'count circle' was divided into nine areas with a team in each. One team walked trails south of Big Lake and another group hiked the Lake Huron shoreline east of Providence Bay, carefully clambering over ice covered rocks."

Like last year, there was less socializing during bird count than was the norm for the previous 46 years. "This was another COVID year," Mr. Bell pointed out. "So the counters were not permitted indoors prior to the count or afterwards. The crews, wearing face masks, met in a very windy Mindemoya parking lot trying not to let the papers blow away. The potluck supper with the Manitoulin Nature Club did not happen."

The most numerous birds sighted this year were 713 American Crows, a record high number according to Mr. Bell, with 570 American goldfinches, 402 Black-capped chickadees, 376 European starlings and 371 blue jays rounding out the bulk of



File photo

the more common Island varieties.

Uncommon birds seen this year included two ring-billed gulls on Lake Manitou, a merlin, two northern shrikes and three golden-crowned kinglets. A Canada jay was reported by Therese Trainor at Dean Bay, 12 house sparrows were spotted at a new location on Blue Road near the Mindemoya River, reported by Milford George, a red-winged blackbird at the Charlie Cox feeder in M'Chigeeng and a brown creeper were found by Will Kershaw while on his Hare's Creek hike. Mr. Bell cited these as "good finds."

The bald eagle count of 31 was higher

this year, continued Mr. Bell, but there was just a single snowy owl tallied during the

"The larger lakes and bays were wide open and some of the smaller lakes were still ice free on the day before the count," said Mr. Bell. "But, by the morning of count day, the Canada goose, ring-necked duck and red-necked grebe had gone."

The birders proved a hardy lot, as count day this year was -5° Celsius and windy, while the ground was mainly bare. "With the exception of purple finches and crossbills, all of the finches were seen this year," said Mr. Bell. "Small flocks of finch-

es were only seen briefly in flight and were difficult to identify. A single redwing and six common grackles were the only blackbirds. We had 10 tree sparrows and 13 dark-eyed juncos, but no unusual other sparrows this year."

According to Mr. Bell's report, 28 feeder watchers reported 32 species, while only six of the feeder watchers reported 10 or more species, including Ray Webster, Maja Mielonen and Rose Diebolt with 10 apiece, Dace Maenpaa and Milford George with 11 species and Charlie Cox with 13 species.

The full list of the birds was as follows: 17 black duck, 109 mallard, 30 common goldeneye, 23 hooded merganser, 146 common merganser, 2 red-breasted merganser, 28 ring-necked pheasant, 20 ruffed grouse, 14 sharp-tailed grouse, 118 rock pigeon, 62 mourning dove, 2 ring-billed gull, 23 herring gull, 1 sharp-shinned hawk, 31 bald eagle, 3 rough-legged hawk, 1 snowy owl, 17 red-bellied woodpecker, 24 downy woodpecker, 28 hairy woodpecker, 11 pileated woodpecker, 1 merlin, 2 northern shrike,1 Canada jay, 371 blue jay, 713 American crow, 119 common raven, 402 black-capped chickadee, 37 red-breasted nuthatch, 44 white-breasted nuthatch, 1 brown creeper, 3 golden-crowned kinglet, 376 European starling, 12 house sparrow, 4 evening grosbeak, 33 pine grosbeak, 202 common redpoll, 2 hoary redpoll, 576 American goldfinch, 28 pine siskin, 78 snow bunting, 10 American tree sparrow, 13 dark-eyed iunco, 1 red-winged blackbird, 6 common grackle and 17 northern cardinal.

The Expositor expresses gratitude to compiler Chris Bell and the Island naturalists who brave the late December chill to include Manitoulin in the Ontario Nature annual Christmas Bird Count.

Action required to address the rise in First Nations opioid-related deaths in Ontario

by Lori Thompson, LJI Reporter

TORONTO—More than 116 First Nations people in Ontario lost their lives due to opioid-related poisoning during the first year of the Covid-19 pandemic. That's an increase of 132 percent over the previous year, according to a new report prepared by the Chiefs of Ontario, in collaboration with the Ontario Drug Policy Research Network. This compares to a 68 percent rise among the rest of the population over the same period.

The report, "Impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on opioid-related poisoning among First Nations in Ontario," examined patterns in hospitalizations and deaths due to opioid-related poisoning among First Nations and non-First Nations people in Ontario. A second report delved into "Opioid Use, Related Harms, and Access to Treatment among First Nations in Ontario."

The number of First Nations people who visited the hospital for an opioid-related poisoning jumped to 816 during the first year of the pandemic compared to 601 for the year prior (March 17, 2019 to March 16, 2020), an increase of 35.8 percent. This contrasts with an increase of 16.4 percent during the same period for non-First Nations people (8,662 hospital visits during the pandemic compared to 7,441 in the year prior).

Between 2013 and 2019, opioid use was higher among First Nations people, particularly those living off the reserve, compared to non-First Nations in Ontario, and First Nations have seen an increase in opioid-related poisonings since 2017, largely due to the growing presence of fentanyl. Fentanyl-related poisoning has contributed to 87 percent of the opioid-related deaths, which aligns with broader trends across Ontario

Opioid-related deaths involving cocaine for First Nations people also rose during the pandemic while opioid-related deaths involving methamphetamine

decreased. This contrasted to an increase in the overall role of stimulants as a direct contributor to opioid-related deaths among non-First Nations people, where there were significant increases in both cocaine and methamphetamine involvement. However, the percentage of methamphetamine involvement in opioid-related deaths among First Nations remains higher than for non-First Nations, highlighting the continued support needed for First Nations communities to address the combined use of opioids and methamphetamines.

Benzodiazepine involvement in opioid-related deaths significantly increased during the pandemic for both First Nations and non-First Nations, primarily due to a significant increase in the use of etizolam, a benzodiazepine that is not approved for use in Canada. The administration of naloxone does not reverse benzodiazepine toxicity, further complicating the response to opioid related poisoning as well as responses to the overdose crisis among First Nations people.

"First Nations have been disproportionately affected by the overdose crisis," stated Ontario Regional Chief Glen Hare. First Nations have a mortality rate approximately four times higher than the rest of the population in opioid-related deaths. This is even higher among off-reserve First Nations and those aged 44 years and younger.

"The use of opioids and other substances continues to surge during the COVID-19 pandemic, producing conditions that further increase overdoses and deaths."

While amplified further by the COVID-19 pandemic, the opioiduse epidemic has been disrupting First Nations families and communities for years. There were calls to action from both The Truth and Reconciliation Commission's report and in the final report from the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls,

which called upon all governments to "provide adequate, stable, equitable and ongoing funding for Indigenous-centred and community-based health and wellness services."

These new reports are "very explicit in providing evidence that governments need to correct the underfunding that has been occurring for years to make effective progress on addressing the overdose crisis in First Nations communities," continued Regional Chief Hare.

Enough studies, he stressed. "We're studied out." He pointed to homelessness, another critical issue for First Nations people. "For the last 40 years there's been no action, just meetings, meetings and meetings. We've got to do something."

Action is what's needed, Regional Chief Hare said. "What we see and hear right now, and not only because of COVID-19, is a pandemic. It's out of control. We need action and we need the government on board. There are people ready to go now, ready to do something and who want to do something and I think we should see that opportunity and work together on this. We can't do it alone."

There are communities strengthening community capacity through the development of community-led programs, he acknowledged. "However, the acknowledged. work to implement the recommendations in these reports must expand in earnest, through true collaboration between all sectors, to see real progress, prevent future tragedies and strengthen the healing processes so desperately needed in First Nations communities."

"It will never be enough though," he continued. "There's the timing, too. There are disasters everywhere. Look at British Columbia and the east coast. We cannot put this in a desk while we address those. Let's not wait until it's something like COVID. We can't wait. It's here."

Survey seeks input from Island residents on culinary tourism

by Tom Sasvari

CENTRAL MANITOULIN—Culinary tourism value chain businesses on Mnidoo/Manitoulin Island are being encouraged to participate in a survey to be considered for helping to develop a culinary strategy for the Island.

"We ask that any culinary tourism value chain businesses on Mnidoo Mnising/Manitoulin Island that may benefit from this unique opportunity participate in a survey," said Marcus Mohr, community development/outreach coordinator for Central Manitoulin. "To be considered for the program, we ask that you complete the short anonymous survey by end-of-day January 16, 2022. It should take 8-10 minutes to complete. Additionally, you will have the opportunity to share your contact information if you are interested in attending a culinary tourism workshop in late January/early February."

The Municipality of Central Manitoulin, in partnership with FedNor, Destination Northern Ontario and Indigenous Tourism Ontario, has engaged the Culinary Tourism Alliance (CTA) in developing a culinary tourism strategy for Mnidoo Mnising/Manitoulin Island.

"The municipality and its partners are looking to put together a strategy and action plan with a common set of achievable goals and measurable objectives, as well as identifying new opportunities and assets to increase visitor satisfaction and average length of stay because of enhanced Indigenous and non-Indigenous food and drink experiences," said Mr. Mohr.

"Basically, this all started with the tourism adaptation strategy that was carried out previously and the thought was to develop a culinary strategy as well, so this was added regionally," said Mr. Mohr. "And there is a separate component for Manitoulin Island

"The food tourism strategy is expected to provide a roadmap on how to develop quality offerings and services under a 'Taste of Place' model," continued Mr. Mohr. "Culinary offerings would include use of or production of a local product, partnering with another business or offering a culinary experience that includes incorporating local history, legends, or stories about the food of those that traditionally eat it."

"Identifying gaps in the food tourism industry operations will allow the region to react and create a better-quality tourism experience, maintaining existing visitation, attracting new visitors and encouraging visitors to stay longer and contribute more to the local economy," explained Mr. Mohr.

The project takes a community-based participatory approach, and aims to set the foundation for success by delivering a market research report, including primary research through a stakeholder survey, an immersive workshop building capacity among stakeholders across the culinary tourist value chain, and the establishment of guidelines for the food tourism regional advisory group that will eventually be charged with carrying out the strategy. Preliminary stakeholder interest in participation in contributing to the strategy and its success, will also be examined and there is provision for an experience pilot program with dedicated support for up to six business. As well, it will produce a culinary tourism strategy and implementation plan for Manitoulin Island/Mnidoo Mnissing.

"As part of the strategy development process, we are gathering insight on Mnidoo Mnising/Manitoulin Island's current culinary tourism context," said Mr. Mohr.

From those businesses who show engagement in the process and demonstrate high potential, up to six businesses will be selected to receive dedicated support from the CTA to develop a new food and beverage experience over the course of the program which will run from January to May 2022.

No charges against officers after Mindemoya man suffers fractured leg in arrest

MISSISSAUGA—The Director of the Special Investigations Unit (SIU), Joseph Martino, has found no reasonable grounds to believe that either of the Ontario Provincial Police Officers (OPP) committed a criminal offence in connection with a 56-year-old Mindemoya man's arrest and injury. The decision was

announced December 31,

On July 17, 2021, two OPP officers were dispatched to a property in Mindemoya following a call from the owners of the property to police about a trespasser. When approached by the officers, the man objected to his arrest and there was a struggle. The officers even-

tually took control of the man and arrested him. The man complained of injury to his left leg and was taken to the hospital where he was diagnosed with a fractured left leg.

The SIU report indicates the complainant, a resident of Mindemoya, had had disagreements with a property owner over access to a shoreline. The complainant indicated that he had been charged with trespassing on several occasions by the OPP but these charges were withdrawn.

The SIU investigation report revealed that on July 17, 2021, at approximately 11 am, the complainant had attended the above-mentioned shoreline area. Two OPP police officers attended to remove the complainant from the area. Durhis arrest, complainant was kicked in the left leg. The complainant reported he was unable to walk from the area and was dragged up a hill to a waiting OPP prisoner transport vehicle.

Two additional police officers were at the prisoner vehicle. The complainant was placed in the prisoner vehicle and taken to a local hospital by the OPP, the report said. The police officer declined to provide his name to the complainant and indicated that it was on the ticket. The complainant

was issued a provincial offences notice (PON) trespass to property act charge. The notice indicated that the issuing officer was subject official No. 2.

The complainant was assessed and diagnosed with a fractured leg. The complainant was referred to Health Sciences North (Sudbury) and, on July 28, 2021, had reconstructive surgery to his left leg, the SIU reports. The complainant had a return appointment to the same hospital scheduled for September 10, 2021. The complainant was advised to retain the PON.

At 4:26 pm, the SIU contacted the OPP who advised that the OPP Liaison for the area would contact the SIU.

At 5:45 pm. the OPP liaison for the Northeast Region OPP contacted the SIU. The OPP was advised of the allegations, and the invocation of the SIU mandate.

The complainant was interviewed on September

3. 2021.

The two subject officers declined interview, while four civilian witnesses and two witness officers were subsequently interviewed, the SIU report reveals.

The scene was not examined by SIU forensic investigators. However, SIU investigators attended the scene on September 28, 2021. The scene presented similar as it would have been in July 2021. No physical evidence was obtained from the scene.

The area of the altercation was close to the driveway to a cottage. The property had both tree coverage and grassy areas. The arrest took place in the treed lot which led down a steep hill to the lake. The ground in the area was covered in shale stone. Closer to the lake, the shale stone was extensive.

The scene was well out of the documented marine access to the shoreline, the report explained.

...continued on page 25

Law & Order

Information leads to drug search warrant and arrest in M'Chigeeng

On December 22, information was received by the police regarding people trafficking controlled substances in M'Chigeeng First Nation.

A warrant to search was obtained for the residence at 45 Pine Street, M'Chigeeng, as a result of the information received.

Members of the UCCM Anishnaabe Police Service, Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Community Street Crime Unit (CSCU), Organized Crime Enforcement Bureau (OCEB), and the OPP Canine Unit, worked together to execute the warrant and arrested two parties.

A search of the residence revealed approximately \$21,000 in Canadian currency, 21.4 grams of crack cocaine, 15.4 grams of cocaine, and 6 Suboxone pills. A total estimated street value of \$5,640 was seized in drugs

As a result, two adult males have been charged with possession for the purpose of trafficking in a schedule one substance, (cocaine/crack cocaine), possession of a schedule one substance (Buprenophine suboxone pills) and possession of property obtained by crime (Canadian currency).

The UCCM Anishinaabe Police Service, OPP Community Street Crime Unit and Wikwemikong Tribal Police Services remain committed to working collaboratively and will continue to focus their efforts on major crime operations that pose a direct and elevated threat to the safety, security and wellness of our communities. This combined integrated street crimes unit is a joint force and aims to identify and disrupt organized crime on Manitoulin Island through innovative technology, collaborative partnerships and traditional police work results in the arrest of those involved, holding them accountable for the criminal activities and seizure of illegal drugs, prohibited firearms and proceeds of crime.

Unauthorized cannabis dispensary in M'Chigeeng leads to Cannabis Act charges

On December 17, members of the UCCM Anishnaabe Police Service received a complaint regarding a person opening and operating a cannabis dispensary on M'Chigeeng First Nation.

The owner of the business had applied for and was denied a business licence in February 2021 for the cannabis dispensary as there is a (M'Chigeeng First Nation) moratorium that prohibits such businesses from operating in M'Chigeeng.

The moratorium was implemented September 18, 2018, through band council resolution 4327. An excerpt from that resolution states, "now be it resolved that, M'Chigeeng First Nation Chief and Council hereby evokes a community wide moratorium on all business and/or for-profit enterprises relating to the growth, cultivation, manufacturing, treatment, production, online (resale), dispensary and sale of cannabis and all related products on M'Chigeeng First Nation Territory, so as to afford the community the opportunity for consultation and lawmaking in respect to cannabis related issues."

On December 20, a Cannabis Act warrant was applied for and executed (by the police), which revealed the following: approximately \$201.00 in Canadian currency; Cannabis and cannabis products with an estimated value of \$5,000.

As a result, one 36-year-old adult male, has been charged with possession for the purpose of distributing -S.9(2) Cannabis Act, possessing for the purpose of selling-S.10(2) Cannabis Act, possession of property obtained by crime-(Canadian currency)-S. 355(b) CC.

The accused was then released on an undertaking with a first court appearance date in January.

The UCCM Anishnaabe Police Service would like to remind the public that although cannabis is legal, individuals wishing to open and operate cannabis dispensary's must do so in accordance with local regulations.

If anyone has further information regarding drug trafficking, please contact UCCM Police at 705-377-7135 or Sudbury Rainbow Crime Stoppers at 705-222-TIPS (8477) or 1-800-222-TIPS(8477) or submit an online tip at SudburyCrimeStoppers.com

Ontario taking further action to keep long-term care residents safe

TORONTO—Access to long-term care homes by general visitors is being paused as has been day absences for all residents for social purposes, as of December 30. However, designated caregivers may continue to enter long-term care homes.

In response to the evolving Omicron situation, the Ontario government, in consultation with the Chief Medical Officer of Health, has taken these actions to protect the health and safety of residents, staff and caregivers in long-term care homes.

"We know that long-term care residents face an increased risk of COVID-19. Given the high community infection rates we're seeing with the Omicron variant, the time for more action is now," said Rod Phillips, minister of long-term care in an announcement December 28. "In addition to the steps we've already taken these new temporary measures will help keep residents safe and help critical staff remain on the job."

The government will closely monitor the situation in long-term care homes and continue to adjust measures as necessary to keep residents and staff safe.

Earlier in December, the government put in place policies in long-term care homes designed to optimize safety for residents and staff, including the requirement that all general visitors need to be fully vaccinated to enter a home. The province is also requiring all staff caring for a resident with a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19 wear a fit-tested, seal-checked N95 respirator. However, the high transmissibility of the Omicron variant will mean staff being exposed to or contracting COVID-19 in the community and more outbreaks in long-term care homes. This means that it is imperative to keep COVID-19 out of homes wherever possible and prevent spread within homes, with the most important objective being the prevention of severe outcomes for residents and staff.

"I understand that these new, temporary measures will impact residents' ability to have close contact with many of their friends and family members," said Minister Phillips. "We must remain vigilant against the Omicron variant to protect long-term care residents and staff."

"We know these measures are difficult for residents and families, but we must stand strong to protect our most vulnerable, which includes residents of long-term care homes," said Dr. Kieran Moore, chief medical officer of health. "I encourage everyone to get their booster shot as soon as possible so we can keep everyone safe with the added layer of protection that the vaccine provides."

Friends and Neighbours

Kagawong Team Fergmeijer

appy New Year! We were hoping to have a New Year's pun to start off the column this week, but we really dropped the ball on this one. Regardless, we hope you all had a safe and enjoyable holiday season.

This year's digital Christmas concert was a huge success! People joined the virtual concert from as far away as exotic Maple Point and distant Little Current! Not to mention St. Catharines, Burlington, Calgary (who can forget the indubitable Mike Coomes and his - sometimes questionable - witticisms) and the east coast of the country, too. Thank you to everyone who donated to Manitoulin Family Resources. If you would still like to make a donation, simply visit www.MFResources.net and make a difference as we dive into the new year.

There are many birthdays in the first weeks of the new year. We love the opportunity to party hop! Happy birthday wishes go out to Harrison N, Melanie H, John F, Chris T, Jen W, and to our Mainland Mom, who are all turning (or have turned) 29 in the last two weeks! You know, sometimes it's easy to get wrapped up in all the adult decisions and responsibilities of day-to-day life and forget our childhood dreams and ambitions. Team Fergmeijer hopes that on your big days, you all remember that it is never too late to be whatever you have ever dreamed of being! (Unless that dream is to be younger...) Best wishes to you all!

Reminder that though the landfill and library are back to regular hours, the Township Office is open by appointment only. Please call 705-282-2611, extension 221, before stopping in.

A rink you can't skate on is snow laughing matter! The township is looking for volunteers to help maintain the rink. Volunteering would include maintenance checks of the rink and snow removal. For more information, please email tmills@billingstwp.ca, or call 705-282-2611 x225.

The Billings history book "How It All Began" is back in stock and available. To get a copy, stop in at the library or contact billingslibrary@vianet.ca to pick one up today!

Remember that time that person turned 29 years old? Or the time the township celebrated that special event? Catch up on old times with the complete archive of Team Fergmeijer columns, all the way back to 2015! Check out http://teamfergmeijer.blogspot.com to get your fill of puns and heiku

Don't forget, a pun has not completely matured until it is full groan. Have a great week!

Silver Water Karen Noble

Tappy New Year to everyone. We spent the evening watching various celebrations on the television until just after midnight.

Penny Addison went home last week after visiting

O.D. All

Arthur and Jean Addison for a few weeks. Joe Addison was

Murray and Gladys Duncanson spent Christmas Eve and Day with son Blake and his family in Espanola.

John Jagt travelled to southern Ontario to visit his children and grandchildren for a week.

Anne Boyd had a visit from her niece and husband from Toronto for a few days last week.

Diane Jones had her son-in-law Mike visit for the week between Christmas and New Year's. Elaine and Rick Bradley travelled to Sault Ste Marie to

visit her aunt for a few days last week.

There were four households out to the recycle bins on

Christmas Day. The next date is January 10.

We got to meet Darryl and Vickie's new cat, Thomas. He

is a beauty and super friendly.

My nieces, Larissa Chevrette and Tamara Noble, joined

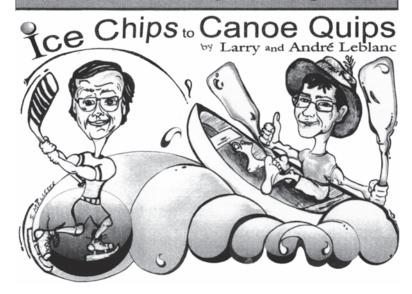
My nieces, Larissa Chevrette and Tamara Noble, joined us for our walk one day last week then came here for hot chocolate and cookies.

We are registering for the My Time My Fitness challenge to walk 1000 km in 2022.

Happy 70th birthday to Cliff Falls on January 2.

Condolences to the family of Bruce Duncanson who passed away on December 28.

Manitoulin Sporting Life



New Year, same problem!

All of our collective wishes and resolutions were no match for COVID's evil offspring, Omicron! Before Christmas, sanctioned hockey became limited to skills practices in Northern Ontario—no games, no contact. Now with this week's announcements, hockey players and parents alike are not exactly sure how the newly released modified Stage 2 will affect that. "It's almost like a mini, off-season," commented local hockey parent always on the pulse of sports, Kevin Eshkawkogan.

His son Kohyn suffered a pretty serious concussion on December 12 and has been making steady progress and has recently been cleared to skate without contact. Best of luck navigating concussion management team.

Resolution Run?

The Running Room's annual Resolution Run has been a way over the years for many people to "start the New Year off on the right foot by establishing or maintaining an active lifestyle with this great event." Of course, with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic situation, they have decided that the 2021/2022 The Brick Resolution Run will continue as a virtual event in Canada this year. If you had already registered for the event, your registration will automatically be transferred to the virtual event.

The virtual experience can never match the experience of running shoulder to shoulder with other kindred spirits, but at least with the virtual version you can plan and organize your run/walk for the most convenient or hospitable day. For more information visit: https://www.resolutionrun.ca/



Roque named to US Olympic team

Congratulations to Abby Roque of Wahnapitae First Nation on being named to the US Women's Olympic hockey team! She is the daughter of former NCAA coach and Leaf scout Jim Roque. Her teammate and soon to be a four-time Olympian, Hilary Knight once said of Abby Roque, "I think she's going to be the best player in the world, plain and simple." Knight recently passed **Cammi Granato** as the all-time greatest American world championship scorer, so she should know!

Of course, nearby Olympic opponent Rebecca Johnston of Sudbury will be trying to ruin Abby's debut and improve on Canada's overall international winning record including 11 gold medals at the IIHF Women's World Championships and four Olympic gold medals.

Dance the winter away too!

In December I mentioned Candice Irwin and her Body Stories Dance Instruction class as they had just completed their second session of dance classes for the school year across three communities (Little Current, Mindemoya and Manitowaning) and had over 80 students participate in dance this fall. They're currently getting ready for their winter dance session which will start the first week of February (COVID depending).

Dancers put a great deal of time and effort into their art and unfortunately, don't always get the recognition they deserve here. The following are some of the students missing from that column: Bella Ferguson-Van Horne, Alina Lefebvre, Waaskone Cleland, Emma Souliere, Isadora Cleland and Ally-Anna Lefebvre. Hats off to this crew and everyone who has had the courage to even just get out and try dance.

Get well, Jeff!

If you have been at a running race on Manitoulin, you likely have run across Wiikwemkoong's Jeff Eshkawkogan. If you had, he would be smiling or laughing or leading his students in a choreographed song for the audience; likely all three. Jeff is recovering from a serious fight with COVID which had him on a ventilator in the ICU. He is now recovering back on Manitoulin. Get well, soon, Jeff!

A good sport is good for sports. chipstoquips@gmail.com



Owen Sound curler Al Hutchinson and his rink will be representing Ontario at the 2022 masters men's Canadian curling championships. The rink includes left, skip Al Hutchinson, vice Kevin Daniel, second Bruce Cox and lead Dave Haliburton.

Curler with Island ties qualifies for Nationals Masters Men's championship in Winnipeg

by Tom Sasvari

OWEN SOUND-Owen Sound curler Al Hutchinson, (who has strong family ties to Manitoulin Island), and his rink will again represent Ontario at the 2022 Masters Men's Curling Championship. Mr. Hutchinson's rink represents the Blue Water Curling Club in Owen Sound.

This is five years Al has reached this level in this competition," stated his sister Janis Hutchinson of Evansville, who owns The Flower Hutch business in Gore Bay. "And for three years he has made it with a new team every year."

"I've been curling about 53 years," Mr. Hutchinson, (who will turn 68 in January) told The Expositor last week. "My team won the Ontario championship in December and has qualified for the Nationals Masters (60 plus years) Men's Curling Championship.'

"My parents first got me involved in curling," stated Mr. Hutchinson. But it was a competition he participated in, in 1972, that got him hooked on curling. "The first success I ever had in curling was in 1972 at the Ontario Schoolboys championships. He played second on the team and, "our team finished in the middle of the pack. This competition got me hooked on curling. I always like to compete and in events like this you have to elevate your game to win-something I really enjoy."

At that time there wasn't a junior curling program, "so it wasn't until I reached the age I could compete in the men's championships that I could compete on a provincial level again.

any type of success on the provincial level because of the number of good teams in Ontario, including the likes of Ed Werenich and Russ Howard."

Mr. Hutchinson's first trip to the men's provincial championship came in 1987. "My rink won the B final event in Walkerton. We were tied in the final game coming home and I had to drive through a tight hole to the button to win on the last shot. This was my first trip to the men's provincials." His rink made it to the provincials again in 1989, then made it again in 1998 and again in 2004.

Mr. Hutchinson has been on teams that also went to the Ontario mixed curling championships in 1993 and 1995, finishing as the runner-up in each.

"After 2004, I competed in the seniors' division," said Mr. Hutchinson. His teams went to 11 provincial championships in the years 2001-2017 and won the provincials in both 2010 and 2013.

Mr. Hutchinson has made the nationals a total of five times in the men's masters division, in 2016, 2017, and 2018. "In 2019 we had a record of three wins and four losses. In 2020 (held in 2021) we won the provincials again but because of COVID-19, this event was cancelled 10 days before it was to start. (My sister) Janis was among those who were supposed to travel out to St. John's New Brunswick to see us play in the nationals. It was disappointing that they had to cancel so close to the competition being

Team Hutchinson, representing the Blue Water Curling Club

And it took a long time to have in Owen Sound won the 2022 Ontario Master's Men's Curling Championship in Gananoque on Sunday, December 19 by defeating Team Dale Kelly from the Chatham Granite Club by a score of 6-1. Team Hutchinson had finished first in the round robin with a six-win one loss record.

"This year, we used pretty well all our lives in this event. There were two rounds of competition we had to go through before provincials," Mr. Hutchinson explained. "There is a qualifying round and we had to win one out of three games. We lost our first two games and won our last one. Then at the provincials qualifier, a double knockout competition, we lost our second game but won the B side. In the provincial finals we kind of surprised ourselves, we had a couple of new members on the team and we ended up 6-1 in the round-robin and then won the playoff."

Along with Skip Al Hutchinson his rink incudes vice Kevin Daniel, and newcomers to the team, second Bruce Cox and lead Dave Haliburton.

The Nationals are scheduled to take place in Winnipeg, Manitoba from April 4-10, 2022. "I'm not holding my breath on the nationals taking place with the pandemic. "What we have in our favour is time. Once the Christmas surge is over, and hopefully the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 will drop to a suitable level that we can play the Nationals. At the nationals there will be 14 teams taking part. We will have to see what happens."

In 2014 Mr. Hutchinson was inducted into the Owen Sound Sports Hall of Fame.

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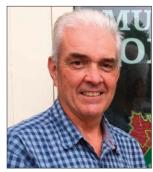
CALL 705-368-2023 **BAR CLOSED** FIND OUR MENU ONLINE AT **ANCHORGRILL.COM/DINING**

...Billings is in need of a fire hall, but lacks the funds

...continued from page 3 "However, this definitely requires more input and discussion." He pointed out a suggestion had been made that if a new building was opted for, the the current dog park may be a suitable location.

"And there are still unknown costs that could be substantial," said Councillor Barker. "I also understand there is no (government) funding currently available for this type of project. And our (township) staff has advised that we don't have the ability to take out a loan to rebuild."

"The fire hall requires immediate attention," stated Councillor Barker. He noted the township is facing this and a couple of



Billings Mayor Ian Anderson

other costly projects soon. 'Option one seems to be the most prudent but I'm glad is recommending council hold a dedicated meeting to get further input and have a full discussion this issue.' "I echo what Bryan has said. We all know some-

thing needs to be done with the current fire hall," said Councillor Sharon Jackson. "And obviously we are going to discuss the merits of each of the options proposed. Option three, a new building, would cost close to \$2 million dollars which would be a huge undertaking. I look forward to further discussion and input on this issue."

"I also look forward to another discussion on the options," said Councillor Michael Hunt. "It would be nice to have a large new fire hall building but we don't have money at the present time for this, or actually to afford any of the options. I agree we need a meeting just looking at this issue and to be able to look at other options, grants and loans that might be available to us."

Mayor Anderson noted that regardless of which option council chooses, this would need to go to tender, and that construction could not take place until the milder weather comes. My intention, as I'm sure it is with all councillors, is to move forward as quickly as we can. I think it would be reasonable to get this project started some time in 2022."

"It's a major decision that council will need to make. And it is important enough that council needs to have a dedicated council meeting early in 2022 to discuss the options," said May-



Manitoulin Secondary School

PLAYER PROFILE

by Aspen Debassige

CONGRATULATIONS ANDREW!

Proud Supporter of our MSS Mustanas

Since he can remember, Andrew Rose has had an affinity for movement and over the last number of years he has translated that into a connection to sports. He enjoys sports because they are a great way to stay active physically and mentally. They have helped to keep him in shape in a way that was enjoyable and have provided an outlet for stress. As Andrew nears the halfway point of his Grade 10 year, he like all MSS Mustangs, hopes that Covid will not cancel anymore of these

Andrew has played a variety of sports through the years including volleyball, basketball, badminton, soccer, hockey, and baseball. He has found that the one sport that intrigues him more than all the others is volleyball. His height and natural athletic abilities have definitely given him an advantage when it comes to the sport. Andrew played while attending LCPS (Little Current Public School) on the boys' team. This year he played on the Junior Boys' team. The team proved to be very competitive and won silver at NSSSA, which qualified them to compete at NOSSA where they also won silver.

A common theme for Mustangs is the loss of access to the team experience during the 2020-21 year due to Covid restrictions. Andrew was one of those players that didn't let the pandemic completely eliminate his athletic development. He says that this actually gave him a new opportunity - to look outside Manitoulin for sporting opportunities.

This year Andrew tried out for the Northern Chill Volleyball Club (NCVC) in Sudbury. From their website the club is dedicated to the growth and development of youth volleyball through the pursuit of excellence athletically, socially, and personally. Through their dedicated coaching staff, athletes are taught to play with passion, poise, and purpose. Making the team is one thing, making it to weekly practices and games is another whole level of dedication. This will, however, separate Andrew from the rest of the pack.

Through the pandemic, Andrew has continued to find different ways to exercise such as at home workouts, home volleyball training, playing on outdoor tennis and basketball courts, biking and running. He says that he loves volleyball so much because it brings him a sense of happiness and fulfillment. He remembers the moment that kick-started his interest in Grade 9 when he hammered down his first real spike. It was at that moment that he knew this was what he wanted to do.

When Andrew isn't playing volleyball or other sports he enjoys fishing, boating, hiking, gaming, skateboarding, beekeeping, and cooking. He also has two dogs named Bella and Patches. Bella is a German Shepard, who requires long walks in order to keep her happy, so Andrew often takes her on 5k runs up McLeans Mountain in Little Current. He has worked at Harbour Vue Marina, Anchor Inn Hotel and Restaurant, and Ferguson's Cottage Supply. Many of his volunteer hours were earned helping at the Manitoulin School of Martial Arts, with Manitoulin Streams, and alongside Roy Jeffery, helping him with beekeeping and

Andrew's inspiration comes from his parents and many of his friends because they have shown him that hard work pays off. He also draws on inspiration from his favourite athlete, Yuji Nishida. He is one of the best spikers in the Italian Volleyball League and the same height as Andrew and shows that even though he may not be the tallest, through hard work, practice and dedication you could compete with the best in the world.

Andrew hopes to play volleyball at the highest level possible. He looks forward to trying out for teams after he leaves Manitoulin Secondary. He knows that playing professional volleyball is a tall order but will also find inspiration in quotes such as "you can't win unless you learn how to lose." He is ready to show how dedicated he is to the sport even if it means there will be some losses along the way. With that kind of attitude he will undoubtedly be successful! Good luck Andrew!

If you happen to see this Manitoulin Mustang, please wish him the best $\,$ in all his future endeavours! Let's go Mustangs!



Proud to sponsor MSS Proud to serve our customers!

MSS Mustangs 282-2496 Randy Noble

Proud Supporter of our

...Proposal for Gore Bay/Gordon transfer station

...continued from page 3 Gordon/Barrie Island and 49.33 percent for Gore Bay).'

"Even if we went back to the original numbers, this would be close to the 50-50 cost sharing basis," said Mr. Lalonde, noting, "It's all based on the number of households."

The operating costs for the transfer station is in opening the doors and running the transfer station, and should be shared equally at 50 percent each, said Mr. Lalonde.

"The only variable is the transportation cost," said Mr. Lalonde. "The more waste that is produced, the more has to be hauled (to Espanola) and the more costs involved. Based on the actual volumes as identified in the survey that was taken of the waste and bags going to the transfer station this year, it was identified as Gore Bay, 60 percent Gordon/Barrie Island at 40 percent. Gore Bay produces the majoritv of that.'

Mr. Lalonde outlined the entire proposal works out to a cost sharing split at 59 percent for Gore Bay and 41 percent for Gordon/Barrie Island. "That's taking the total costs of the budget and breaking it down by municipalities," said Mr. Lalonde. He said the most recent proposal from Gordon/Barrie Island council had been a 59-41 percent split.

"I think we were going with and had a proposed resolution for a 59-41 cost share split," said Mr. Bould. "But I don't think there will be much of an argument with what is being proposed here." He requested that the entire proposal be forwarded to the Gordon/Barrie Island office staff.

Roger Chenard, public works foreman for Gore Bay Gore Bay, said, "I did have a question regarding the staffing and administration part in running the transfer station. Our public works staff runs the transfer station." He outlined his concern that what can happen is that if an additional public works staff member is required at the

transfer station, it takes away from the work that they would be doing in the town. And we deal with the MOE (Ministry of Environment Energy and Climate Change) when they visit the site. Our concern is that when our public works staff is called out to work at the transfer station it means that they can't complete the work they have in town."

Mr. Bould explained, we (council) discussed this and if we could help out. But we have a crew of two public works staff members. And in the winter, they spend most of the time snowplowing. There was not a great response in having our staff help out, at least in the winter. Maybe this is something that can be looked at in the spring."

Gore Bay Mayor Dan Osborne said what needs to be done, "is collectively (between the two municipalities) we need to hire someone on a part-time basis to work at the transfer station."

Mr. Bould said Gordon/Barrie Island council "was in favour of hiring a full-time, part-time person to work at the transfer station, to relieve the pressure on the public works departments. And we're willing to share in that expense.'

The transfer station committee will forward a recommendation to be sent to both councils to go on the 54-46 percent (Gore Bay and Gordon/Barrie Island respectively) sharing of the costs. The recommendation, which was made by Mr. Bould and seconded by Gore Bay councillor Kevin Woestenenk, will be forwarded to both councils for their approval in January.

MANIDOO GIIZISOONS Little Spirit Moon | December



Children (ages 5+) COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics will take place the week of December 13th. Snacks and giveaways available for children. To make an appointment, call (705) 368-2182 Ext. 201.

Noojmowin Teg is currently recruiting clients and family members to join our Client Advisory Committee. Visit the employment section on our website: www.noojmowin-teg.ca.

Mshkiki Naadmaadwin - 'Medicine that Helps' - Collaboration between Noojmowin Teg and M'Chigeeng Health Services to provide Addiction Medicine. For M'Chigeeng Community Members only. For more information, clients can call (705) 920-0322.

Neurodiversity & Safety. Guest Speaker Nancy Lockwood will discuss safety considerations for individuals with FASD and their family members. To register, email: crows@ccnsudbury.on.ca.

December 6th is the National Day of Remembrance & Action on Violence Against Women. Noojmowin Teg Health Centre supports the worldwide effort to eliminate gender-based violence.

Social Calls - A friendly phone call to simply check-in and visit. Note: No healthcare advice will be given during these calls. Call (705) 368-2182 Ext. 260, leave a detailed message, we will return your call.

Services & Support Survey for those impacted by the MMIWG Crisis. Complete the survey here: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ NTHC_MMIWG or contact dakota. legge@noojmowin-teg.ca.

Accessible Drive to Vaccine Program. Rides to appointments can be arranged on Manitoulin and Espanola. Contact Shannon Paul (705) 968-0258 to determine eligibility.

Elders Telephone Program is a bi-weekly telephone social that includes activities elders can enjoy from home. Contact trisha. trudeau@noojmowin-teg.ca or call (705) 968-0681.

For more information, visit www.noojmowin-teg.ca or call (705) 368-2182

...Michigan withdraws Line 5 challenge in federal US court

...continued from page

caused by a pipeline rupture or anchor strike. The \$500 million project will be a privately-financed project, with Enbridge asserting that no tax dollars would be accessed.

Both the current pipeline and the tunnel project are opposed by the 12 American Ojibwe and Odawa bands in the region, as well as Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory. The bands have their own challenge to the projects, citing treaty rights that guarantee hunting and fishing in the

Manitoulin region

Kagawong summer resident Jim Nies of Whitewater Wisconsin and a member of the Waterkeeper Alliance has been vocal in his opposition to Line 5.

"I think of myself as something of a bi-national person," he told The Expositor, "having lived and worked in Canada and having owned property on Manitoulin for decades and spending nearly half my time there since retirement. From either the US or Canadian viewpoint.

Police on lookout for hit and run driver.

...continued from page 1

biere Road. Police and paramedics arrived on scene to find that an individual was suffering from serious injuries as a result of the collision, reported Brad Mack, acting staff sergeant-director of operations.

The victim was transported to Mindemoya Hospital and then on to Health Sciences North in Sudbury to be treated for injuries. At this time, the police investigation has revealed that the victim was travelling on a bicycle. A vehicle that was also travelling on Cross Hill Road struck the person riding the bicycle. The vehicle and driver did not remain at the location of the accident.

Cross Hill Road was closed for four hours as the police gathered evidence and conducted measurements of the scene

Police are asking for the assistance of the public in this collision. Police would like to hear from anyone who has direct knowledge of this case or witnessed anything in this

area on Sunday, December 26 between 5 pm and 6 pm. If you have information with respect to this investigation, after the fact, that will assist in identifying persons responsible, police are urging you to come forward as well.

Officers with the UCCM Police Service are reminding pedestrians and cyclists to wear clothing with reflective material and use some form of lighting to illuminate their location to be seen by motorists. In low light and heavy snow conditions, reflective clothing and lighting can give a driver a few extra seconds to increase reaction time in avoiding a collision.

Anyone with information on this investigation is asked to contact the UCCM Anishnaabe Police Service at 1-888-377-7135, or the Ontario Provincial Police Provincial Communication Centre at 1-888-310-1122. If you would like to remain anonymous, tips can be directed to Sudbury Rainbow Crime Stopppers at 1-800-222-8477. On-line tips can also be submitted by going to the Sudbury Rainbow Crime Stoppers website.

"I think most Americans think of Canada as the land of a pristine environment and advanced environmental awareness, continued Mr. Nies. "Line 5 is one glaring example of how mistaken that perception is. Line 5 transports heavy tar sands petroleum, one of the nastiest products imaginable. The place it comes from has been turned into a wasteland, and the atmosphere it eventually ends up in is already experiencing runaway overheating."

Mr. Nies points out that crude is transported (23 million gallons a day) beneath the Straits of Mackinac, one of the most sensitive environmental locations in North America. Studies have projected that a major spill would heavily impact Western Manitoulin and the North Shore.

Mr. Nies said that Enbridge "spends millions on public relations trying to promote itself as a responsible business, deeply concerned about safety and public welfare, whereas it has a history of incompetence and lack of concern. Hundreds of spills across all of its pipelines, including the 1.2 million gallon spill in the Kalamazoo River (Michigan) which gushed unstopped for 17 hours."

"From the American viewpoint, Line 5 looks like aggression from a hostile power," said Mr. Nies. "The line is really a shortcut from Canada to Canada, (bringing petroleum products from Western Canada east) under the Straits of Mackinac and then right across Michigan, eventually to the Sarnia refineries in Ontario. The pipeline carries a lethal substance in order to produce profit for a very few corporate executives and stockholders, asserted Mr. Nies. "The line is opposed by all the tribes in Michigan and Wisconsin and by a majority of American voters. It is operating in violation of many tribal treaties. Michigan's governor, Gretchen Whitmer, has revoked its permit and told Enbridge to shut the line down, so it is also violating American law."

...continued on page 10

...Fuel the Fire TV expanding to the United States

...continued from page 3

strapped and times are tough all around," continued Mr. Debassige.

"When we started, we wanted to spread out and make ourselves known in fishing, hunting, outdoor sports," said Mr. Debassige. "And we wanted to prove our brand could be around for more than one or two seasons," he said, noting that many similar shows cancel after a short period of time. I don't think everyone realizes how expensive it is to put something like our show on television."

"One of the ways we got around a lot of the costs of hosting a show on television is that I did most of the editing for the first four years of the show, and part of our production team did the fine tuning and technical work on the show," continued Mr. Debassige.

"Ultimately, the original goal of the FTFTV brand is to get more people outdoors," said Mr. Debassige. "We want to fuel the connection to the environment, to food security, and to conservation. Bringing attention to Manitoulin as a destination is an added bonus as really, our main industry is tourism and we have a lot to offer."

"Now that we have five FTFTV seasons and 65 episodes under our belt, we are ready to take a leap into the US market on a trial basis. Sportsman Channel Canada is always looking for more Canadian content to meet their broadcasting goals and have encouraged us to consider an FTFTV Fishing Series," said Mr. Debassige. He explained, "they are branding this series as new to the US market, therefore allowing us to air reconfigured episodes on a trial basis in the US. We have 13 episodes lined up and being edited through our contract with a new Manitoulin business, Zig Zag Media, owned by Jonathan Zagula of Kagawong."

"Mr. Zagula has several years in the film industry, working with Weengushk Film Institute in M'Chigeeng and was also employed to help with season five of FTFTV. The partnership is a win-win scenario for Mr. Zagula, who has always had a passion for the outdoors that was only heightened after moving to Manitoulin Island," said Mr. Debassige

"We are excited in this new venture and looking to highlight the skills of existing pro staff members like Aaron

Case of Ontario Fishing Guys and Luke Wassegijig of Wass Tours in Wiikwemkoong," said Mr. Debassige. "Existing partnerships with business owners like Arthur Trudeau of Mukwa Adventures in Sagamok and representative companies like Indigenous Tourism Ontario, Manitoulin Streams, and Destination Manitoulin will also be highlighted."

All 13 episodes originally aired on season one of FTFTV and will air weekly on Monday evenings in the US. This series began on December 27 and runs until April 21. The fishing being featured takes place almost all exclusively on Manitoulin Island and the North Channel, and FTFTV joins forces to present episodes titled Wikwemikong Manitoulin Ice Derby, the Manitoulin Expositor Salmon Classic, back country large-mouth bass fishing, hard water walleye adventure, offshore Florida fishing with Bolo, chasing chinooks, Manitoulin multi-species, 3 captains-2 fish, fresh-water salmon, Manitoulin Island ice showdown, Lake Mindemoya fishing, and fishing with friends.

"If the program is well received, we will be looking to branch out and help bring other local tourism destinations to a bigger stage and help grow their business. We are always looking for new and exciting partnerships," added Mr. Debassige. Finding Providence

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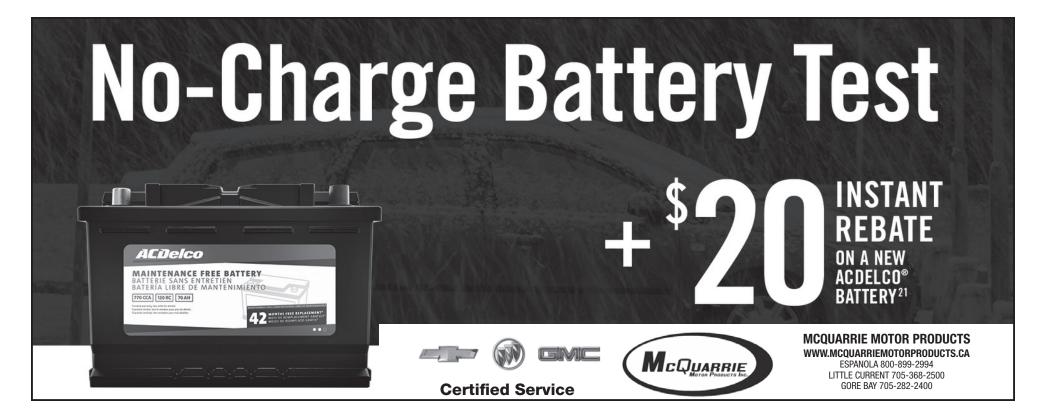


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... Canada and Indigenous child care advocates agree on terms

...continued from page 1 cause for celebration.

"They had a deadline of December 31," said Regional Chief Hare. "I know they were working late at night and on weekends to get this done, they had six weeks to do it, and they pulled it off." Regional Chief Hare expressed his gratitude to the legal teams who put in the effort to see the settlement through.

"All parties have been working closely toward a global resolution regarding compensation and long term reform of First Nations child and family services and we look forward to providing a more fulsome update on Tuesday," said Andrew MacKendrick, director of communications for the minister of Indigenous services.

Former senator Murray Sinclair, who chaired the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, was hired to help facilitate the talks.

Indigenous Services Minister Patty Haj-

du and Crown-Indigenous Relations Minister Marc Miller are to join Assembly of First Nations Manitoba Regional Chief Cindy Woodhouse Tuesday to discuss an update on the compensation talks.

First Nations Child and Family Caring Society Executive Director Cindy Blackstock, whose organization has largely spearheaded the drive for compensation, is scheduled to give her thoughts on the announcement on Tuesday afternoon following the joint announcement on the settlement..

The negotiations literally went down to the wire, with the final agreement signed off on New Year's Eve. Final details on the settlement are to be released on Tuesday, January 4.

Still, Regional Chief Hare pointed out that this settlement has come too late for many who were caught up in the shortfalls of the system.

"Even my wife and I, we adopted a young boy who would have been eligible for this settlement, but he died in a tragic snowmobile accident," he said. "There are so many who have not lived to see this day. But it is signed off now and there is no way I could see them backing out of it now."

The battle was initiated in 2007 when the First Nations Children and Family Caring Society and the Assembly of First Nations filed a human rights complaint arguing chronic underfunding of child welfare services on reserve was discriminatory when compared to services provided by provincial governments to children off reserve.

There followed numerous unsuccessful court challenges and appeals by the previous Conservative government, then the complaint moved to the Canadian Human Rights Commission in 2013 and 2014. In 2016, the tribunal ruled the federal government had discriminated against First Nations children, but the Liberal federal government sought to have that ruling quashed, arguing that the tribunal had

overreached its mandate but the courts declined that request. The federal government finally moved to manage compensation this past fall.

The most recent census data indicates fewer than eight percent of Canadian children under the age of 15 are Indigenous, but Indigenous youth account for more than half the children under 15 in foster care.

In 2019, the Human Rights Tribunal ordered the federal government to pay \$40,000 in compensation to every child who was needlessly removed from their families since January 1, 2006, extending those payments to parents or grandparents whose children were taken away. That amount represented the maximum compensation the tribunal could order.

The Assembly of First Nations estimated in 2019 that more than 50,000 kids could be eligible for the compensation.

...Manitoulin Island restaurateurs reel at new closedown mandate

...continued from page 1 ernment is offering is not much at the end of the day."

"I'm completely dumbfounded by this whole thing," said Ms. Martin. "We spend money on things like stock for our restaurant and then we have to reduce hours again and reduce hours and staff. The government had better come up with real good help for businesses."

"I don't dispute that the

government has to do something with the increase in confirmed cases of COVID-19, but I'm not sure how much longer any of us can go on with the way things are," said Ms. Martin. "A lot of restaurants have gone to just take out."

James Moggy of the Grill and Chill restaurant in Mindemoya said, "its unfortunate what is being done, but it can't be helped, the government needs to do it. We're fortunate we have a takeout window. But I would rather see these restrictions in the winter when things are slower than in the summer season when it is really busy."

"I know people are mad with the provincial announcement, but if our hospitals get too full, we will all be in trouble," said Mr. Moggy.

In response to recent trends that show an alarming increase in COVID-19 hospitalizations, the Ontario government, in consultation with the Chief Medical Officer of Health, is temporarily putting in place modifications that take into account the province's successful vaccination efforts.

As part of the province's response to the Omicron variant, starting January 5 (today), students will again pivot to remote learning with free emergency child care planned for school-

aged children of health care and other eligible frontline workers.

"As we continue with our provincial vaccine booster efforts, we must look at every option to slow the spread of the highly contagious Omicron variant," said Premier Doug Ford. "Putting these targeted and time-limited measures in place will give us more opportunity to deliver vaccines to all Ontarians and

ensure everyone has maximum protection against this virus."

Unlike other variants throughout the pandemic, evolving data is showing that while the Omicron variant is less severe, its high transmissibility has resulted in a larger number of hospital admissions relative to intensive care unit (ICU) admissions. Staff absenteeism is also expect-

...continued on page 11

...Michigan withdraws Line 5 challenge

...continued from page 9

"To counter the opposition coming from this side of the border, Enbridge has enlisted the aid of the Canadian government, inaccurately citing a 1977 treaty," said Mr. Nies. "(Former) Foreign Minister Marc Garneau made it clear that the Trudeau government backs Enbridge—the environment and the people be dammed."

"From my American viewpoint, this is hostile," he said, adding, "from my Canadian viewpoint this is disappointing. From both viewpoints it tarnishes Canada's reputation"

 $\operatorname{Mr.}$ Nies suggests Islanders should learn

more about the two organizations he supports that are working to protect the environment in general and the waters of Lakes Michigan and Huron in particular—FLOW and Oil and Water Don't Mix. "I hope the residents of Manitoulin and Ontario will too. I would also recommend questioning any pro-environment verbiage coming out of the Trudeau administration."

It is anticipated that Enbridge will now move to have Michigan's second front in state court also moved into a federal venue. Meanwhile, the US Army Corps of Engineers is conducting an in-depth environmental assessment of the impact of the proposed Enbridge tunnel.



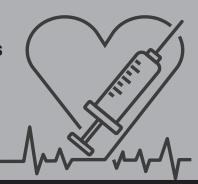
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Check the Sudbury & District website for local dates, locations and eligibility.





CROSSING GUARD REQUIRED

We are looking for an enthusiastic and dedicated individual to assist children crossing the street at HWY 6 and Blake Street.

If you are interested in this position please contact the Town office at 14 Water Street or call 705-368-3500.



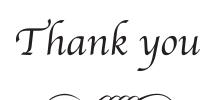
NOTICE OF MEETINGS

Due to the ever-changing environment that we are all dealing with, Council meetings will be held every Tuesday Night at 7:00 pm via Zoom Video Meeting # 489 313 1974 Or call

1-587-328-1099

Please be advised regular protocol will be in place and members of the public will not have the ability to make comment or ask questions during the meeting.

For a full copy of the agenda please visit our website at www.townofnemi.on.ca.



It is with mixed feelings, emotions and excitement that we make the following announcements. As of February 28, 2022, the business you know as M&R Jewellery at 37A Meredith Street in Gore Bay will be closing its doors. It was a big decision to make after 52 years in business which was started by Rhea and Marv Woods in 1970. This also ends a business legacy which began in the late 1940s. We wish to express our sincere thank you and appreciation to all our past and present patrons for all the trust and support they have shown our family over the years.

It is with the same excitement that we announce that the jewellery business will continue in Gore Bay and as of March 1,2022 will be operated by Carol and Ken Wosley. They will be moving the store across the street to 48 Meredith and it will be known as M and R Jewellery. Carol is very knowledgeable in the jewellery business and has worked for the Woods family for many years. They plan to offer their jewellery lines, repairs, watches, battery replacement and more. We hope you will afford them the same support in their new adventure that you gave to our family and we wish them much success now and for the future. From the bottom of our heart we say Thank You to each and everyone for allowing us to serve you over the years.

Sincerely,

Rhea, Marv, Bill, Joann, Jim and Jo Woods

...Island restaurateurs reel at new closedown mandate

ed to rise and affect operations in workplaces across Ontario due to Omicron infection and exposure, including in hospitals and schools. Real-world experience and evidence in Ontario reveal that approximately one per cent of Omicron cases require hospital care. The rapid rise of Omicron cases, which may soon number in the hundreds of thousands, could result in the province's hospital capacity becoming overwhelmed if further action isn't taken to curb transmission.

The province will return to the modified version of Step Two of the Roadmap to Reopen effective Wednesday, January 5, 2022 at 12:01 a.m. for at least 21 days (until January 26, 2022), subject to trends in public health and health system indicators.

These measures include: Reducing social gathering limits to five people indoors and 10 people outdoors; limiting capacity at organized public events to five people indoors; requiring businesses and organizations to ensure employees work remotely unless the nature of their work requires them to be on-site; limiting capacity at indoor weddings, funerals, and religious services, rites and ceremonies to 50 per cent capacity of the particular room. Outdoor services are limited to the number of people that can maintain two metres of physical distance. Social gatherings associated with these services must adhere to the social gathering limits.

Retail settings, including shopping malls, are reduced to 50 per cent capacity. For shopping malls, physical distancing will be required in line-ups, loitering will not be permitted and food courts will be required to close; personal care services including hairdressers and barbers are permitted at 50 per cent capacity and other restrictions. Saunas, steam rooms, and oxygen bars will be closed, as will gyms.

Indoor meeting and event spaces will be closed but outdoor spaces will remain open with restrictions.

Public libraries are limited to 50 per cent capacity.

Indoor dining is closed at restaurants, bars and other food or drink establishments. Outdoor dining with restrictions, takeout, drive through and delivery is permitted. The sale of alcohol



This sign first appeared outside the Anchor Inn's doors in March 2020, and will likely appear again this week with new provincial rules announced Monday

Expositor file photo

is restricted after 10 pm and the consumption of alcohol on-premise in businesses or settings after 11 p.m. with delivery and takeout, grocery/convenience stores and other liquor stores exempted.

The province is closing all indoor concert venues, theatres. cinemas, rehearsals and recorded performances permitted with restrictions. Museums, galleries, zoos, science centres, landmarks, his-toric sites, botanical gardens and similar attractions, amusement parks and waterparks, tour and guide services and fairs, rural exhibitions, and festivals are being closed. Outdoor establishments are permitted to open with restrictions and with spectator occupancy, and where applicable, limited to 50 per cent capacity.

Indoor horse racing tracks, car racing tracks and other similar venues are being closed. Outdoor establishments are permitted to open with restrictions and with spectator occupancy limited to 50 per cent capacity. Boat tours are permitted at 50 per cent capacity.

Also closed are indoor sport and recreational fitness facilities including gyms, except for athletes training for the Olympics and Paralympics and select professional and elite amateur sport leagues. Outdoor facilities are permitted to operate but with the number of spectators not to exceed 50 per cent occupancy and other requirements.

All publicly funded and private schools will move to remote learning starting January 5 until at least January 17, subject to public health trends and operational considerations.

School bullaings would be permitted to open for for Ontario businesses.

including emergency child care, to provide in-person instruction for students with special education needs who cannot be accommodated remotely and for staff who are unable to deliver quality instruction from home.

During this period of remote learning, free emergency child care will be provided for school-aged children of health care and other eligible frontline workers.

On January 5, the Chief Medical Officer of Health will reinstate Directive 2 for hospitals and regulated professionals, health instructing hospitals to pause all non-emergent and non-urgent surgeries and procedures in order to preserve critical care and human resource capacity.

In recognition of the impact the Omicron variant and additional public health measures have on small businesses, the government is expanding the new Ontario Business Costs Rebate Program. Eligible businesses that are required to close or reduce capacity will receive rebate payments for a portion of the property tax and energy costs they incur while subject to these measures. Eligible businesses required to reduce capacity to 50 per cent, such as smaller retail stores, will receive a rebate payment equivalent to 50 per cent of their costs, while businesses required to close for indoor activities, such as restaurants and gyms, will receive a rebate payment equivalent to 100 per cent of their costs. A full list of eligible business types will be made available when applications for the program open later this

month. To improve cash flows child care operations, effective January 1, 2022, the government is also providing up to \$7.5 billion for a six-month interest- and penalty-free period for Ontario businesses to make payments for most provincially administered taxes, supporting businesses now and providing the flexibility they will need for longterm planning.

"As cases continue to rise at a rapid rate and evidence on the Omicron variant evolves, additional timelimited measures are needed to help limit transmission as Team Ontario continues to get booster doses into arms," Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health. "While this was not an easy decision, these measures will help preserve hospital bed capacity and prevent our hospitals becoming overfrom whelmed."

"While the risks for severe illness are lower with Omicron than with the previous variants of concern, it is far more transmissible and hospitalizations are expected to continue to increase placing greater pressure on our health system," said Dr. Kieran Moore, Chief Medical Officer of Health. "It is difficult but necessary to apply additional public health and workplace safety measures to help stop the spread of the virus and protect our health system capacity. Please follow all public measures and get vaccinated with your first, second or booster dose if you have not done already."



JACKPOT starts at \$7,162 PLUS PERCENTAGE OF TICKET SALES! The next draw will be Thursday, January 6!

TICKETS GO ON SALE: FRIDAY - THURSDAY TO PURCHASE TICKETS VISIT LITTLE CURRENT LIONS CLUB ON FACEBOOK



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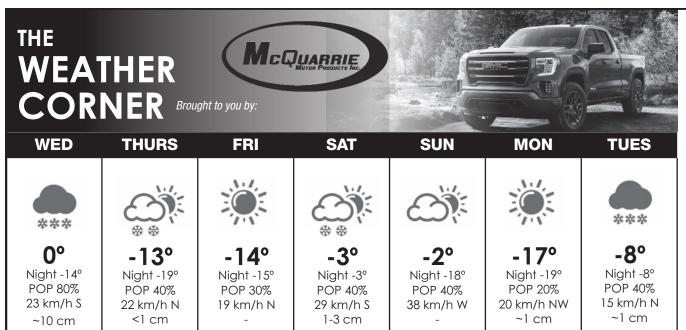
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Bahá'í Writings

Unity is the essential truth of religion and, when so understood, embraces all the virtues of the human world. — 'Abdu'l-Bahá

> To find out about local activities please email manitoulinbahais@gmail.com or call or text 705-210-0529 www.bahai.ca www.bahai.org







Manitoulin Secondary School distributes over \$50,000 in student awards

M'CHIGEENG—The 2022 Manitoulin Secondary School (MSS) Awards Night ceremonies were once again truncated by the strictures of the pandemic, but undaunted, the Manitoulin Island community once again rose to the occasion by contributing over \$50,000 in awards to MSS grads who have gone on to post-secondary studies.

Although the awards ceremonies could not be held in person again this year, the bursary bearing envelopes still got through.

"Welcome to MSS's 52nd Annual Awards' Night, said principal David Wiwchar in his address to students in the 2022 program, parents and community leaders. "This is a special event designed to honour our graduates. Due to the continued generosity of our Manitoulin Island community, over \$50,000 will be awarded to our graduates this year. We are proud of our graduates. They are a part of MSS's colourful history. Their contributions have left a unique mark on our school. It is our sincere hope that we have been able to prepare our graduates with the skills necessary to be successful in their chosen area of interest."

"We at MSS have every confidence that our graduates will continue to be outstanding citizens of our Canadian communities," continued Principal Wiwchar. "We trust that we have played an important role in assisting them to accomplish their goals. We thank our parents and community for their ongoing, overwhelming support of Manitoulin Secondary School. We are truly a community school. It is due to the generous contributions of our community that we are able to assist our students in their post-secondary endeavours. To the numerous businesses, individuals, service groups, community groups and organizations who have contributed, thank you for your ongoing sponsorship."

Principal Wiwchar noted the Manitoulin Student Aid Committee is comprised of "caring people from across our community who worked very hard to ensure that the following awards have been distributed appropriately and fairly. We extend our thanks to this group of people for their dedication to the organization."

This year's committee consisted of Allan Davy, Penny George, Shan Keatley, Leslie Marshall, Dawn Noble McCann, Dawn Roque, Karlene Scott, Chris Theijsmeijer and David Wiwchar.

The awards, and their recipients, are as follows:

The A. J. Bus Line Awards of \$500, to two deserving students continuing post-secondary education, were presented to Rachel Deforge and Ally Hall.

The All Saints' Anglican Church Good Samaritan Bursaries of \$250, awarded to one boy and one girl in the graduating class who demonstrated the Christian principles of caring and compassion were presented to Nick Purvis and Larissa Chevette.

The Douglas Allen Bursary of \$500, to a student continuing post-secondary education and for excellence in English was presented to Darci Debassige.

The Oswaldine Argmann Memorial Bursaries of \$200, donated by the Argmann family to a graduate continuing post-secondary education, were presented to Myah Emerson and Jacey Varey.

The Art Department Award, consisting of a gift, to a deserving graduate continuing post-secondary education was presented to Maggie Chapman.

The Assiginack Municipality Bursary of \$300 to an Assiginack student continuing post-secondary education was presented to Aaron Leeson.

The BMO, Bank of Montreal Bursaries of \$250 to two deserving graduates continuing post-secondary education in a business-related field were presented to Skye Setterington and Jacey Varey.

The Shane Bebonang Memorial Bursary of \$100 to a deserving graduate continuing post-secondary education was presented to Shade Kaiser.

The Ron Becks Memorial Bursaries of \$250 to two derserving graduates continuing post-secondary education were Presented to Darci Debassige and Naomi Naokwegijig.

The Best Bookkeeping and Accounting Bursary of \$250 to a student continuing post-secondary education in a business-related field was presented to Skye Setterington.

The Big Lake Women's Institute Bursary of \$100 to assist a deserving graduate continuing post-secondary education was presented to Taylor King-Dafoe.

The Billings Municipality Bursary of \$400, to assist a deserving Billings student continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Lauren MacKay.

The Reiner Blok-Anderson Memorial Bursary of \$100 donated by Stan and Beth Ferguson to a deserving graduate continuing post-secondary education in a business-related field was presented to Lauren MacKay.

The Bravissimo Music Award of \$100, presented to an outstanding student in music demonstrating both musical ability and leadership in the classroom and through extra-curricular activities, and who is pursuing post-secondary studies, was presented to Larissa Chevette.

The Carl Brown and Sons Bus Lines Awards, two of \$100 each, to two deserving graduates continuing post-secondary education, were presented to Aislinn Brown and



Malia Leighton of Gore Bay poses proudly with her awards from the annual Manitoulin Secondary School Awards Night, held virtually in December

Laura Brown.

The John Budd Memorial Bursary of \$200, to assist a graduate continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Laura Brown.

The Burpee and Mills Municipality Bursary of \$500, to a deserving Burpee and Mills student continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Abbie Harper.

The Campbell Horticultural Society Bursary of \$100, to a graduate continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Larissa Chevette.

The Central Manitoulin Municipal Bursary, three of \$250 each, to assist three Central Manitoulin students continuing post-secondary education were presented to Ella Correa, Taylor King-Dafoe and Trevor White.

The Central Manitoulin Public School Bursary, two of \$100 each, awarded to a male and female graduate of Central Manitoulin Public School and Manitoulin Secondary School who are continuing post-secondary education, were presented to Aislinn Brown and Trevor White.

The Coral and John Collins Memorial Bursary of \$200, to a MSS graduate continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Aislinn Brown.

The Community Living Manitouln Bursary of \$250, to assist a graduate continuing post-secondary education in a related field or to a family member that is supported by Community Living, was presented to Sylena Wright.

The Grampa George Corbiere Memorial Bursary of \$200, donated by Liz, Missy, Colleen, Corey and grandsons to a deserving student who merited a little extra encouragement over his/her high school education is being held in trust.

The D & H Electrical Trades Bursary of \$250, to a deserving graduate continuing post-secondary education in a technical related field, was presented to Kyle Wood.

The O.G. Davies Memorial Bursary of \$300, in memory of former MSS principal Gwynn Davies by his family to a deserving graduate continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Maggie Chapman.

The O.G. Davies Memorial Co-operative Education Bursary of \$200, awarded to an outstanding Co-operative Education student who is continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Alina Arthurs.

The Alex Davy Robitices Awards, two of \$100 each and donated by Mr. Allan Davy to two former robotics students continuing post-secondary education was held in trust.

The Anne Debassige Memorial Bursary of \$300, donated by her family to a deserving student continuing post-education, was presented to Darci Debassige.

The Domtar Inc. Bursary of \$500, to a graduate entering their first year of post-secondary education at a community college, was presented to Gwenyth McLeod.

The Domtar Inc. Scholarship of \$500, to a graduate entering their first year of post-secondary education at a university and for academic achievement, was presented to Skye Setterington.

The Betty and Bill Ferguson Memorial Bursary, two of \$250 each, in memory of Betty and Bill Ferguson to two deserving graduates continuing post-secondary education, were presented to Cameron Buck-Orr and Naomi Naokwegiiig.

The Pearl Laura, Cora Belle and Maurise 'Roy' Finch Memorial Bursary, three of \$200 each donated by

daughter and sister, Nelda, to three graduates in the NEMI area continuing post-secondary education in geriatrics or a health-related field, were presented to Tessa Bellmore, Mackensie Graham and Matteus McCulloch.

First General Services Manitoulin Division Bursary of \$150, to a student continuing their education in a technical trade related field will be held in trust.

The Flower Hutch Bursary of \$150, presented to a deserving graduate continuing post-secondary education was presented to Malia Leighton.

The Marie Foster Memorial Bursary of \$150, donated by Yvonne, Kevin, Rebecca and Patricia Bailey in memory of Marie Foster to a deserving graduate continuing post-secondary education in a health-related field was presented to Abbie Harper.

The Freshwater Community Church Bursary of \$500, to a deserving graduate who is pursing post-secondary education, was presented to Myah Emerson.

The Friends of Misery Bay Steve and Rita Hall Award of \$150, to a deserving student who is pursuing post-secondary education was presented to Larissa Chevette.

The Fuel the Fire Bursary of \$300, donated by Mr. Neil Debassige to a deserving graduate who is continuing post-secondary education in an outdoor education program, was presented to Naomi Naokwegiiig.

The Marcel and Wendy Gauthier Bursary, two of \$250 each, donated by Marcel and Wendy Gauthier to two deserving graduates continuing post-secondary education, were presented to Brady Case and Tanner Golder.

The Earle Gilmore Memorial Bursary of \$250, donated by the family in memory of Earle Gilmore to a graduate continuing post-secondary education in the carpentry trade or a technical related field, was presented to Alina Arthurs.

The Irene Goltz Memorial Bursary of \$300, donated by Samantha Ramage to a young woman who has demonstrated advocacy and/or leadership qualities at MSS was presented to Rachel Deforge.

The Gordon and Barrie Island Municipality Bursary of \$300, to a Gordon or Barrie Island student continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Kyle Wood.

The Gordon's Women's Institute Rev. Wm. Munro Memorial Bursary of \$150, donated by the Manitoulin West District Women's Institute to a Western Manitoulin graduate continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Kyle Greenman.

The Gore Bay Bursary, two of \$200, to a Gore Bay student continuing post-secondary education, were presented to Rory Dearing and Nick Purvis.

The Gore Bay Day Care Bursary of \$500, presented to a deserving graduate continuing their education in a child care related field, was presented to Sylena Wright.

The Gore Bay Manitolin Lodge Auxilary Inc. Bursary of \$400, to a high school graduate who plans on pursuing studies in a health-related field, was presented to Bailey Yaschuk-Middaugh.

The Governor General Academic Award Bronze Medal for academic excellence to the student who achieves the highest average in their graduating year from a secondary school was presented to Matteus McCulloch.

The Har-Cor Diesel Award of \$150, donated by Mr. Dave Harper to a graduate continuing post-secondary education in a technical related field, was presented to Cordell Fox.

The Provincial Constable Marc Hovingh Memorial Bursary of \$500, donated in memory of Provincial Cst. Marc Hovingh to a student who has demonstrated service and commitment to the community and is continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Malia Leighton.

Howland Senior Citizens Bursary of \$200, donated by the Howland Sr. Citizens Club to a deserving NEMI area graduate continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Ally Hall.

The Ice Lake Community Bursary of \$300, awarded to an Ice Lake area graduate continuing post-secondary education will be held in trust.

The Island Foodland Bursary of \$100, to a deserving graduate continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Taylor King-Dafoe.

The J.K. Automotive Bursary of \$500, donated by Joe and Kim Moor to a deserving graduate continuing post-secondary education in a technical related field, was presented to Michael Hore

The Ted Jackson Memorial Bursary of \$250, in fond memory of former MSS Physical Education teacher T.J. Jackson, to a graduate continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Trevor White.

...Manitoulin Secondary School distributes over \$50,000 in student awards

The Marguerite Joyce Memorial Bursary, of \$250, donated by the citizens of Dawson-Robinson Township to a graduate from Dawson-Robinson continuing post-secondary education will be held in trust.

The Carol Lane Memorial Bursary of \$300, donated in memory of Carol Lane to a graduate continuing postsecondary education will be held in trust.

The Life Touch Canada Bursary of \$100, to a deserving graduate continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Cordell Fox.

The Lions Club of Central Manitoulin Bursary, three of \$500 each, to three Central Manitoulin graduates who are continuing post-secondary education, were presented to Taylor King-Dafoe, Hailey McGillis-Prior and Avery Sheppard.

The Lions Club of Little Current Bursary, three of \$500 each, to three deserving students from the Northeastern Manitoulin area continuing post-secondary education, were presented to Maggie Chapman, Mackensie Graham and Jacey Varey.

The Lions Club of Southeast Manitoulin Bursary, two of \$250 each, to two Southeast Manitoulin graduates continuing post-secondary education were presented to Aaron Leeson and Skye Setterington.

The Lions Club of Western Manitoulin Bursary in Memory of Paul Shutz of \$300, to assist a Western Manitoulin graduate continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Kyle Wood.

The Little Current Fish and Game Club Bursary of \$400, to a deserving graduate continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Larissa Chevette.

The Little Current Guardian Pharmacy Bursary of \$200, to a deserving graduate continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Tanner Golder.

The Little Current Medical Associates Bursary of \$500, donated by the doctors of the Little Current Medical Centre to a deserving student pursuing studies in the arts or humanities, was presented to Maggie Chapman.

The Lyons Memorial United Church Bursary of \$300, to assist a graduate who is continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Malia Leighton.

The M'Chigeeng First Nation Chief and Council Bursary, three of \$200, to three M'Chigeeng First Nation graduates continuing post-secondary education, were presented to Darci Debassige, Shade Kaiser and Harmony Kaiser-Fox.

The Manitoulin Broadcasting Country 103 Bursary of \$250, to a deserving graduate continuing in post-secondary education, was presented to Shade Kaiser.

The Manitoulin Cattleman and Soil Crop Associations Bursary of \$200, to a deserving graduate continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Hailey McGillis-Prior.

The Manitoulin Centennial Manor Auxiliary Bursary of \$250, to a deserving graduate continuing post-secondary education in a health-related field, was presented to Tessa Bellmore.

The Manitoulin Community Fitness Centre Bursary of \$500, donated by the members of the Manitoulin Community Fitness Centre to a deserving graduate continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Shannon Debassige.

The Manitoulin Expositor Bursary, four of \$125, to deserving students in each grade who made an outstanding transition from their previous grade(s), were presented to Isaac Corbiere of Grade 9, Chase Becks of Grade 10, Ben Dewar of Grade 11 and Chloe Peltier, Grade 12.

The Manitoulin Family Resources Award of \$300, to a deserving graduate continuing their studies in a helping profession, was presented to Kailee Williams.

The Manitoulin Fine Arts Association Bursary of \$150, to a deserving graduate continuing post-secondary education will be held in trust.

The Manitoulin Health Centre Auxiliary Bursary, two of \$500 each, to two deserving students continuing post-secondary education in a health-related field, were presented to Jessica Elliott and Mackensie Graham.

The Manitoulin Minor Hockey Association Bursary of \$150, to a deserving graduate continuing post-secondary education and who has been involved with the Manitoulin Minor Hockey Association, was presented to Avery Sheppard.

The Manitouolin Nature Club Bursary, two of \$150 each, to two graduates continuing post-secondary education in an environmental related field, were presented to Larissa Chevette and Naomi Naokwegijig.

The Manitoulin Physiotherapy Clinic Bursary of \$250, donated by the Manitoulin Physio Clinic to recognize the academic and athletic achievements of a post-secondary student athlete, was presented to Darci Debassige.



Alina Arthurs of Litle Current shows off her Awards Night largesse.

The Manitoulin Secondary School Staff Bursary, three of \$100 each, to three deserving graduates continuing post-secondary education, were presented to Aislinn Brown and Laura Brown and Larissa Chevette.

The Manitoulin Secondary School Students' Council Scholarship of \$250, to a graduate who has made an excellent contribution to the school in terms of school activities, school spirit and good citizenship, and who is continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Larissa Chevette.

Manitoulin Secondary School Three Fires Confederacy Scholarship of \$250, presented to a First Nation graduate who has made an excellent contribution to the school and is continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Shade Kaiser.

The Manitoulin Snowdusters Award of \$250, provided to a graduate of MSS who has demonstrated care and concern for the environment and who has shown commitment to volunteer organizations on Manitoulin Island, was presented to Darci Debassige.

The Manitoulin Student Aid Fund Bursary, three of \$250, to three deserving graduates continuing post-secondary education, were presented to Aislinn Brown, Laura Brown and Gwenyth McLeod.

The Manitoulin Transport Awards, plaques presented to the top students in their respective grades, went to Mackenzie Green, Grade 9; Jocelyn Kuntsi Grade 10; Rachael Orford, Grade 11; and Matteus McCulloch Grade 12.

The Manitoulin Transport Inc. Bursary Award, two of \$500 each, to two deserving graduates who are continuing their education in a business or computer studies-related field, were presented to Lauren MacKay and Nick Purvis.

The Manitoulin Transport Inc. Scholarship Award of \$1,500, to a graduate of MSS who is a son/daughter of an employee of Manitoulin Transport and who is continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Rory Dearing.

The Manitoulin-West Dairy Producers Scholarship of \$300, to a graduate of MSS continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Malia Leighton.

Manitowaning Agricultural Society Bursary, two of \$250, to two deserving Assiginack graduates continuing post-secondary education, were presented to Laura Brown and Aaron Leeson.

The Manitowaning Guardian Pharmacy Bursary of \$200, to assist a student pursuing post-secondary education, was presented to Aislinn Brown.

The Manitowaning Mill Home Building Centre Bursary, two of \$250 each, to two graduates continuing post-secondary education, were presented to Jessica Elliott and Hailey McGillis-Prior.

The Joan Mantle Music Trust Bursary of \$100, in memory of Joan Mantle to honour a graduating student who excels in music, academics and community, was presented to Abbie Harper.

The Masonic Lodge Education Bursary of \$645, presented by Doric Lodge #455 Eastern Manitoulin, to a deserving graduate who is continuing post-secondary education and who has demonstrated courtesy, fairness, honesty and consideration for others was presented to Cameron Buck-Orr.

The John and Jennie McCulloch Memorial Bursary of \$200, to a deserving graduate continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Matteus McCulloch.

The Maria McDermid Memorial Bursary of \$100, awarded in fond memory of passionate Manitoulin educator Maria McDermid, to a deserving student who has demonstrated perserverance, good attendance and community involvement, was presented to Trevor White.

The Adam McDonald Memorial Bursary of \$500, to a deserving graduate continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Avery Sheppard.

The Dr. R. B. McQuay and Dr. J. B. McQuay Memorial Scholarship of \$400, donated by Jan McQuay to the Ontario Scholar who obtained the highest average in their graduating year and who is continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Matteus McCulloch.

The Meeker's Management Services Bursary, two of \$250 each, donated by Mike and Sharon Meeker to a male and female continuing post-secondary education, were presented to Shannon Debassige and Hailey McGillis-Prior.

The Gwen Middaugh-Young Memorial Bursary of \$225, in fond memory of Gwen Middaugh-Young to a graduate continuing post-secondary education in a trades related field, was presented to Cordell Fox.

The Bradley Middleton Memorial Bursary of \$500, in fond memory of Brad Middleton, to a graduate continuing post-secondary education was presented to Malia Leighton.

The Millenium Bursary of \$750 (\$3,000), awarded by two anonymous benefactors to provide financial support to a MSS graduate who is continuing post-secondary education. The award supports the recipient with \$750 per year providing that the student remains in school, to a maximum of four years (\$3000), was presented to Ella Correa.

The Mills Township Citizens Association Bursary of \$150, to a deserving student from Mills township continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Abbie Harper.

The Mindemoya Guardian Pharmacy Bursary of \$200, to assist a graduate pursuing post-secondary education, was presented to Hailey McGillis-Prior.

The Mindemoya Hosptial Auxiliary Bursary, six of \$500 each, to six graduates continuing their education in a health-related field, were presented to Tessa Bellmore, Jessica Elliott, Mackensie Graham, Abbie Harper, Matteus McCulloch and Bailey Yaschuk-Middaugh.

The Mindemoya Hospital Retired Staff Bursary of \$150, to assist a graduate continuing their education in a health-related field, was presented to Abbie Harper.

The Mindemoya Medical Clinic Bursary of \$500, donated by the physicians of the Mindemoya Medical Clinic in memory of Dr. John B. McQuay to a deserving graduate continuing post-secondary education in a health-related field, was presented to Tessa Bellmore.

The Mindemoya Minor Hockey Bursary of \$250, to assist a former Mindemoya Minor Hockey player continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Hailey McGillis-Prior.

The Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands Bursary, two of \$300 each, to two Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands students continuing post-secondary education, were presented to Brady Case and Matteus McCulloch

There were 28 Ontario Scholarship Certificates awarded this year to the Ontario Scholars of Manitoulin Secondary School who received an average of 80 percent or more in their top six, 4U/4M/4C/4O courses. The certificates were presented to Alina Arthurs, Dayna Beauchamp, Tessa Bellmore, Aislinn Brown, Laura Brown, Maggie Chapman, Emma Cassidy, Larissa Chevette, Ella Correa, Rory Dearing, Darci Debassige, Myah Emerson, Joseph Graham, Mackensie Graham, Abigail Harper, Regan Hutchinson, Shade Kaiser, Taylor King-Dafoe, Malia Leighton, Matteus McCulloch, Hailey McGillis-Prior, Naomi Naokwegijig, Ayriell Nodecker, Macy Pearson, Skye Setterington, Avery Sheppard, Amber Wiwchar and Bailey Yaschuk-Middaugh.

The Order of the Eastern Star, Spanish River Chapter #237 Bursary of \$200, to a graduate continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Michael Hore.

The Orr's Valumart Bursary of \$500, to a deserving graduate continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Matteus McCulloch.

The Wes Parkinson Memorial Bursary of \$100, donated by Stan and Beth Ferguson in fond memory of Wes Parkinson to a graduate continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Cordell Fox.

The Bruce Pope Memorial Bursary of \$300, in fond memory of Bruce Pope to a deserving graduate continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Jessica Elliott.

...continued on page 18



Peter Baumgarten during his 2019 art show.

File photo

Island photographer recognized with 2021 Canadian photo of the year award

by Tom Sasvari

MANITOULIN—Renowned Manitoulin Island photographer Peter Baumgarten is one of 13 outstanding photographers who has had one of his works chosen as some of the best images of 2021, being selected as one of the winners in the 2021 Canadian Photos of the Year competition.

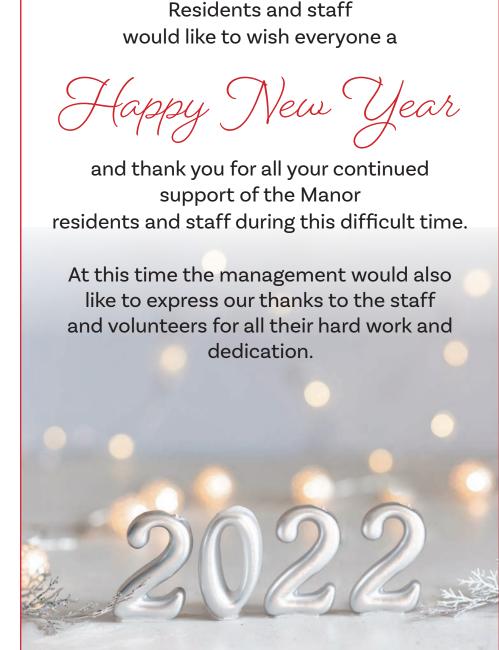
"One of my images was selected as the winner, in the Epic Landscapes category in this year's Canadian Geographic Photos of the Year competition," Mr. Baumgarten told The Expositor last week. "They had over 7,000 entries in the competition, the largest turnout in years."

Mr. Baumgarten won in the 'Epic Landscapes' category for his photo described as, "streaks of sunlit clouds over Providence Bay on Manitoulin Island, Ontario echo the island's stratified rock formations."

Baumgarten explained, "I captured the image in Providence Bay near the marina on October 25, 2022. Providence Bay is one of my favourite places to photograph the sunset. It has a nicely varied shoreline, from its beautiful sandy beach to the rugged limestone, typical of the Niagara Escarpment. I usually look for something interesting to include in the foreground of my landscape images.'

"On this particular evening I noticed the thinly layered rock strata and it seemed like the perfect point of interest against the similarly streaked sunlit clouds," continued Mr. Baumgarten. "When the last bit of sunlight peeked through an opening in the clouds, it was the icing on the cake. These types of conditions are rare in land-scape photography. I knew I had a good image the instant I saw it on the camera's LCD."

Mr. Baumgarten stated, "I am particularly proud that an image of Manitoulin Island was selected. When you think of epic Canadian landscapes you often think of Banff, Gros Morne, or a similar setting. Manitoulin has some epic scenes, just on a smaller



THE CHRISTADELPHIANS OF

MANITOULIN CENTENNIAL MANOR





Wikwemikong Tourism celebrates graduates of cultural guide training program

tion of Ontario and the

award in 2019 by the

Indigenous Tourism Asso-

ciation of Canada. The

Wiikwemkoong Annual

Cultural Festival was also

awarded the Indigenous

tourism award in 2019 by

the Tourism Industry

Wikwemikong Tourism

is a department of the

Enaadmaagehjik (WDC)

and is responsible for com-

munity tourism develop-

ment guided by the Wik-

Strategy, with a vision to

build a foundation for sus-

tainable tourism develop-

ment that will position

wemikong

Association of Ontario.

Adventure

Tourism

Indigenous

WIIKWEMKOONG-Wikwemikong Tourism celebrated the graduation of its inaugural cultural guide training program November 23.

"This cultural guide training program has proven to be a well-rounded training curriculum that we hope to one day have become an industry standard, and one that other companies or communities can utilize to help develop their own guides and cultural entrepreneurs," stated tourism manager Luke Wassegijig.

On November 23, Wikwemikong Tourism held a small gathering with staff and partners to celebrate the graduation of the participants of the first edition of the program. The four trainees who were enrolled in the program (Mandaago Osawamick, Jack Rivers, Vincent Manitowabi, Isaiah Peltier) have now earned the title of 'Cultural Guide' and are prepared to continue a career in the Indigenous tourism industry. By having each of these certifications under their belt, the trainees will be considered as some of the most qualified tour guides in the industry, Wikwemikong Tourism will continue to promote them as cultural guides.

The program was designed to provide each of the participants with a blend of industry certified training and cultural training from local knowledge carriers. This training would successfully teach the trainees how to respectfully deliver cultural tourism experiences and educate both visitors and community members about history of the community of Wiikwemkoong and the Anishnaabek people of the Great Lakes.

The trainees participated in 18 modules over the course of 16 weeks including ORCKA levels 1-3, ATV



Wikwemikong Tourism celebrated the graduation of its inaugural cultural guide training program November 23. The graduates are, left, Mandaago Osawamick, Jack Rivers, Vincent Manitowabi, along with Dustin Peltier. Missing from photo is Isaiah Peltier.

wilderness and entrepreneurial, pre-colonial culinary methods, advanced wilderness first-aid, Anishnaabek language and cultural knowledge, plants and medicinal teachings, fur harvesters and conservation management, Great Lakes history and migration, Powwow etiquette and traditions, fundamentals of video production, guiding 101, hunting and guiding with Fuel the Fire TV, traditional harvesting methods, service excellence, and land based learning initiatives.

In addition to preparing the guides for a career in Indigenous tourism, Wikwemikong Tourism hopes to create capacity for their programming and daily cultural experiences by utilizing the program as a launchpad to establish a roster of guides and ultimately create employment for community members. Wikwemikong Tourism hopes to get back to prepandemic operating levels in 2019, and in order to do so requires knowledgeable guides with cultural, service, and industry related training in a variety of areas. By completing the program, this ensures that each of the graduates of the program will have the confidence to conduct tours and lead community events with minimal direction or supervision.

The first edition of the program was originally intended to include members from other communities and organizations, but due to COVID-19 constraints, it was limited to just five members from the community of wemkoong. Wikwemikong Tourism hopes to have the next edition of the cultural guide training program program include other communities.

Wikwemikong Tourism has previously won awards for their industry-leading cultural experiences, including being recognized as tourism champions in 2017 by Nature and Outdoor Tourism Ontario, Indigenous Award in 2018 by the Tourism Industry AssociaWiikwemkoong Unceded Territory as a four-season destination. Enaadmaagehjik is a non-profit organization with a mission to foster and advance the interests of the band members of the Wiikwemkoong

Unceded Territory through the promotion and generation of a diversified economic base in order to increase the wealth, opportunity, qualify of life of the total Wiikwemkoong population.



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KTEI and Queen's University expand Indigenous studies courses offered

by Tom Sasvari

M'CHIGEENG—Kenjgewin Teg Educational Institute and Queen's University have a long-established history in partnership with the university's community-based Indigenous Teacher Education Pro-(ITEP-formerly gram known as ATEP). Beginning in January, 2022, this partnership will be expanding into a new and innovative direction together, with a pilot program for students enrolled at Queen's University to learn about Indigenous people, customs and culture directly from an Indigenous institute.

"We are pleased to be partnering with Queen's on this important work to expand access to Indigenous studies courses," said Stephanie Roy, president of Kenjgewin Teg. "The new courses will provide students with the opportunity to enhance their awareness of Indigenous perspectives on a diverse range of subjects, from climate change, the connection between language and identity and the arts. Building aware-

ness of the perspectives and knowledge of Indigenous peoples is a key part the reconciliation process."

The new courses will also add to the breadth and depth of Queen's existing Indigenous studies academic offerings. The new courses will be offered by remote instruction through Queen's Faculty of Arts and Science from January to April 2022 as part of the one-term pilot agreement. The courses will focus on Indigenous perspectives on climate change and sustainability practices related to water, Indigenous theatre and performance, and the significance of language in relation to collective and individual identity. Kenigewin Teg and Queen's will collaborate on the recruitment and selection of Indigenous faculty members to teach the courses.

Ms. Roy told The Expositor this agreement adds on to previous advances Kenjgewin Teg has made recently. "Everything is really advancing quickly and we are asserting our

position in post-secondary education. We have had partnerships with colleges and universities for the past 25 years. The biggest difference now is that as we outline the courses that we can provide and offer, the universities and colleges are coming to us requesting us to create an agreement and offer courses in our programs.

"This new collaboration with Kenjgewin Teg adds to the long history of partnership between both institutions," said Kanonhsyonne Janice Hill, associate viceprincipal (Indigenous Initiatives and Reconciliation). "I'm so pleased we are combining our expertise in Indigenous studies with that of Kenjgewin Teg to provide these new courses to students, allowing them to grow their understanding of Indigenous knowledge and experiences."

Queen's University and Kenjgewin Teg enjoyed two decades of committed and now an expanded partnership rela-



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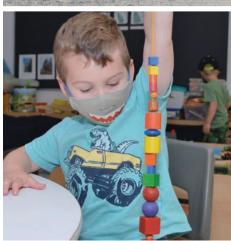
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Charles C. McLean Public School ccmclean.rainbowschools.ca	43 Hall St.	705.368.7015	Jamie Mohamed
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Virtual Information Nights

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Theresa Phiri is the owner of Timeless Beauty Spa, which recently opened in Gore Bay.

Timeless Beauty Spa offers Islanders a soothing atmosphere and experience

by Tom Sasvari

GORE BAY—The first thing you notice when you walk into Timeless Beauty Spa is soothing music and fragrance with the calming sound of waterfalls in the background. The spa, located below The Codmother's restaurant in Gore Bay, opened in October. It aims to offer a spa experience of a lifetime. "The whole idea is to keep people looking and feeling as young as they possibly can," said owner Theresa Phiri.

She has been pleasantly surprised at the excitement about her newest venture. "We've seen many people come in through the doors to congratulate us, wish us well and encourage us to keep up the good work," she shared.

She believes one of the reasons people visit the spa and return is because they love the ambience. "There's a sense of relaxation and peace when they walk in. It's not hurried," said Ms. Phiri. "Most importantly, their skin care needs are met and that is the main intention and goal for the spa. The secret ingredient is that we love what we're doing. This is our happy escape place."

"I believe every aesthetician's goal, and most rewarding moments, are when they see positive results on their clients' skin," Ms. Phiri stated. "For instance, when someone has a skin condition or issue and their skin begins to heal and they are happy with the results, that is extremely rewarding. That is why we believe what we do here adds value to people's lives, by preserving youth and building confidence and self-esteem.'

Beauty is part of science," she pointed out. "Skin is the largest organ on our bodies. Its main functions are protecting and defending against harmful environmental pollutants. Skin regulates temperature, excretes toxins, secretes a mixture of oils to give skin a naturally soft and supple look and feel and it absorbs vitamins and minerals. Last but not least, it helps to detect sensations such as heat, cold, pain and pressure. Knowing this helps us to simultaneously work directly with the skin, to manipulate it to gain certain positive results."

The spa offers facials from basic to advanced, including microdermabrasion and chemical peels, and waxing services. They are introducing pedicures at a small scale for now, sunless tanning in spring and summer, and other body treatments will be added soon

Ms. Phiri is a graduate of The Salon and Spa Career College and also holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree. After graduating from aesthetics school, she opened her own business in Toronto, which turned out to be a great challenge as a single mother. "I was doing all the marketing and promotional work. We spent whole days at nearby malls placing flyers on parked cars. Social media was not like it was today. We had to find interesting guerilla strategies to get noticed."

Unfortunately, she had to close the operation and went on to work for the Dove Spa company, which operated in and around the Greater Toronto Area. "I learned a lot," Ms. Phiri said, even winning an award of excellence in guest/team relations. She went on to join Mayfair private clubs, working in their elegant spas. Following that, she moved into the corporate world where she gained the qualities of resilience, perseverance, self-motivation, recruiting, team building and prospecting. "All of these experiences prepared the way to this space and time."

The tides of the universe then pulled her to Manitoulin Island. One day, Judith Martin, owner of The Codmother's, was at Ms. Phiri's home and saw a room which contained all the spa equipment from her previous business. Ms. Martin offered to rent her the lower level in her restaurant building. "I resisted at first," remembered Ms. Phiri. "I explained to her that although the idea was tempting, I had failed the first time. She continued to encourage and nudge me and offered her support.

Ms. Phiri thanked Judith

and her husband Wayne for giving her the push she needed. "They're amazing people," she said. "We thank everyone for coming out to support us with welcoming gifts, for purchasing services or sending people to us, and for including us in local town events."

She acknowledged all the local residents who have showed love and encouragement. "We promise to give you the best service and a safe environment to relax and enjoy being spoiled," she said.

The spa wouldn't be where it is today without her business partner, Richard Lapointe, who played a major role by believing in her and supporting the emergence of Timeless Beauty Spa. He also helped with painting and renovating. "With his skillful knowledge and experience, he had the basement turned into a relaxing spot for everyone to enjoy."

Ms. Phiri also thanked Mr. Wallace "for his unwavering support" and her daughter for technical support. "Last but not least, I would like to thank my creator for giving me the courage, strength and health to take on this venture," she said.

Going forward, the vision for the spa is, "to empower and inspire others who are interested in the beauty industry to follow their dreams in this exciting and evolving industry," she said. Currently, Candace Lee Robitaille is training to be a certified nail technician and will be running a nails station at Timeless Beauty, offering manicures, nail art décor, nail tips and other nail services.

"We would also like to outsource a registered massage therapist, eyelash technicians and others," Ms. Phiri said. She encourages anyone who is interested to contact the spa.

To book an appointment or find more information on spa services, text 705-905-3310 or email bookings@timelessbeautyspa.ca or timelessbeautyspa962@gmail.com. You can also find Timeless

Beauty Spa on Facebook

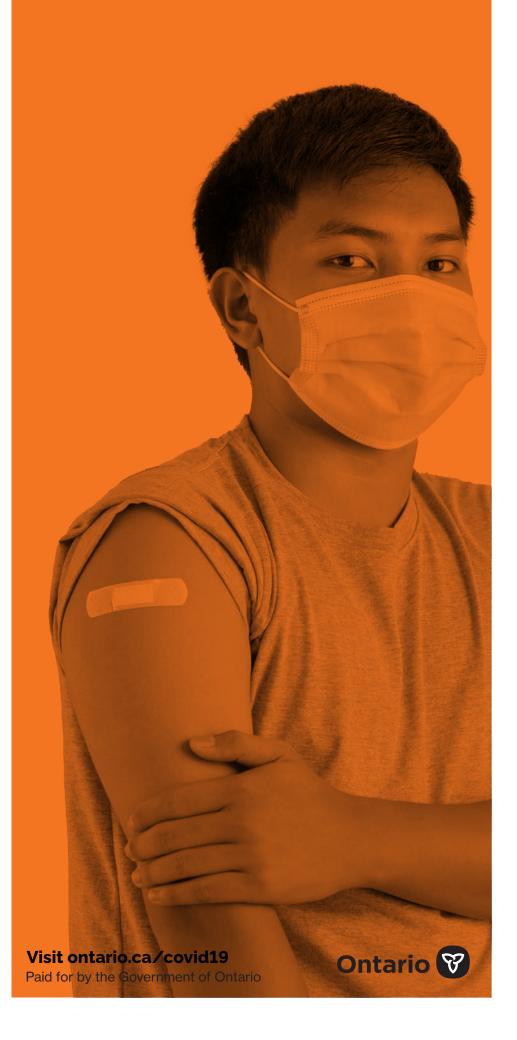
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...Manitoulin Secondary School distributes over \$50,000 in student awards

...continued from page 13 The Tom Porter Memorial Bursary of \$200, in memory of former MSS

English teacher Tom Porter to a graduate continuing post-secondary education. was presented to Nick Purvis.

The Principal's Award for Excellence in Leadership of \$100, donated by former principal Jamie Mohamed to the student who has exhibited outleadership standing throughout their secondary school career, was presented to Larissa Chevette.

The PRO-GAS Energy Services Bursary, two of **\$250 each,** to two deserving graduates who are continuing their education in a technical related field, were presented to Alina Arthurs and Tanner Golder.

post-secondary education, was presented to Kailee Williams.

Sheshegwaning First Nation Bursary of \$150, to assist a Sheshegwaning costal Church Bursary, two of \$250, to two deserving students continuing post-secondary education were presented to Abbie Kailee Harper and Williams.



Matteus McCulloch of Little Current is the 2021 receipient of the



Principals Dave Wiwchar, Dawn Noble McCann, left, and Neil Debassige, right, flank Expositor Award winners Isaac Corbiere, Chloe Peltier, Chase Becks and Ben Dewar.

The Providence Bay **Agricultural Society Bur**sary of \$250, to a deserving graduate continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Avery Sheppard.

The RONA Builders of a Better Tomorrow Bursary of \$250 to a deserving graduate continuing postsecondary education, was presented to Brady Case.

The Rotary Club of Gore Bay Bursary of \$500, to a deserving Western Manitoulin graduate continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Myah Emerson.

The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 177 Bursary, two of \$250 each, to two deserving graduates continuing post-secondary, were presented to Shade Kaiser and Naomi Naokwegijig.

The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 514 Western Manitoulin Bursary of \$300, to a Western Manitoulin graduate continuing post-secondary education who is the child or grandchild of Branch #514 members, was presented to Kyle Greenman.

Royal Canadian Sea Cadets of Manitoulin Bursary in Memory of Ed Kift, two of \$200, donated by the Royal Canadian Sea Cadets of Manitoulin in memory of Ed Kift to two former Sea Cadets, presented to Dayna Beauchamp and Lauren MacKay.

The Seeds of Joy Bursary of \$200, awarded to a female graduate continuing First Nation graduate continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Gwenyth McLeod.

Specialist High Skills Major Bursary (SHSM), Agriculture, of \$250 to a SHSM graduate who demonstrated a keen interest in agriculture, was presented to Naomi Naok-

Specialist High Skills Major Bursary, Arts and Culture, of \$250, presented to a SHSM graduate who demonstrated a keen interest in arts and culture, was presented to Maggie Chapman.

Specialist High Skills (21) Certificates, to 21 students who have completed the ministry requirements for a Specialist High Skills Major Agriculture and Arts and Culture red seal on their Ontario Secondary School Diploma. The certificates were presented to Dayna Beauchamp, Maggie Chapman, Larissa Chevette, Hailey Cress, Darci Debassige, Jessica Elliott, Myah Emerson, Mackensie Graham, Abbie Harper, Michael Hore, Harmony Kaiser-Fox, Tyler Leeson, Malia Leighton, Lauren MacKay, Naomi Naokwegijig, Holly Sagle, Skye Setterington, Avery Sheppard, Ashton Smith, Reace Wallace, Kyle Wood and Monica Zilio.

The Split Rail Brewery Bursary of \$250, to a deserving graduate continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Taylor King-Dafoe.

The Spring Bay Pente-

The Steele Family Scholarship, two of \$500, donated by the family in memory of Douglas and Michael Steele to two deserving students continuing post-secondary education in a trades related field and an educational related field, were presented to Kyle Greenman and Sylena Wright.

The Christopher and **Lorraine Stewart Award** of \$500, awarded to an MSS student continuing postsecondary education, who has exhibited courage in the face of adversity, overcoming personal hardship and for academic improvement, was presented to Kailee Williams.

The Technical Trade and Apprenticeship Bursary of \$150, to a deserving graduate who is pursuing their career in the workplace, a trade or trade apprenticeship, was presented to Kyle Greenman.

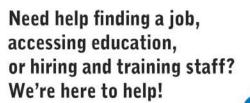
Tehkummah Response Bursary of \$100, donated by the Tehkummah Response Team to a graduate pursuing their education in a medical related field, was presented to Bailey Yaschuk-Middaugh. The Tehkummah Township

Bursary, two of \$100, to two deserving graduates who are continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Aislinn Brown and Laura Brown.

Tehkummah Triangle **Club Bursary in Memory** of Mel Bowerman, two of \$150 each, to two deserving graduates from the South Baymouth or Tehkummah area who are continuing post-secondary education, were presented to Aislinn Brown and Laura Brown.

The Trinity United Church Manitoulin Scholarship of \$250, to a

...continued on page 25



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Association of Ontario. Tel: 416-222-8820 or 1-877-632-6682 (outside GTA) or write to: Ste. 402, 170 Donway West, Toronto, ON M3C 2G3. Please visit our web site at: www.meao.ca.

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Rachael Orford

Happy New Year everyone! I hope everyone had a great holiday season, and I wish all of you the best in 2022!

A new year's joke for you: Do you know why I love when they drop the ball in Times Square? Because it is a nice reminder of what I did all year.

Before the Christmas break, the door decorating contest winner announced. Congratulations to the Grade 12 4U Advanced Functions class! Their door was a Christmas tree made up of right angle special triangles. The tree had decorations and lights as well. Some honorable door decoration mentions go out to E5, D7, G3 and the A5 classrooms.

Students celebrated the last few days of school before the break with candy canes given out by student council on Thursday, December 16 and a pyjama day on Friday, December 17.

Due to the COVID-19 situation, MSS' annual 52nd Awards Night could not be held in-person. Instead, graduates were to pick up their awards from the main office at the school. A few highlights from this year's awards night include: 21 Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) certificates were awarded to students who completed the Ministry of Education requirements for either the Arts and Culture SHSM or Agriculture SHSM, and 28 students were awarded with Ontario Scholars certificates for receiving an average of 80 percent or higher in their top six 4U/4M/4C/4O courses.

The Manitoulin Secondary School Students' Council Scholarship went to Larissa Chevrette. The Manitoulin Secondary School Three Fires Confederacy Scholarship went to Shade Kaiser. The Principal's Award for Student Excellence went to Larissa Chevrette. The Manitoulin Secondary School Staff bursary went to Aislinn Brown, Laura Brown, and Larissa Chevrette. The Governor General Academic Award went to Matteus McCulloch. The Joan Mantle Music Trust Bursary went to Abbie Harper. Current and former students were also recognized for their achievements. Manitoulin Transport academic awards were presented to the top academic students in their respective grades for the 2020-2021 school year: Grade 9, Mackenzie Green; Grade 10, Jocelyn Kuntsi; Grade 11, Rachael Orford; and Grade 12, Matteus McCulloch. The Manitoulin Expositor Bursaries were awarded to deserving students in each grade who made an outstanding transition from their previous grade: Grade 9, Isaac Corbiere; Grade 10, Chase Becks; Grade 11, Ben Dewar; and Grade 12, Chloe Peltier. Thank you so much to all businesses, organizations, and individuals who donated bursaries that will assist former MSS students in their post-secondary endeav-

Students were originally supposed to return to the classroom on Monday, January 3, but on Thursday, December 30 it was announced by the Ontario government that the return would be pushed to Wednesday, January 5. Then, another announcement on Monday, January 3 from the Ontario government laid out that students would not be returning to the classroom until at least Monday, January 17. Students will be learning online beginning today, Wednesday, January 5.

Joke of the week: Why should you put your new calendar in the freezer? To start off the new year in a cool way.

Upcoming events include culminating projects and exams.

Until the next time, "Dream and Believe. Learn and Achieve!









Registered Radiology Technologist

The Manitoulin Health Centre requires an Radiology Technologist on a casual basis to work at both MHC's Little Current and Mindemoya sites. The Radiology Technologist is responsible for providing quality diagnostic images for interpretation by a Radiologist.

QUALIFICATIONS (Education, Certifications, Experience, Licensure):

- Required:
- Registration with the C.M.R.T.O.
- Willing to successfully complete a recognized course in Electrocardiology
- Proof of Professional Liability Insurance

Preferred:

- Registration with the O.A.M.R.S. and C.A.M.R.T.
- Previous experience with E.C.G.'s, Holter Monitors, AGFA PACS system and Bone Mineral Densitometry
- Previous experience in a hospital setting
- COMPETENCIES/TECHNICAL:
- Knowledge and proficiency in quality imaging
- Knowledge and proficiency in equipment QC requirements Knowledge and proficiency in general radiology examinations
- Knowledge and proficiency in radiation management
- Knowledge and proficiency in infant and pediatric procedures
- Ability to recognize normal and abnormal ECG's
- Knowledge and proficiency in conducting a bone mineral densitometry scan
- Proficiency in computer software applications: Microsoft Platform, Meditech DI, Meditech Order Entry, Meditech Community Wide Scheduler, PACS, Spacelab, Holter Monitoring Software; Policy & Procedures and Learning Management System

SELECTION PROCESS:

Please email a cover letter and resume to Human Resources at recruitment@mhc.on.ca quoting job posting number 2021-0P-15.

Thank you to all who apply. Only those to be interviewed will be contacted.

"Manitoulin Health Centre is strongly committed to diversity within its community and especially welcomes applications from racialized persons / persons of colour, women, Indigenous / Aboriginal People, persons with disabilities, LGBTQ persons, and others who may contribute to the further diversification of ideas.















Children's Community Network Réseau communautaire pour enfants is currently seeking a

SERVICE COORDINATOR & FGDM/ ADR COORDINATION

for the Manitoulin office

Permanent, full-time, 35 hours/week Salary range: \$26.67 to 40.08 per hour

The successful candidate will provide screening for service eligibility/priority for a range of children's services and provide information about services and supports available for children and youth in the assigned area. They will provide Coordinated Service Planning for families of children and youth with complex needs, refer children and youth to appropriate services, link children and youth to initial services and, activate crisis services when required.

The successful candidate will also provide coordination for the Child Welfare Alternative Dispute Resolution Services that Children's Community Network (CCN) provides. The candidate will coordinate and lead Family Group Decision Making conferences with extended family members, community members, child protection workers, and service providers to develop plans that address identified protection concerns. The incumbent must be a member of the Ontario Family Group Conferencing Coordinator Roster, or be able to obtain CCN provided training to become a qualified member of the Roster.

The successful candidate will have knowledge of both theory and the application of systemic interventions, child development, childhood disorders and syndromes, family/individual mental health assessments and intervention. He/She must possess a BSW or equivalent degree in a related profession. Experience in and ability to coordinate services, to empower clients and conduct comprehensive needs assessments is required. The candidate must be self-motivated and able to work independently. Exceptional leadership, inter-personal, problem-solving and organizational skills are further requirements for this position.

A valid driver's licence, access to a vehicle, and current insurance are required, travel throughout the assigned area may be expected. The successful candidate must provide a clear vulnerable sector criminal reference check. The potential candidate will be expected to work from home at this time.

Those interested in this position should send their current resumes to: Mary-Katherine Howe - Executive Director

Children's Community Network Tel: (705) 566-3416 ext. 2547

Fax: (705) 521-7376 Email: mhowe@ccnsudbury.on.ca

Posted: November 26, 2021 - January 14, 2022

Children's Community Network welcomes and encourages applications from people with disabilities. Accommodations are available on request for candidates taking part in all aspects of the selection

We would like to thank all applicants for their interest, however, only those candidates selected for an

interview will be contacted.







A place of healing

Noojmowin Teg Health Centre is comprised of a multi-team of health care professions providing community-based services through the use of a wholistic approach that integrates both traditional and western healing methods. Our unique team includes: Traditional Healing and Primary Care, Mental Health & Addictions Services, Health Promotion and Cultural Services. Services are offered on-site and community-based through the Manitoulin Island District First Nations Health Centres.

Given the traditional practices of the Anishinabek, from time to time, exposure to wood smoke and the burning of sacred medicines, including tobacco, sweet grass, sage, and cedar, may occur within the work setting.

NTHC is an inclusive employer. Accommodation is available in accordance with the Ontario Human Rights Code and the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005.

Available Positions:

- Withdrawal Management Services Addictions Worker (1FTE Contract)
- Custodian (Contract position)
- Land Base Lead Facilitator (1FTE)
- Mental Health & Addictions Counsellor (1FTE)
- Cultural Support Worker (1FTE)
- Firekeeper/Harvester (1FTE) Registered Practical Nurse (1FTE)
- Aging at Home Van Support Drivers (Casual/On-call)
- Physician (1 FTE)
- Traditional Knowledge Keeper (1FTE)

For job details please visit:

www.noojmowin-teg.ca/about-us/employment

Submission Pre-Requisites:

Please submit a cover letter, resume, registration, and three (3) work-related letters of reference. Full Covid Vaccination Status required.

Applications:

Can be received marked 'Confidential',

by email at info@nooimowin-teg.ca, by facsimile at (705) 368-3922, or by mail:

Attn: Human Resources Noojmowin Teg Health Centre Postal Bag 2002, Hwy. 540 Aundeck Omni Kaning First Nation Little Current, ON POP 1K0

To learn more about employment opportunities, call (705) 368-2182 ext. 235. Chi-milgwetch/Thank you for your interest in Noojmowin Teg Health Centre.

"A place of healing"

Introducing the Manitoulin Secondary School Eco-Hero Program

and Daphne Carr The EDITOR'S NOTE: Share/Go Green extracur-

ricular program at Manitoulin Secondary School will be sharing updates of the group's activities as well as timely insights in a regular column in The Expositor. This is the first installment.

♦ The SHARE Go-Green Club at MSS has created new ways for students to be more involved in taking action to fight the climate crisis. The Go-Green portion of the club has set up the Eco-Hero program to encourage and inspire high school students to become more eco-conscious. The Eco-Hero program is a point-based system that helps students discover ways they can tweak their lives towards a smaller ecological footprint. To sign up, students fill out a form where they can check off all of the eco-actions they will take in their lives. Some of these challenges include taking shorter showers, not using plastic, avoiding single-use gift wrap, or even going vegetarian.

The goals of the Eco-Hero program include reducing energy consumption, choosing more efficient household products, and raising awareness of



Anika Smith and Daphene Carr are The Expositor's newest contributors, sharing the Manitoulin Secondary School Share/Go Green Committee's activities with the broader Island community.

the looming global climate disaster. Many people believe that climate change will not have a local impact. In fact, on Manitoulin, climate change will aggressively change weather patterns, cause more storms, create droughts, lead to shorter winters, and result in more people moving here to escape areas that are flooded or scorched. The impact globally will cause mass migration between countries, destroy sections of

humanity's food production, reduce access to water, threaten starvation, and give rise to increased diseases. As part of the Eco-Hero program, participants will also be fundraising for the #TeamSeas initiative. The goal is to support an economical and ecological future.

How does going vegetarian or reducing plastic help save the Earth? Plastic is involved with almost every product in our lives: from groceries, to cars, to what has become a more regular part of our lives, disposable masks. All of these products and their packaging take a toll on the earth as they break down. An estimated 8 mil-

up in the ocean every day, our main source of oxygen. What about reducing meat intake? The way we feed our livestock takes up more resources than it would take to feed humans who just eat vegetables, fruit, grains, and fungi. Yes, not everybody will choose to become a vegetarian, but there are always opportunities to be more sustainable and reduce meat consumption.

lion pieces of plastic end

dog, why not have a salad with nuts in it?

This Eco-Hero program at Manitoulin Secondary School helps youth and communities discover ways that they can change their lifestyles and influence others to do the same. It seems like a small step towards the solution; however if 100 people take a small step, the total distance covered is 100 times





NOTICE TO CREDITORS

All claims against the Estate of Maurice Marois, late of Mindemoya, who passed away December 2, 2021, must be filed with the undersigned by January 6, 2021 after which that date the estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims of which notice have been received.

Sherri Lyn Marois Box 311 Mindemova, ON P0P 1S0 **Executor of Estate**









AUNDECK OMNI KANING FIRST NATION EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY BAND ADMINISTRATOR

The Band Administrator is responsible for the overall efficient and effective administrative and financial management of the Aundeck Omni Kaning First Nation Band government, its infrastructure, program areas and services, and for keeping Chief and Council informed on all matters relating to the business of the First Nation.

JOB DUTIES:

- Provide leadership, supervision and direction to all Program Coordinators for the effective and efficient administration of the programs and services of the First Nation, to ensure achievement of annual goals and objectives and compliance with program budgets.
- Maintain direct verbal and written contact with Chief and Council. Provide monthly written reports and financial statements to Chief and Council on Band operations, programs and services.
- Communicate effectively with Chief and Council, Program Coordinators, Council Committees and community members to identify, plan and provide for the current and future needs of the Aundeck Omni Kaning First Nation.
- Ensure that adequate financial controls, policies and procedures are in place and followed to enable reliable and accurate financial reporting and effective and secure management of Band funds and resources.
- Oversee and direct the infrastructure resources and systems of the First Nation. Ensure the annual preparation of a five-year capital plan and budget for review and approval by Chief and Council
- Be informed and able to communicate regarding the First Nation's programs and services, government policies and regulations. Implement Council decisions and policy; ensure Council motions, directions and resolutions are
- carried out in a timely, efficient and professional manner. Provide follow up reports to Council.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- University degree or college diploma in public administration, business administration or a related
- Minimum of five (5) years' work experience in administration at a senior management level, with leadership experience.
- Experience working for a First Nation government or organization.

APPLICATION TO INCLUDE:

- Cover letter with contact information.
- Resume listing education and work experience.
- 3. At least two (2) work-related letters of reference with contact information.

Please forward applications marked CONFIDENTIAL to: Aundeck Omni Kaning First Nation c/o Chief Patsy Corbiere 13 Hill Street Little Current, ON POP 1K0

Complete job description is available at the Band Office reception desk. Deadline for applications is January 28, 2022 @ 12:00 NOON. The successful candidate must provide an acceptable Police Record Check (C.P.I.C.).



notice

705-282-2237 🚇 705-282-3142

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Concerning a proposed plan subdivision Take notice that the Manitoulin Planning Board will hold a public meeting to consider a proposed plan of Subdivision under section 51 of the Planning Act Via teleconference at the Manitoulin Planning Board Office 40 Water Street, Unit 1, Gore Bay, Ontario Tuesday, January 25th, 2022 at 7 pm

THE PURPOSE of this application is for a Plan of Subdivision consisting of thirty-five (35) lots for seasonal residential uses. The draft approval for the proposed new lots will be conditional on provisions of the Official Plan for the Manitoulin District, the Provincial Policy Statement 2020, and the Zoning By-law No. 343 for the Township of Barrie Island.

The land subject to the Plan of Subdivision is described as Lots 24, 25, and 26 Conc. VIII and Lot 26 and 27, Conc. VII and Lot 25, Conc. VI and Part of the Municipal Road Allowances within the Township of Barrie Island, Municipality of Gordon/Barrie Island, District of Manitoulin.

ANY PERSON may make written or verbal representations either in support of or in opposition to the proposed plan of subdivision and may participate in the electronic meeting. If you wish to participate in the electronic meeting, a written request must be received by the Planning Board Office, no later than January 24th, 2022.

IF A PERSON OR PUBLIC BODY does not make oral submissions at the public meeting or make written submissions to The Manitoulin Planning Board in respect of the proposed plan of subdivision before the approval authority gives or refuses to give approval to the draft plan of subdivision, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of The Manitoulin Planning Board to the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT).

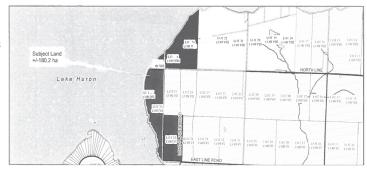
IF A PERSON OR PUBLIC BODY does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to The Manitoulin Planning Board in respect of the proposed plan of subdivision before the approval authority gives or refuses to give approval to the draft plan of subdivision, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT) unless, in the opinion of the Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to do so.

IF YOU WISH TO BE NOTIFIED of the decision of the Manitoulin Planning Board in respect of this proposed plan of subdivision, you must make a written request to the Manitoulin Planning Board, P.O. Box 240, Gore Bay, ON, POP

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION relating to the proposed plan of subdivision is available by contacting the Manitoulin Planning Board in Gore Bay between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday. [Ref. File No.: SUB2022-01]

Dated at Gore Bay This 5th Day of January, 2022

Theresa Carlisle, ACST Secretary-Treasurer mpbcarlisle@bellnet.ca



Death Notices

ROY MCLENNAN



Roy McLennan of Manitoulin Island passed away at the Manitoulin Health Centre, Little Current on December 25, 2021 at the age of 89. Dear son of the late Cecil and Sadie (nee Phillips) McLennan. Beloved husband of the late Naomi (nee MacKenzie)(1994) and the late Dawn (nee St. Onge)(2012).

Loving father of Jav McLennan (Rose) of Capreol. Cherished grandfather of Rene, Crystal and two great-grandchildren. Dear brother of Pat Case (Leslie) of Espanola, the late Graydon McLennan and the late Bernadine Roque. Also, will be sadly missed by many friends and relatives. Cremation with a Celebration of Life and Interment at a later date. Arrangements by Bourcier Funeral Home Ltd, Espanola.

MICHAEL FRANKLIN ELIAS **GOLDER**

January 24, 1964 - December 23, 2021



Tichael Franklin Elias Golder Lpassed away peacefully on December 23, 2021, with family by his side. Proud father of Tristan, Mason, Tanner, and Beth. Born on January 24. 1964, in Little Current to parents Nola (Aelick) and Franklin Golder (predeceased). Mike followed in his

father's footsteps and became an auto body technician; a trade Tristan and Tanner have also embraced. He travelled throughout Canada and various places in the States. He mastered the art of making bread, baked cheesecakes, and butter tarts using his mother's recipe. Mike was very proud to be a volunteer firefighter, serving the NEMI community. Mike will be remembered for his sense of humour, various modes of transportation, and signature flames. He will be deeply missed by his family and friends. Cremation has taken place; a Celebration of Life will be held at Cold Springs Cemetery.

MARGARET LOUISA WALKER (nee Smith)

December 1929 - December 25, 2021



Targaret Louisa Walker (Smith) passed away in peace and comfort at the age of 92 on Saturday, December 25, 2021 in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. She joined her beloved late husband, Douglas Walker, for Christmas Day. Cherished mother of Brenda Arrowsmith (Donald) and Bruce Walker (Lorraine).

Proud grandmother of Jamie Arrowsmith (Katie Schell) and Dana Arrowsmith, and great-grandmother of her precious Elizabeth and Douglas Arrowsmith. Predeceased by much loved siblings and their spouses, Grenville Smith, Mervyn Smith and Muriel Talcott (Smith). Survived by brothers Harold Smith and Lawrence Smith (Sandy) and sister-in-law Deanna Walker (late David Walker). Predeceased by parents Chester and Florence Smith. A special aunt to several nieces and nephews and two generations of great-nieces and nephews. Margaret was born on the family farm near Manitowaning on Manitoulin Island in December 1929. She met her life-long sweetheart, Douglas, while working in Little Current. Married in 1950, they reached their 70th wedding anniversary in 2020. The young couple moved to the Sault in 1951, although 'The Island' remained dear to her heart. Marg and Doug enjoyed a happy life, made rich by fast friendships, community service involvements, extensive travel, skiing, ballroom and square dancing, and their muchloved congregation at The Community of Christ Church. Margaret also enjoyed her years of association with the Beta Sigma Phi Sorority. She was blessed with many talents. Everything she did was representative of her best efforts and high standards. She loved to cook for people, often providing meals for neighbours in times of need. Above all, family came first. The family would like to thank the staff at Maple View Extendicare for their care and compassion over the last four years. Memorial contributions to the The Community of Christ or a charity of your choice are much appreciated. Family and friends were invited to visit at the Arthur Funeral Home - Barton & Kiteley Chapel (492 Wellington Street East 705-759-2522, COVID restrictions were followed, masks were required) on Tuesday, December 28, 2021 from 2:30 pm to 4 pm. Cremation followed the visitation. A Graveside Service to be held at Hilly Grove Cemetery, Manitoulin Island will be announced in the spring of 2022. Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at ArthurFuneralHome.com for the Walker family.

JOSEPH ALBERT PERRON June 28, 1948 - December 17, 2021



In loving memory of Joseph Albert Perron, who passed peacefully at ARCH Hospice in Sault Ste, Marie on Friday, December 17, 2021 at the age of 73. Beloved husband of Lorraine Perron (nee Shawanda). Loving father of Jennifer Perron, John Perron, Janice Perron,

Paul Perron (Sally), Joe Perron (predeceased), Jean Richard (Michael), and Russell Perron. Grandfather of Shawn, Robert, Jacklyn, Quentin, Shelby, Kristen, Summer, Nicholas and great-granddaughter Echo. Godfather of Allien Paibomsai. Son of Charles Perron and Pauline Koepf (both predeceased). Brother of Robert Perron (predeceased) (Margaret predeceased), Keith Perron (Judy), Geraldine Saunders (Gordon), Fern McLean, Peggy Koepf and Harry Koepf. Will also be missed by many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. Albert "Bert" was well known for being a loving family man, sportsman and mechanic extraordinaire. He worked as an underground miner at various locations throughout Northern Ontario finishing off his mining career at Rio Algom in Elliot Lake. He enjoyed hunting small game and fishing with his uncles, cousins and siblings. Camping with the in-laws, family and friends and enjoyed spending countless hours with his beloved dog, Chase. He enjoyed listening to Johnny Cash, Tammy Wynette, George Jones and wasn't shy to shake a leg on the dance floor whenever it was called for, but on any given day could be seen at home dancing with his beloved wife in the kitchen or living room. Family and friends gathered at Island Funeral Home on Thursday, December 23, 2021 from 11 am to 2 pm. A private graveside service followed at Whitefish River First Nation Cemetery. Donations may be made to the Schizophrenia Society of Canada at https://schizophrenia.ca/donate/ or to the Mood Disorders Association of Ontario at https://mooddisorders.ca/donatenow. Please share your thoughts, memories and photos at IslandFuneralHome.ca.

ROBERT GEORGE MIGWANS May 18, 1976 - December 20, 2021



In loving memory of our brother and Wobbles or Buddy R amongst his I friend. Affectionately known as friends. Robert was called to the Spirit World and began his journey on December 20, 2021. Robert will always be remembered for his gentle soul, sense of humour, and quick wit. He

loved watching hockey and was a big fan of the Detroit Red Wings. He was a great artist but kept this beautiful talent to himself. Robert was also a wizard with fixing computers, cell phones, and just about anything electrical. He loved fixing and riding bikes and was everyone's go to guy for quick "McGyver" fixes. He loved watching movies and listening to his vast record collection. Most of all, Robert was the best brother and friend that anyone could ever want. He was a great friend to many, and we know his wish to you would be to live your life to the fullest. Robert always made the time for his family. He will be sadly missed, but never forgotten by his special friend Terri Roy, his sisters Penny (Michael) Corbiere, Georgina Roy, Dorothy Roy, Roseanne Debassige and his brothers Duncan Pheasant, Darin (Teresa) Migwans, John Roy, Donald Debassige, Dennis Debassige and predeceased brothers Levi, Clifford and Stewart Debassige. Robert will also be missed by his special nephew Meeshen (Shelly) and nieces Samantha, Ayla, Julia, Olivia, Grace (Sabastian), Dylan (predeceased) and Dyan. Robert was also a Godfather to Mkoonhs Corbiere, Rasphsody and Melody Roy-Manitowabi. He will also be greatly missed by his beloved pet cats, Mr. Mew and Loulou. Robert will now reunite with his parents Ruth Migwans and George Debassige. We know that he will be watching over us, until we meet again. We will celebrate the life of Robert Migwans with immediate family members at this time. Robert's Celebration of Life will be held on May 18, 2022 (his birthday) with family and friends, pending COVID-19 restrictions. Please share your thoughts, memories and photos at IslandFuneralHome.ca.

FRANCIS EDWARD MIGWANS "Yahbeh"

April 19, 1964 - December 18, 2021



n loving memory of Francis Edward Migwans "Yahbeh", 57, passed unexpectedly on Saturday, December 18, 2021 at his residence. He was born April 19, 1964 in Mindemoya, Ontario, the son of Edward Bebamash and Delores Armstrong (nee Migwans). Francis is preceded in death by his

mother Delores, stepfather Raymond Armstrong Assance, baby brother Raymond, biological father Edward Bebamash and brother-in-law Grant Migwans. Francis is survived by his beautiful daughter Crystal Plume, loving siblings Cheryl (Grant predeceased), Audrey and Jessica (Bernard), grandchildren Tyler, Trinity and Taylor-Jay, nieces and nephews Melanie (Roger), Celeste (Jeffrey), Carrie (Jeffrey), Ashley (Layton), Tiffany, Louisa and Jeremy, his great-nieces and nephews Linnea (Tim), Thomas, Joseph, Anna, Jeffrey Jr, Destiny, Trevor Jr., Hoyt, Kaelen, Danika, Sandra, Kim Jr., Noodin, Tiana, Bella and Xander and best friend Ross Armstrong and Waahoo Stacy Bryson. He will be reunited with his dog Scrappy AKA Uncle Simon. Francis was a kind, gentle soul who loved to be on the go. For several years of his life he worked as a labourer, for 10 years in Chapleau, Ontario, he also worked for the Circus to set up and take down equipment. He had travelled to many places like Missouri, Florida and Niagara Falls. In his travels he met many different people. He was a lover of rock n' roll like Creedence Clear Water Revival, Ozzy Osbourne, Led Zeppelin and Alice Cooper. Francis came home at 2 pm on Monday, December 20, 2021 to 67 Corbiere Road. A private family service for immediate family was held at 11 am on Wednesday, January 5, 2022 at 67 Corbiere Road with Father Louis Martin officiating. Cremation followed. The family of Francis Migwans wishes to extend our sincere thanks to M'Chigeeng Wellness Centre staff and the M'Chigeeng Health Services staff who were a big part of Francis' life and care. We never lose the ones we love. For, even though they're gone, within the hearts of those who care, their memory lingers on. Please share your thoughts, memories and photos at IslandFuneralHome.ca.

MILDRED BERNIECE SLOSS (nee Wood)

June 5, 1931 - December 28, 2021



In loving memory of Mildred Berniece Sloss (nee Wood). Berniece passed away peacefully at the Manitoulin Centennial Manor in Little Current at the age of 90. Beloved wife of Dougal Gilchrist and Verdun Sloss (both predeceased). Cherished mother of Leslie (Brenda),

June, Douglas (Laurie), Janice (Gary) and step-mother of Ken (Sally) and Marie (predeceased). Doting grandma of Melissa-Mae (Marc), Tyson, Brittany (Jeremy), Jonathon (Kelsey) and step-grandma of Brian, Brent and Brad. Loving great-grandma of Brady, Bosco, Ayla, Magnolia and a new arrival expected in January 2022. Dear sister of Myrtle and Phyllis "Marie". Predeceased by siblings Leonard, Edith, Alvin, Leland, Elmer, Vera, Norman, Lorne, Florence, Charles and Stella. Predeceased by parents Leslie and Sarah Wood. Will be missed by many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. Berniece was a talented musician who loved to play the piano and accordion for others. She was a lifelong member of the Big Lake Women's Institute and the Mindemoya Missionary Church. Berniece was recognized for all of her hard work at the Haven House by receiving the Volunteer of the Year Award, of which she was very proud of. She also worked for many years as a dietary aid at the Mindemoya Hospital. A graveside service will be held on Saturday, June 4, 2022 at the Mindemoya Cemetery at 11 am. Donations in memory of Berniece can be sent to the Freshwater Community Church (formerly Mindemoya Missionary Church), 51 Yonge St, Mindemoya, Ontario POP 1S0 or https://freshwatercommunitychurch.ca/give, Manitoulin Centennial Manor Aux. at Postal Bag 460, 70 Robinson Street, Little Current, Ontario POP 1K0 or a charity of your choice. Please share your thoughts, memories and photos at IslandFuneralHome.ca.

...No charges against officers after Mindemoya man suffers fractured leg: SIU

...continued from page 6

The SIU report revealed that through OPP dispatch radio recordings at 11:20:04 am, an undesignated police officer was dispatched to a trespass in progress call at one of the civilian witness addresses. The two officers volunteered to head to the call for service as well. The undesignated officer asked about checks to be run on all.

communications updated that one of the civilian witnesses had called to say that she and her brother had confronted the complainant and asked that he leave the property. Subject officer #2 acknowledged the information. An officer advised that they had arrested the complainant for trespassing and would be leaving shortly. They advised they would be attending the hospital (Mindemoya Medical Centre) with the complainant at his request. The complainant had been arrested under the Trespass to Property Act and would be issued a Provincial Offences Act notice when released from hospital.

"The following narrative emerges from the evidence collected by the SIU which included interviews with the complainant and civilians who witnessed parts of the events in question. As was their legal right, neither subject official chose to interview with the SIU. They did authorize the

release of their notes."

"In the morning of July 18, 2021, OPP officers were dispatched to a property in Mindemoya following a call to police reporting a trespasser. The trespasser, the complainant, had been asked to leave the property by member of the family who owned the cottage on the land. The complainant, believing he had a lawful right to be on the land, had refused."

"The two subject officers arrived at the address at about 12:00 pm. They spoke with members of the family and then approached the complainant asking him to vacate the property. At the time, the complainant was on a treed incline that climbed towards the cottage property from the shoreline of Mindemoya Lake. Again, believing that he had every right to be where he was, the complainant refused."

"The officers approached the complainant, advised him he was under arrest. and attempted to handcuff him," the report continues. "The complainant objected to the arrest and refused to release his hands to be handcuffed. He continued to resist on the ground after he had been taken down by one of the officers. In short order, however, the two subiect officers were able to subdue the complainant. take control of his arms, and secure him in hand-

While being escorted to a

cruiser following his arrest, the complainant complained of injury to his left leg. He was taken from the scene to hospital and eventually diagnosed with a fracture of the left leg.

In his analysis and decision, Director Martino wrote. "Following his arrest on July 18, 2021 by OPP officers, the complainant was taken to hospital and diagnosed with a serious injury. The arresting officers were identified as subject officials for purposes of the SIU investigation. The investigation is now concluded. On my assessment of the evidence, there is no reasonable grounds to believe that either of the subject officials committed a criminal offence in connection with the complainant's arrest and injury," wrote Mr. Mari-

Mr. Martino explained, "pursuant to section 25(1) of the Criminal Code. Police officers are immune from criminal liability for force used in the course of their duties provided such force was reasonably necessary in the execution of an act that they were authorized or required to do by law. While the weight of the evidence suggests that the complainant was in fact trespassing on the land, I need not come to any conclusion on the matter. It is enough to find, as I do, given the information at their disposal and having spofamily, that there were reasonable grounds to believe that the complainant was trespassing at the time. In the circumstances, when the complainant refused repeated requests that he leave the property by someone the officers reasonably believe was the property owner, he was subject to arrest pursuant to section 9(1) of the Trespass to Property Act."

There is no doubt that

the complainant resisted his arrest. Instead, at issue is whether he was subjected to excessive force when, while prone on the ground, he was kicked or kneed by one of the officers. If believed, this might give rise to criminal liability on the part of one or the other subject officials." "However, I am unable to conclude that there is sufficiently cogent evidence to this effect to warrant charges,' continued Mr. Martino. "For example, the complainant says that he had great difficulty bearing weight on his knee, following the strike, as he was being escorted to the police cruiser. None of the witnesses present at the time, however, was able to corroborate that evidence. Finally, in light of the fact that the complainant struggled against the officers' efforts to handcuff him while on the ground for between two and five min-

ken with members of the utes, I am unable to reasonably conclude that a knee or a kick was necessarily excessive in the circumstances, even if it did cause the injury in question."

"As for the officers' rendition of the altercation that marked the complainant's arrest, no mention is made of a strike of any kind once the complainant was on the ground. Rather, the officers reported simply using their greater manpower to wrestle control of the complainants' arms before handcuffing them from behind his back," continued Mr. Martino.

"In the result, there are no reasonable grounds to believe that either of the subject officials comported themselves other than lawfully in their dealings with the complainant. Accordingly, there is no basis for proceeding with criminal charges in this case, and this file is closed," added Mr. Martino.

+ in memoriam

MCMURRAY, WADE- In loving memory of our dear son, brother, brother-in-law, and uncle who daddy passed away January 8, 2009.

I wish I could see you one more time

Come walking through the door. But I know that is impossible

I will hear your voice no more. I know you can feel my tears

And you don't want me to Yet my heart is broken

because I can't understand why

someone So precious had to die.

I pray that God will give me strength And somehow get me

through. As I struggle with the

heartache That came when I lost you.

Love always and forever, Mom, Geoff, Candy, Cassie, Jordan, Megan, Brianna, Lily







...MSS distributes over \$50,000 in student awards

...continued from page 18

deserving graduate continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Ella Correa.

The Twilight Club of Providence Bay Bursary of \$200, to a deserving graduate continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Trevor White.

The UCCM Anishnaabe Police Bursary \$500, to a First Nation graduates continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Harmony Kaiser-Fox.

The United Chiefs and Councils of Mnidoo Mnising Bursary, two each of \$200, to assist two deserving First Nation students continuing post-secondary education, were presented to Shade Kaiser and Harmony Kaiser-Fox.

The Irene Wood-Cadieux Memorial Bursary of \$200, donated by the Little Current United Church Outreach Program to a graduate continuing post-secondary education, was presented to Alina Arthurs.

The Marjorie Young Memorial Bursary of \$150, donated by Mark and Bonnie Young in memory Marjorie Young to a deserving graduate continuing their postsecondary education in a medical related field was presented to Bailey Yaschuk-Middaugh.

The Manitoulin Student Aid Fund is a charitable organization that aims to recognize scholarships and assist graduates to further their education at post-secondary institutions. The fund issues official income tax reciepts.













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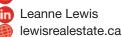
















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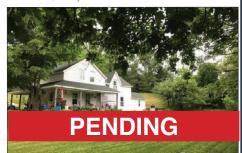
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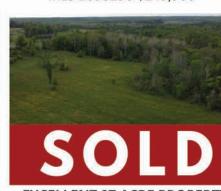
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