

Vol. 141, No. 4 \$1.43 + GST

Little Current, Ontario

Wednesday, June 10, 2020



A SIGN OF THE TIMES - On Monday, M'Chigeeng First Nation, due to the current low risk of COVID-19 in the district, decommissioned its three highway checkpoints, instead moving to a side street closure model. In photo, a sign for local traffic only is placed on Hwy 540, bedside West Bay General Store.

Part III of a series Coping with children's feelings of isolation during pandemic times

by Lori Thompson

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter MANITOULIN—It is normal that children and youth may be anxious or upset during the COVID-19 outbreak. Young people that were already at risk prior to the pandemic may be disproportionately affected by the media saturation, school closures and additional stressors that are being experienced during this time. There are numerous online resources available that provide support, tips and

links to services for families and youth, including Children's Mental Health Ontario at cmho.org, Jack.org, a partnership and between Jack.org, School Mental Health Ontario and Kids Help Phone. Both resource hubs contain easily accessible education, tools, support and reliable information

Locally, Compass is the lead agency providing mental health services and supports for chil-...continued on page 20

M'Chigeeng First Nation lifts checkpoints for essential travel on Hwys 540 and 551, limits travel on community's secondary roads

M'CHIGEENG—On Monday, M'Chigeeng First Nation announced that, due to the current low risk of COVID-19 in the Manitoulin-Sudbury District, the highway checkpoints were to be decommissioned that same day. The community will then move to close M'Chigeeng side roads, as has been done in other Manitoulin First Nations such as Sheguiandah, Whitefish River and Aundeck Omni Kaning.

"Please be advised that on June 4, my council approved the recommendations from our Emergency Operations Group and Non-Essential Travel Ban Advisory Group to move towards a (checkpoint) decommissioning strategy," an email from M'Chigeeng Ogimaa-kwe Linda Debassige to Manitoulin's leadership group reads. "The strategy was finalized on Sunday and provided to council.'

"My council approved to move forward and the decommissionprocess has been coming menced," the email continued. "We anticipate by the end of the day today (Monday, June 8) the checkpoints will be decommissioned and we will be transitioning into a side road closure as our borders remain closed, however, with some easement of restrictions. We are asking that those who have obtained essential travel passes to keep them in the event the checkpoints are required and we move into a non-essential travel ban again, which is part of our level of activation threshold.'

The ogimaa-kwe went on to note that M'Chigeeng First Nation remains under a state of emergency.

For those with property on allowed to reopen in this phase leased land in M'Chigeeng, the include hairdressers, restaurants, film and television production ogimaa-kwe had the following to say: "In relation to the approxiand provincial parks, provided all mate 700-plus seasonal residents of those locations ablde by strict that attend the First Nation, the public health requirements

council is maintaining the position that these individuals stay where they are rostered. This position of council supports the messaging from public health and is supported by M'Chigeeng's health services department and local physicians. M'Chigeeng does not have a database of individuals who have 'buckshee' lease agreements with certificate of

possession holders on reserve; these non-residents do not pay any type of fee to the First Nation to reside here either permanently or seasonally. Therefore, in the event of an outbreak, contact tracing would be impossible. There is more work to be completed in relation to cottagers as part of the reopening strategy.

...continued on page 9 Wiikwemkoong checkpoint lifted

WIIKWEMKOONG-Wiikwemkoong chief and council approved the lifting of its travel restriction and wellbeing checkpoints effective Tuesday, June 9 following a special meeting held Monday afternoon. Earlier Monday, M'Chigeeng First Nation also decommissioned its highway checkpoints, choosing to instead block off its side streets from the travelling public.

Wiikwemkoong initiated its checkpoint, located along Wikwemikong Way, and travel order on April 9.

"This checkpoint could be reinitiated should there be a case in the community," Wiikwemkoong Ogimaa Duke Peltier said in a Facebook Live broadcast Monday evening. "This is an approach that is effective and has been effective in limiting any potential outbreak in Wiik-... continued on page 9

Queen's Park declares Ontario's 'Stage 2' COVID-19 reopening will commence this Friday, June 12

by Warren Schlote

ONTARIO-The provincial government has moved to enact 'Stage 2' of its reopening plan in most public health districts of Ontario, including Public Health Sudbury and Districts, allowing numerous businesses, services and community spaces to reopen their doors effective this Friday, June 12 at 12:01 am.

The types of husinesses

already in place.

All businesses, organizations and public services that are allowed to open or grow their offerings under Stage 2 regulations should consult workplace health and safety guidance available at Ontario.ca/COVIDsafety. More than 100 documents are published at that link.

"Protections for vulnerable people must remain a top priority throughout the next stages of reopening," reads the report announcing the details of Stage 2.

Across the province, limits on

Court rules long-term care workers voluntarily isolating aren't eligible for paid leave

by Warren Schlote

TORONTO—Full-time, part-time and casual employees at longterm care (LTC) facilities in Ontario are not entitled to paid leave if they voluntarily stay home from work after coming in contact with someone who has COVID-19, read a recent arbitrator's decision based on the curcollective agreements rent between the Ontario Nurses' Association (ONA) and several long-term care home operatorsincluding Manitoulin Lodge Nursing Home in Gore Bay.

"In my view, it was just and reasonable for the homes to treat part-time and casual employees who had symptoms or tested positive, and asymptomatic employ-

ees who did not test positive or were never tested, as posing a risk in accordance with government guidelines and unable to work until they no longer posed a risk," read a decision by arbitrator John Stout dated May 26.

"Employees who are required to self-isolate are without a doubt caught in a very unfortunate situation," he added.

ONA heard from 26 workers in Ontario LTC homes in dispute of not being compensated for periods of isolation due to COVID-19. Although those grievances were based on individual collective agreements between workers and specific homes, both sides agreed to group the claims together as a

... continued on page 20

social gatherings are being dou-

... continued on page 10

Around and around and around and... Paddling duo plans to circumnavigate all Island lakes

by Warren Schlote

MANITOULIN-On the heels of last year's successful canoe circumnavigation of Manitoulin Island's shoreline in 13 days, 'The Attempt' is back this year with paddling pals Kristin Bickell and Nat Hastings looking inward for this year's goal of traversing every inland lake on Manitoulin Island.

We're both people that are up for a challenge; we have a hard time saying no to things. It's just a way to challenge ourselves to stay active on the water and continue to explore Manitoulin," said Ms. Hastings. "Right now with what's been going on with COVID-19 it's even more of a reason to stay put and explore in our own backyard."

In the September 11, 2019 edition of this paper, Ms. Hastings and Ms. Bickell shared their experiences with trying to complete a circumnavigation of Manitoulin Island in the unpredictable waters ... continued on page 11



Paddling pals Natalie Hastings and Kristin Bickell have already tackled Sheguiandah's Bass Lake, the first in their series of Island lake circumnavigations.

a miller



HOURS OF OPERATION

	MONDAY - FRIDAY - SATURDAY	TUESDAY - WEDNESDAY -	SUNDAY
-1-	9 AM - 5 PM	THURSDAY	12 PM - 6 PM
2001	GROCERY/GASBAR/	9 AM - 7 PM GROCERY/GAS BAR	GROCERY/GASBAR/
	COFFEESHOP	9 AM - 5 PM ACE HARDWARE/	COFFEESHOP/ACE HARDWARE
-	9 AM - 4 PM ACE HARDWARE	COFFEE SHOP	ALCONTRACTOR OF THE OWNER OWNE
	12 PM - 4 PM THE SOURCE/ CLOTHING & GIFTS	12 PM - 5 PM THE SOURCE/ CLOTHING & GIFTS	CLOTHING & GIFTS/ THE SOURCE CLOSED
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THE MANITOULIN EXPOSITOR—PAGE 3

Lodge staffer who tested positive for COVID-19 returns to work

by Michael Erskine

GORE BAY—Following a 14-day isolation period, a staff member at the privately-owned Manitoulin Lodge long-term care home in Gore Bay has returned to work.

'I can confirm that the team member who had tested positive for the virus has since returned to work, as authorized by Public Health (Sudbury and Districts) and our home remains COVIDfree," Stephanie Barber, community relations co-ordinator with

the home's operator Jarlette Health Services, told The Expositor

Ms. Barber went on to note that, "Despite the fact that we are not in an outbreak, our infection prevention and control practices remain in effect to support the health and safety of our residents and staff. As we have previously mentioned, we continue to work in strict accordance with the directives mandated by public ...continued on page 8

Failure to implement final report on national inquiry into MMIWG perpetuates targeted genocide: UOI

ANISHINABEK NATION—One year ago, the Anishinabek Nation Chiefs-in-Assembly stood united following the long-anticipated release of the National Inquiry's final report, 'Reclaiming Power and Place: The Final Report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.'

"In Anishinabek culture, our women and girls are held in the highest esteem. They are life-

givers and care givers for our people," states Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Chief Glen Hare. "We demand the federal government fully support and implement the final report of National the Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.

Failure to do so perpetuates the targeted genocide of our people. This must stop."

two-volume The report, released on June 3, 2019, in Gatineau, Quebec, revealed that "persistent and deliberate human and Indigenous rights violations and abuses are the root cause behind Canada's staggering rates of violence against [Indigenous women, girls and two-spirited, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, intersex and asexual] (2SLGBTQQIA)". The report also called upon all levels of government, police and Canadians for "transformative legal and social changes to resolve the crisis that has devastated Indigenous communities across the country,

such as changes to structural systems that currently prolong vioagainst lence Indigenous women and girls.

Today, this fundamental report, possible made through the truths of more than 2,380 survivors of violence. family members, experts and knowledge keepers continues to sit on the

shelf as the federal government fails to respond to the vital 231 Calls to Justice or to establish a timeline for the release of a National Action Plan, a press release from the Anishinabek Nation states.



MINDEMOYA—Trish Moore is through that training as she has working at Wilson's General Store, a fixture on the main corner in Mindemoya. Right now, Ms. Moore is learning the ropes in the store generally, but come the warmer months she will be managing the attached ice cream parlour.

it already," said Ms. Freitas. This is Ms. Moore's first expe-

rience in retail, but as a middle

Outgoing MHC chief of staff Dr. Stephen Cooper, left, is passing over the reins to Dr. Simone Meikleham, who will assume the chief of staff role for a one-year initial contract effective September 1.

Dr. Simone Meikleham named MHC chief of staff

by Warren Schlote

LITTLE CURRENT-Manitoulin Health Centre (MHC)'s next chief of staff, Dr. Simone Meikleham, will be taking over for Dr. Stephen Cooper who is stepping back effective September 1, with the incumbent receiving strong backing from the MHC executive team.

"I'm excited about the opportunity to work with the MHC board and senior management. I haven't really done that before all this COVID-19 started, so it's a new challenge and I'm looking forward to it," Dr. Meikleham told The Expositor.

Dr. Meikleham has been a family doctor for 23 years, with the past 13 spent at the Little Current Family Health Team (beginning just after Dr. Cooper became chief of staff). She took over for Dr. Roy Jeffery when he was expected to retire. She has also serviced Whitefish River First Nation and Wiikwemkoong.

"That definitely was the best decision I've made career-wise; I've been very happy working here," she said.

She was born in Sudbury and raised there and the

North Shore area, attended the University of Western Ontario for medical school and residency and has been working in Northern Ontario for her whole professional career. The small-town life is where she finds comfort, she said.

Dr. Meikleham has served as secretary of the medical advisory committee for the past year and is already familiar with some of the governance structures of the hospital.

She has been the lead physician on the emergency department committee and been part of the inpatient committee, as well as the quality assurance committee at the Little Current clinic. She was briefly chief of staff in Espanola before moving to Little Current, something she said was a valuable learning experience of the roles and limitations within this position.

Dr. Cooper will still be involved with the hospital, such as with the transition to electronic health records and other day-to-day activities, which will further aid Dr. Meikleham as she adjusts.

"Chief of staff, as much as it's a leadership role,

... continued on page 8

Dr. Reade forwards COVID-19 funding concerns to federal, provincial government representatives

by Warren Schlote

ONTARIO-Manitoulin Community Response, Emergency Preparedness and Paramedicine Committee physician representative Dr. Maurianne Reade has furthered her call for advance funding for field hospitals and supportive care centres to upper levels of government, and continues to work with parliamentarians to advocate for these muchneeded supports.

There's a concerning gap between rural and urban preparedness," said Dr. Reade.

Manitoulin Health Centre (MHC) has completed the majority of the work in getting its field hospital to a standby state so it can be put into operation when its need arises. In a story in the May 27 Expositor, MHC VP of corporate support services and chief financial officer Tim Vine said the work was progressing well and the centre should be ready to meet any future surge demand on Manitoulin.

None of that preparatory work has been funded. The field hospital has been constructed using MHC's reserves and internal human resources that are also required to cover the hospital's daily needs and COVID-19 preparations.

The province has committed



funds to field hospitals in hardhit areas, but only when a surge arrives. This is less of a concern in urban centres where mass amounts of resources can be pooled for a quick turnaround, but would be much more difficult in rural locations.

For communities like Assiginack that have prepared non-hospital-affiliated supportive care centres for people who need a place to isolate but are not in need of urgent care, the constraints are tougher because of further limited resources.

Should rural places commit to providing services such as a field hospital or a community-run supportive care centre, they will have to begin the advance prepara-



Grand Council Chief Glen Hare





Trish Moore

Tina and Joe Freitas took over the store's helm two years ago and are very pleased that Ms. Moore has come on board. "She has taken the food handlers' course, which is a big relief for us as we will not have to take her

child in a family of 13 she has a lot of experience of a diplomatic nature common to those from large families.

Ms. Moore, who lives in Little Current, is an avowed outdoor person, enjoying hunting and fishing. Her favourite fish is pike, but she admits it is usually her grandfather who tackles the tricky job of cleaning the catch.

While she is finishing up her high school credits at Kenjgewin Teg while she works, Ms. Moore has her eve on a career as an early childhood educator.

As the Island begins to reopen following the COVID-19 restrictions, it is young workers such as Ms. Moore who will be stepping up to rebuild the Island economy—one scoop at a time. The Expositor encourages her to "pile it on."

. . .

Please remember that when you shop local, you're supporting friends and neighbours like Trish Moore.

Dr. Maurianne Reade

tions using their own funds.

Society of Rural Physicians of Canada (SRPC) president Margaret Tromp issued a request to members for feedback on the federal government's COVID-19 response from a rural perspec-... continued on page 8

Expositor scribe Warren Schlote to receive RNAO award

by Michael Erskine

TORONTO—When the Expositor's Warren Schlote checked his email last week, the staff writer discovered that his series on Indigenous dementia care had been selected for a Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario (RNAO) Media Award in the Community Newspaper: Best in-depth feature or series category.

"I was very surprised to see that was in my inbox," he said. "It was a touching honour for my work to be considered among the people who were up for this award.'

"I'm incredibly proud of Warren's work on this series and it's a well-deserved accolade," said Expositor editor and publisher Alicia McCutcheon. "I know how much time and energy he spent on speaking with health care professionals from across North America to bring to light this important research on dementia in Indigenous populations. Congratulations, Warren, on this award from the Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario."

Asked about how he went about creating the series that led to the award, Mr. Schlote said he prepared for writing the story as he does for any other, looking into the sources and references available.

"I started to appreciate how big and significant this was and the impact that it could have on the people of Manitoulin Island and across Canada," he said. As he began checking with the experts and really getting into the meat of the story to explore the breadth of what it encapsulated, Mr. Schlote soon came to the realization that more than a simple standalone story would be needed.

"There was a lot to unpack," he said. "It wound up being a five-part series.

Mr. Schlote deflected any suggestion that his work ... continued on page 8

"who dares not offend, cannot be honest" One Manitowaning Road

editorial

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Manitoulin Island's Newspaper-of-Record, **The Manitoulin Expositor** is published by the Manitoulin Publishing Co. Ltd. Wednesday mornings from our office at One Manitowaning Road, Little Current, Ont. POP 1K0

Mailing address: The Manitoulin Expositor, P.O. Box 369, Little Current, Ont. P0P 1K0

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Publications Mail Registration No. 40012298



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You cannot fix something if you won't admit it is broken

Canadians across the country have been risking COVID-19 infection to attend large public demonstrations aimed at standing in solidarity with our American friends who are coming out into the streets to gather across our nation in the wake of yet another Black person whose death was livestreamed on social media-killed while being taken into custody by a veteran police in Minneapolis. Many (okay, mostly white) Canadians have been expressing gratitude online that they live in Canada, privately (and not so privately) congratulating themselves for living in a much more enlightened society than that of our neighbours to the south. This is dead wrong.

Black Lives Matter is often countered, even by otherwise decent and upstanding people with caring hearts, with the phrase "all lives matter." If there was a phrase that neatly encapsulates the concept of "white privilege" that phrase would certainly be among the front runners. All lives do matter, of course they do, but all lives don't risk incarceration, violence, injury and death each time they walk out their door solely due to the pigment of their skin—it's Black lives.

If the reader's first reaction to that statement is that such claims are an overreaction, an exaggeration, or something that is only

true in America or perhaps large urban areas of our own nation, this writer can confidently predict the colour of your skin. The time has arrived, sorely overdue as it is, that we as a nation of all colours, creeds and races accept that Canada was founded upon fundamentally (and at the time entirely unabashed) racist values. We must accept

that truth—our nation was founded in racism. This isn't someone else's "truth" it's ours, and we should own it. This also isn't some kind of wishy-washy left wing big or small L liberal assertion—it's a plain and demonstratable fact of life, or more appropriately facts of death.



Cheyenne Segon holds aloft her Black Lives Matter sign during her solo demonstration as she walks along Highway 6 (Manitowaning Road) in Little Current.

photo by Michael Erskine

Those facts are written plainly for anyone to see who dares to glance at the unvarnished data, they are written in the blood of two Indigenous people, Jason Collins and teenager Eishia Hudson, killed by police in Winnipeg for relatively minor situations. They are written in the blood of D'Andre Campbell, a Black man with a history of mental issues who had called the police for assistance. These are just two examples of people you probably have never even heard of although they died very recently—they weren't white.

Our jails are disproportionately filled with people of colour—by a vast margin. If you can hold the belief our jails have so many persons of colour within their walls because of some predisposition to crime that can be traced to a surfeit of melanin in those prisoners' skins—well aren't you all 1867.

We must accept that we live in a country whose base institutions were formed in a crucible of racism and that our institutions are systemically tainted by that racism.

That is the starting point of the only viable route forward to a more just and civil society.

Travelling down that road isn't going to be an easy journey—it will go against many well established and strongly held belief systems.

Among the "unthinkable" concepts currently being brought forward is that of "defunding the police" services. This isn't as outlandish a concept as might be taken at first glance.

Today's cop on the beat is being called upon to perform tasks and services that they are neither properly equipped nor trained for. Armed police officers should not be the first response to a mental health crisis, but they are—because we have no one else to turn to when it comes to dealing with such crises.

Instead of constantly increasing resources allocated to the police services during a time of steadily reducing crime, we should be reallocating those resources to the services our society needs.

The gun (or even a taser) should not be our first resort. To be clear, we will still need police officers, that isn't at all the point of "defunding the police," but we should not be sending our police officers to deal with the vast majority of calls they currently must attend.

Many of our systems will need to be dismantled and reassembled into something very much different than their current form. It will not be easy—but this is a revolution that can and must take place. No Canadian should ever have to fear walking out of their front door because of the colour of their skin.

Private LTC homes hugely problematic during COVID-19

Channeling Tommy Douglas to call for federal nationalization with national standards

To the Expositor:

It has become quite evident that throughout this COVID-19 pandemic, that in particular the privately run long-term care (LTC) facilities in Ontario have been hugely problematic with large numbers of deaths of residents and positive cases of COVID-19 with the resulting sickness in residents and front-line workers.

In some of these homes there have been verified reports of administrators withholding personal protective equipment (PPE) and N-95 masks from workers until Ontario court injunctions forced them to provide staff protection. In an unprecedented incident, administrators refused entrance to an Ontario health swat team that had been deployed to assist homes in crisis. This behaviour by home administrators in a COVID-19 outbreak crisis puts the responsibility for resident sickness and death and for staff testing positive for COVID-19, and suffering the effects of it, directly on them and the private owners! It has now become very clear that LTC homes in Ontario must not be

allowed to continue under a "for profit" system and at the very least they need to all be converted to provincial public sector homes with it being mandatory that the workers in these homes all be members of a public sector union for their own protection and to keep administrators honest to ensure that resident and worker health and safety is always the top priority when the decimated sector is being rebuilt post COVID-19.

If Tommy Douglas was here with us now and looking at the destruction of the LTC sector by COVID-19, I'm thinking he would say, "The only hope for LTC facilities is to nationalize them all and form a federal ministry of LTC with a new and updated Canadian standards of LTC."

Correspondents: Pat Hall, *Tehkummah* **Annual Subscription Rates**

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"With the participation of the Government of Canada."

e Ition of ernment Canada I think we can all agree that Tommy had a few pretty good ideas in his lifetime!

Greg Young Wiikwemkoong

A poetic take on the COVID-19 pandemic

When is this madness going to end—in rhyme

To the Expositor:

Let's turn it into a song When is all this craziness going to end When your marriage is strained in the best of times And then here comes along COVID-19 And then there, our children that drive you out of your minds And especially when they're not even 19 And then let's not forget the wife That used to be the love of your life Screaming at you, saying that you're lazy Your whole world is falling apart, it's crazy Chorus- and then here comes along COVID-19 And it's not known not even, 2019 It's now into 2020 And the old coronavirus is still around And old coronavirus is taking away our plenty And if we've not careful, we will all be in the ground And now we all have to protect our hands and face And the coronavirus is keeping us in our place And, and, and, and we can't even for a drive Because the expert say that will keep us alive Chorus- our whole word is falling apart And all this craziness is breaking my little ole cotton picking heart When is all this craziness going to end When can you tell me that my friend When you know call me

Lyman Corbiere M'Chigeeng

<u>op-ed</u> When there's an addict in the family: *a first hand account*

by Lori Thompson

AUTHOR'S NOTE: More than 14,700 opioid related deaths occurred in Canada between 2016 and September 2019. From January 2019 through September 2019 there were 2,913 deaths, of which 94 percent were accidental. Seventy-eight percent of these involved fentanyl and most occurred in males between the ages of 30 and 39 years. Between January and September 2019 there were more than 17,000 suspected opioid related overdoses across the country.

Closer to home, there were 96 opioid related deaths in Sudbury and Manitoulin between January 2017 and June 2019 and in May 2020, the health unit issued a warning as overdose numbers spiked in the district, including one death thought to be an overdoes on Manitoulin.

As a parent, I have cycled through feelings of fear, anger, grief, guilt and shame as I advocated for my son, or simply showed up. We need to talk about this epidemic on a personal level. No one is exempt from this. We all know someone.

This essay is very personal. It is not about his addiction. There are no statistics involved. This is my story; my experience. My family has been torn apart and somehow found our way back.

Unfortunately, I don't know how this story will end.

y son is an addict. His drug of choice is fentanyl, usually mixed with heroin. Lab reports have also shown traces of cocaine and hydromorphone, and I wonder if perhaps crystal meth isn't in the mix somewhere.

It's been a little over three years since we, my daughter and I, found out. It was the week after Easter. I had returned home to the Island only to have to turn around and drive the seven hours back to the city. He said he wanted help. He said he'd only recently started using.

Those were the first of many lies.

He was on the couch when I arrived, shaking, cold, miserable and angry. He'd lost his job and his house. His girlfriend, the one who introduced him to 'popcorn' (called popcorn, because when fentanyl and heroin were crushed together and smoked, it smelled like burnt popcorn), had lost her children. The oldest had moved out after she came home from school one day to find her parents high and only a can of gravy for dinner. The boy, also a teenager, moved into his father's home and the youngest was staying with her grandmother.

I brought him home with me, began making calls, trying to get him into a withdrawal management and recovery program before he changed his mind. His moods, when he was awake, alternated between extreme anger, love and most of all, guilt. I didn't know where to start. I wasn't fast enough. Within four days he was on an Ontario Northland bus heading south. This was only the first of many recovery attempts.

I visited far more frequently than I had been, always letting him know when I'd be there. He was always clean, neat and calm in the early months. Because he knew when I was coming he was able to maintain appearances. He was able to maintain the illusion that he was working, trying to be clean. It was important to him that I accepted the lie.

He couch-surfed for a while, going through friends and acquaintances every few days, sometimes lasting a few weeks before he stole something for the next fix or was found high or unconscious on the floor. He used people. He lied to people. He scared people. He went through 10 years of friends in under a year.

My daughter and I fought over him. She saw him more than I did. She talked to his friends. She told me he was lying. She told me he was using more frequently. She told me he was stealing. She was angry that I felt bad for him, that I would send him \$20 when he called me, pleading. He was hungry, he'd say. He needed bus fare to get to a job interview. When he said he needed work boots I bought work boots.

I stopped sending money though. I sent Tim Horton's gift cards or grocery cards instead. I bought bus passes. She told me to stop. Period. All of these could be sold. All of these could purchase a hit or two. I wasn't helping him.

She refused to help him anymore. 'If he's ready,' she said, 'I will help. He's not ready.' She asked me to choose between them. We argued. She stopped speaking to me.

It's hard to say no to your child, even if he is an adult. It's hard to say no when he doesn't have a home and he fakes tears and says he's so hungry. It's hard to believe your child is an addict. It's hard to believe he chooses to live like this. It's easier to believe the lie.

The reality is, I believed him because otherwise I all too frequently wondered why this had happened. I wondered what I did to make him choose this. I wondered how bad of a mother I was. I remembered his childhood, his love of baseball, how he liked to help people. I spent hours and days reviewing his life in my mind, always finding reasons to blame myself, even though my daughter could have made the same choices and chose a better life instead.

It was easier for me to believe, I think, because of the distance. There was the distance between visits and the distance between calls. He stopped answering my calls, and only called me when he needed money.

Then came the accident, the phone call in the early morning hours from an unknown number. The call everyone dreads. He was resuscitated twice but had been upgraded to serious condition by the time I arrived. I didn't have to call the funeral home, this time.

He was alive. He was in pain. He was angry. The man lying in the hospital bed did not resemble my son. Of course, this wasn't his fault. That's a common theme, this failure to take responsibility. Until someone can say, 'I chose this, I am an addict.' Until someone can say these words and mean them, they are not ready for recovery.

There was a moment, during that first week in trauma, when everything changed for me, when I realized the story I believed was false. It was a brief moment lasting perhaps 10 minutes. He changed. His face changed.

'Do you think I'm still your little boy?' he asked, spewing, spitting out the words. 'He's gone. He doesn't exist anymore.'

It was disturbing, maybe even frightening. When the rant was over, his face changed back. He smiled at me. 'I can be whoever I need to be,' he said.

Mostly that's true. Not when he's high or in withdrawal, because at those times he has no control. The drug is in control, or the need for it.

It's hard to remember now who he used to be. He's not that person anymore. Sometimes I catch glimpses of the boy he was, the man he was becoming, but I'm not sure anymore if they're real or just a ploy for money.

Long term use of heroin changes the physical structure of the brain and that leads to hormonal and neurological imbalances. These changes can be permanent, even after drug use stops. Long term use will destroy white matter in the brain, so the user loses their ability to reason and make decisions and to have difficulty regulating behaviours or dealing with stressors. They forget things—appointments, what day it is, what they were saying.

The changes I've seen in my son could be due to head trauma from the accident, his occupational therapist agreed they resemble symptoms of acquired brain injury or severe concussion. He didn't, however, attend appointments set up at the brain injury clinic. It's just as likely these behaviours were caused by several years of heroin and fentanyl use.

The lies he tells are elaborate. I don't believe them anymore. It was hard to stop because I wanted to believe them. I wanted there to be kind people who gave him a meal, a blanket, a shed to sleep in. I didn't want to believe the panhandling, the sleeping under tarps in the park or trespassing in someone's garage. I wanted there to be recoveries, clinics, suboxone, counsellors. I wanted to believe I was helping him when I sent him \$20 because he was hungry or needed to pay his phone bill.

The thing is, he knew where all the handouts were. He knew where to find free food and clothing. A lot of \$20s over the course of a year can add up to thousands. He wasn't buying food. I bought him a laptop in the hospital, a PlayStation 4 and games, a telephone. He sold those. Other phones were 'lost' the same way, but there was always a good story.

His addiction seems worse now. Every time I think he's hit rock bottom I find he has a lower threshold.

My daughter and I are speaking again. She helps him now and then, not with money, but she will accept mail for him. She will offer him a meal or a care package, clean socks. He's dead to her though, she says. He died three years ago. She wants her brother back. I want my son.

We can't go back. None of us.

Even if he chooses recovery now or at some point in the future, what he has experienced, what he has lived, has changed him forever. He could choose to be the compassionate, kind, goofy guy we knew but there's something there, behind his eyes. Someone that isn't him.

We're wary of him, my daughter and I. We don't trust him. We hide money, the things that can be easily sold for a few dollars.

We check in on him daily. That is, we call or text or email. Sometimes he responds that day but more often it's closer to a week. Sometimes his texts are in capitals. That means he's high, we've learned. Sometimes he gushes with love and affection. That also means he is high; it's just a different high. Sometimes his voice is sleepy, sometimes manic. He always tells us he's fine. He's on a program, he says, or he's just managing the withdrawal himsel.

Those, of course, are also lies. He hasn't been on a program in months and the previous attempt lasted only two weeks. He has the records sent to my email, so I know. He lies anyway. It no longer matters to him.

I am detaching from the outcome. I am weary of the process. I know that if he truly needs help, we will be there to support him.

We check in on him because we're not sure where he's staying. We're not sure who is with him. We're not sure how often he is using. There are bad batches out there.

It's the silences that keep me awake, that keep me searching news sites and police Twitter feeds long past midnight. My daughter and I ask each other if either of us has talked to him recently, wondering if we should be calling emergency departments, checking the morgues. We know that it is entirely possible we may have to identify his body one day.

I hope for a different outcome, even knowing this is the choice he is making. It is incomprehensible that he wouldn't choose life, that he wouldn't choose to be healthy and to live well, but the silences tell me all I need to know.

Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board declares first deficit in 20 years

by Tom Sasvari

ESPANOLA—For the first time in the Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board (DSB)'s history, the board found itself in a deficit position based on its 2019 audited finan-

day and help DSBs and municipalities?" asked Mr. Gamble. "I don't have a crystal ball, but it's possible right now funding for programs is on hold (for this year)," said Ms. MacKenzie.

It was noted by Mr. Dominelli that the Federation of Canadian Municipalities is asking for \$10 billion in funding from the federal government for municipalities to help with the financial problems they are dealing with as a result of COVID-19 effects on communities and businesses. "I'm being asked a lot lately from municipal leaders as to how much more this is all going to cost municipalities," said Mr. Dominelli. "I definitely recommend taking money out of our reserves (to alleviate the costs of the 2019 yearend deficit)," he said, cautioning the board that the forecast for this year's financial statement is that the DSB is looking "at a projected \$300,000 deficit. We are hoping things will get better."

The DSB passed a motion to accept the 2019 audited financial statements, and to take funds from reserves to pay off the deficit. As such, member municipalities will not see any money returned to their coffers this year.

cial statements.

"Is this the first time we have seen a deficit in our financial statements in any year?" asked DSB chair Les Gamble at the board's May 28 meeting.

CAO Fern Dominelli confirmed, "this is the first time in 20 years that we have seen a deficit in our audited financial statement for any year."

At the board's May meeting, Cynthia MacKenzie, auditor for Freelandt Caldwell Reilly LLP provided the 2019 audited financial statements to the board, noting that the DSB deficit at the end of the year was \$7,177.

"Will we see the government come out at the end of the

another letter

"If we have a \$300,000 deficit (in 2020) I don't think any municipality will want to look at funding this," said Mr. Gamble.

The board was told that if this deficit is the case for 2020 they will again have to look at alleviating the debt through its reserves.

"We will have to use the money we have, and we have to survive on the municipal side," stated Central Manitoulin Mayor Richard Stephens.

The sanity of assault gun bans is demonstrated south of the border

A different take on a very contentious issue that most Canadians would agree with

To the Expositor:

Unfortunately for your recent correspondence ('New assault gun ban transforms Canada into a dictatorship,' June 3, Page 5), I believe that most Canadians will in fact support a ban on assault-type weapons. If anyone doubts the sanity of such an action, just take a look south of our border to see the inevitable long-term result.

In the USA, despite the Sandy Hook massacre of small children and numerous other mass shootings, we actually hear of people who support the ownership of such guns as a 'God-given right!' And they are supported and encouraged by the ideological madmen known as the National Rifle Association.

Perhaps it was all a matter of misunderstandings in the first place! Someone told me that, when the founding fathers were meeting to frame the American constitution, it was a very hot day and they all actually voted for 'the right to BARE arms' meaning that they could take their

jackets off; unfortunately that got misconstrued and now they have to live with the inevitable result. Let's make sure that we don't do something similar. Better to encourage the gun fanatics to move south!

Sincerely,

Eric Balkind Gore Bay

Tehkummah seeks to move records from washroom to used book room

by Warren Schlote TEHKUMMAH—The Township of Tehkummah intends to repurpose a portion of its used book store to be the official storage for municipal area records, getting those documents out of their current location in a closedoff washroom that has been used to temporarily store sensitive documents for more than a year and a half and bringing the building in line with requirements on washroom availability.

"It was intended to be a temporary measure," Tehkummah clerk-administrator Silvio Berti told The Expositor about the decision to reopen one of the two washrooms that were recently renovated before one was shuttered as a records storage space. Mr. Berti said he under-

stood that there was formerly a storage area for records at the end of the building's main hallway. However, once the fire hall was built and connected to the existing municipal building, that storage room became part of the hallway between the two.

Records were at one time stored in the meeting room at the municipal office, but there were too many records to store efficiently and securely in that space.

Mr. Berti added that the number of required available washrooms varies depending on the number of people within a building, so the concerns about washroom availability would only occur when larger events were held in

the facility.

Councillor Eric Russell declined to second the motion when offered at the May council meeting. He serves on the library's board.

Mr. Berti noted that his initial discussions with librarian Susan Hart were very positive, but when the discussion went to the library board those discussions fell apart, perhaps due to them receiving insufficient details about the township's plans.

He said the intention was for council to endorse the plan so that discussions could continue with the library on how to use part of the book store space while still offering them some space for book sales.

"The centre of the book store room is not being used efficiently as it is, so it wouldn't be a burden on the library at all. Either that, or we'll have to come up with other (storage) solutions and I don't have any others," said Mr. Berti. Councillors Russell and Lorie Leeson were both concerned about the prospect of taking space from the library.

"The library doesn't have enough room as it is," said Councillor Russell. "Why don't they get put back where they come from? They come from the municipal office so let's put them back there. And getting to health and safety, there's no rule that we have to have two bathrooms. There's lots of options like the community hall; there's lots of corners there, or down at the garage. I don't agree with fooling with the library."

Mr. Berti noted that the records need to be stored securely in a climate-controlled space, and a place such as a bathroom where

pipes could explode was very dangerous.

Councillor Russell suggested shrinking the bathrooms to make space for the records, but Mr. Berti said those are accessible washrooms that have to be a certain size.

Mr. Berti added that records need to be accessible for conducting township business, but said that the municipality would have to reduce the size of its record collection by disposing of records it is no longer obligated to keep.

He said a permanent solution would need to be found at a later date as both the library and fire department also have to store records of their own. This is another chapter

in the ongoing records storage issues that have divided Tehkummah's council. In 2017, then-clerk Karen Gerrard moved the township's records to a

secure storage facility away from the municipal building, triggering emergency council meetings and ultimately the dismissal of the clerk.

Ms. Gerrard was acting on provisions in the Municipal Act that require records to be stored in a secure location; however, she did not notify council before making the move and said that a highly sought-after storage space became available and she had to act quickly to secure the space.

The records were returned to the office and in September of the following year were relocated into the washroom, where they have remained ever since.

Council ultimately agreed to support in principle the repurposing of part of the used book store room, though Councillor Russell remained opposed.





M'Chigeeng checkpoints down, but side streets remain closed

UCCM Anishnaabe Police has been working with the leadership of M'Chigeeng First Nation and the Ministry of Transportation with respect to the modification of the COVID-19 checkpoint. The checkpoints will be eliminated from their existing positions and replaced with restricted access signs. Although there is a reduction of the wellness checkpoints the clear message is: If you do not reside as a permanent resident of the M'Chigeeng First Nation, you are not permitted to be within the community of M'Chigeeng.

There will be signage placed at all entrances and intersections leading into M'Chigeeng from Highway 540 and Highway 551. Under section 134 of the Ontario Highway Traffic Act, the roads within M'Chigeeng are closed to the general public. The only people that are permitted to travel these roads are permanent residents of M'Chigeeng First Nation, seasonal residents are not permitted. Officers of the UCCM Anishnaabe Police Service and the OPP will be conducting enforcement on the closed roadways. At any time, vehicles on these roadways will be stopped. Charges under this section of the Highway Traffic Act will be laid, resulting in total fines of \$110. Officers will also be enforcing the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act: the fines range from \$750 to \$1,000 for these charges.

The leadership of M'Chigeeng First Nation is taking a strong stance on protecting its community. Police are advising that unless you can produce a driver's licence with a permanent address of M'Chigeeng, you will face these fines.

Obscured plate to evade checkpoint

On Saturday, May 23 just before 8 am, officers of the UCCM Anishnaabe Police responded to a call for service at one of the COVID-19 checkpoints on the M'Chigeeng First Nation. The information was that a white Ford Mustang did not stop at the Hwy 540 checkpoint and the vehicle in question was being driven with an obscured licence plate. The licence plate was not readable by checkpoint staff as it was covered with some form of tape. Officers learned that the vehicle was heading towards Mindemoya on Hwy 551 and this time the licence plate was not covered and a personalized licence plate was identified.

Later that same day, at approximately 5 pm the same vehicle entered the checkpoints and headed east towards Little Current. Subsequent police investigation revealed the registered owner resided in Little Current. Officers of the UCCM Anishnaabe Police Service attended the residence and identified the driver of the vehicle. This incident led to the motorist being issued a ticket under Section 13(2), obscured licence plate, of the Ontario Highway Traffic Act. UCCM Anishnaabe Police would like to remind all motorists that vehicle licence plates have to be clean, free from obstruction and plainly visible at all times. Licence plates cannot be obstructed by any parts or attachments of the vehicle and plates need to be clearly visible from the front and rear of the vehicle.

Pedestrian struck by trailer tire

On June 4 at approximately 10:25 am, members of the Manitoulin Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police, along with Sudbury-Manitoulin emergency services, responded to a single motor vehicle collision involving a pedestrian on Highway 6, north of Little Current at Swift Current.

It was determined that a pedestrian was walking on the side of the highway and was struck by a trailer tire that had come off a newer boat trailer.

The 19-year-old pedestrian was transported to hospital with non-life threatening injuries. Police are continuing their investigation.

The OPP reminds the public to inspect their vehicles and trailers to make sure all is in working order prior to heading out on the highways. Let's keep our highways safe for every user.

Ice Chips and Canoe Quips Manitoulin Sporting Life



Good vibes to Dayne!

Calling out Manitoulin to support long time Special Olympian **Dayne Tipper** who has been undergoing some medical interventions over the last couple of weeks. He is experiencing a lot of pain, but as usual, is tough as nails. I have personally witnessed Dayne training for the Olympics on a "snow day" without enough snow for his event of the snowshoe sprint, but there he was running down Highway 551! We wish you all the best, Dayne.

Kudos

The present shutdown (for good reason) has forced me to watch a second South Korean live baseball league. My 10-year-old grandson **Jacob**, a sports player and fan, called me from Toronto to see if I knew when the NHL was starting up again. Even the little guy who, of course, has no school sports is going a bit stir-crazy. Meanwhile in Mindemoya, I'm sure long time sports fan and participant **Bruce Wiggins** is weeping somewhere as he can't watch his beloved Toronto Blue Jays. Sports news is hard to come by so let's look a few blasts/memories from the past, an "I remember when" time. So here we go:

I remember **Glen Duncanson** pitching many a great game for the Gore Bay men's fastball team; Aundeck Omni Kaning's **Mike Abotoss-away** slamming numerous home runs over the fence for his hometown First Nation as well as being a "strength" champion; the late **Mike Cheechoo-baa** scoring many a slapshot goal with his turn-around blaster; **Randy Rivers** tasting victory in the first Wiky 10K Road Race almost 50 years ago; **Gerry Holliday** winning the same race a record seven times; watching runner **C.J. Esquimaux** win many a race for LCPS in the 1980s; and **Merence Trudeau** being absolutely rock-solid in goal for the Wiky Hawks and the Manitoulin Panthers.

Remembering **Sean Gjos** and Mike Cheechoo-baa being named to the NDHL Midget All-Star team in the Panthers first year, in the NDHL in 1986-87; cheering the outstanding national results of the Island's Special Olympians such as **Mark Dokum**, **Dayne Tipper**, **Bruce Van Horn**, **Norm Daoust**, **Matt Bedard** and many others along with their great coaches.

Observing **Rodney Dryden** have a five-goal game for the Mindemoya Thunder some 30 years ago; watching **Jason Koehler** of Little Current develop into one of the top defensemen in the entire NDHL; Birch Island's **Dan Pitawanakwat** finishing a bruising check in the near corner; seeing Gore Bay's/Kagawong's **Chris Dunn** progress from house league to first line right wing with the Manitoulin Panthers in their championship year. Witnessing how well Dunn fit in with the **Aljoe twins (Trevor and Trace)** on one of the highest-scoring lines in Midget Panthers history. In that same year the twins and my goaltender son, **Wade**, were named to the league All-Star squad.

Recalling all the time the late **Randy Thibault** put into almost every sport as participant, coach and Manitoulin House League as long-time president; admiring the job **Mike Payette** performed as local NOHA referee-in -chief, a thankless job for sure. Giving a huge shout out to legendary MSS track coach, the late **Ted Jackson**, a man of devotion.

How about the numerous hours put into Mindemoya sports by Wendy and Bruce Wiggins? Admiring the quality of refereeing by M'Chigeeng's Earl Debassige, Greg Lockyer of Little Current and Mindemoya, as well as Wiikwemkoong's Marcell Recollect and Prov's Michael Niven. Watching girls' hockey improve to the point that it produced stars such as Diedre Debassige, Aysia Francis Debassige, Delaney "Boogey" Bridgeman, Kennedy Lanktree and Victoria Pitawanakwat as well as so many others! Women's hockey has come a long, long way! The marvelous puck-handling of Clint-baa and Lanny Peltier of Wiikwemkoong. The cerebral game of Bill Slaght, currently president of Little Current Minor Hockey and a hats-off to his late father **Doug** who was a great hockey team manager. How about the amazing Walter Mishibinijima who walked every spring from Rabbit Island to Sault Ste. Marie to raise money for First Nations youth in foster care, in college or university. The gentleman did this for a decade. Kudos to all who participate in athletics!

All ages welcome to join virtual Assiginack Track event

by Warren Schlote

MANITOWANING—The annual Assiginack Track event for the students at Assiginack Public School (APS) in Manitowaning has adapted to physical distancing requirements and expanded to encourage community members of all ages to join in for bragging rights and a certificate.

"We've been hosting APS for the last few years for their track day; our public works sets up the track with all the lines and the school comes over for the day," said Township of Assiginack events co-ordinator Jackie White. "We felt it was another small thing kids were going to be missing out on."

Organizers brainstormed and came up with a solution, inspired by a friend of Ms. White's from Northwest Territories who took part in a virtual run—she ran a prescribed route independently and sent in her time, then received a certificate.

It was a winning solution and the Assiginack Arena track is getting set up to do just the same.

Rather than having the students run together, they can visit the track at any point between June 15 and 22 and complete a time trial for any or all of the race lengths.

"Of course, all the social distancing requirements still apply," said Ms. White, referencing the provincial restrictions on gatherings of no more than five people (10 come Friday) maintaining a distance of at least two metres between people and wearing a face mask (though perhaps not while huffing and puffing during a run).

Parents and township residents of all ages are welcome to take part, too.

"It's great that everyone is following the restrictions like they're supposed to, but mental health has got to be taking a toll. At least with the nice weather, people can take this opportunity to get out and do something positive for their physical and mental health," said Ms. White.

There are a variety of race lengths from which to choose. On the track, runners and walkers can compete in 100-, 200-, 400- and 800-metre races.

There are two long-distance routes as well: two and five kilometres, respectively. These follow routes on the streets in and around Manitowaning that are already well-travelled by area runners.

Anyone who takes part should take a photo of themselves in action to prove they ran the length, as



Head to the Assiginack Track to showcase your running chops.

Shutterstock

well as record the time it took. Assiginack will be sharing a Facebook post on June 23 for participants to upload their times.

Those who want a certificate of participation can email info@assiginack.ca with the proof as outlined above, along with their mailing address. Besides the certificate, they will net a participation prize—Loco Beanz Manitowaning/Cedar Chalet Country Diner has promised \$5 gift certificates to every certificate holder.

"It's nice for the students to get to use our marked, measured track, and this is a good way to get adults included, too. Chances are a lot of them will be driving their kids here so it's just a way that we can all be more physically active," said Ms. White.

The township is adapting as best it can to the new realities of the pandemic. It has created digital outreach activities from trivia questions to photo contests and maintains a limited number of in-person badminton slots.

"We do what we can and are always open to suggestions. Hopefully things will ease a bit while keeping everyone safe at the same time, so that's why we're offering small events that can at least get people out doing something they enjoy," said Ms. White. "We're so fortunate to live on Manitoulin."

For event details and route maps for the long races, visit assiginack.ca/events/assiginack-track-socially-distanced.



Avery two-peats!

Avery Sutherland was recently named the junior girls' cross country Most Valuable Player for this past autumn for team at Lo-Ellen Park Secondary school in Sudbury. She won it as well last year as a midget aged runner. Here is hoping you will get a chance to three-peat this coming fall, Avery. Keep training, it won't go to waste!

Paul Williams Memorial postponed

Another event has sadly been moved. The Paul Williams fastball/slowpitch tournament would have been the July 24 weekend. Organizers are still waiting but thinking they will have it, August 28! Fingers crossed, all.

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

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.Dr. Reade forwards COVID-19 funding concerns to governments

...continued from page 3 tive, to be sent to a Senate committee. Dr. Reade is a member of that society and decided to forward her concerns.

"I had seen the challenges that the communities were facing regarding getting funding for the isolation centres as gaps that didn't seem to be getting much press, so I thought it'd be worthwhile to address that," said Dr. Reade.

Unfortunately, when Dr. Tromp's report reached the senate, Dr. Reade's comments did not make the final cut. The report instead focused on two case studies of an Ontario and a Saskatchewan town.

Undeterred, Dr. Reade took her report from SRPC and forwarded it to Algoma-Manitoulin MPP Mike Mantha for his advocacy within the Ontario Legislative Assembly as well as Algoma-Manitoulin-

Kapuskasing MP Carol Hughes.

An issue beyond funding was the matter of insuring the community-led facilities. Manitoulin's field hospital is a legal branch of MHC and falls within its insurance coverage but the supportive care centres at the community level do not enjoy such privilege.

'If you're trying to enter a partnership as a township with, say, a motel owner, how can you help ensure the appropriate insurance is covered?" said Dr. Reade. "If there were some clearer provincial guidelines or directives about that, it could help those partnerships to happen without all the work being recreated over and over in every place."

Ms. Hughes said she would pass the report on to MP colleague Don Davies, who is the NDP critic for Health in the federal Liberal minority government.

Dr. Reade added that Indigenous Services Canada might be wise to help fund supportive care cenin places like tres M'Chigeeng (which is also preparing a supportive care centre like Assiginack), given the high number of multi-generation households in reserves. This would help keep their vulnerable citizens safer,

rather than waiting for a surge to ravage Island populations before funding these centres.

"Then, you qualify for funding at a time when it's already too late to make the biggest impact. That's something that would be very helpful for the federal government to consider to provide communities some sense of security," said Dr. Reade.

Mr. Mantha said he would be pushing Ontario Health Minister Christine Elliott to move quickly on these items.

Dr. Meikleham named as next MHC chief of staff.

...continued from page 3

it's also a team role where you work with others. I find that's where I've always been happiest, sitting at the table, working with others, lending a voice and helping people achieve shared goals," said Dr. Meikleham.

She praised the Island health community's preparedness for COVID-19 and said she has been moving toward this new role for the past 15 months with the hospital administration.

'They (invited me to) be the secretary of the professional staff, which I thought was just going to be taking notes. It turned out that meant I had to sit on the medical advisory committee which is the one that senior management sits at ... something I hadn't been around for a decade," she said.

Dr. Cooper began dropping hints that he was planning to step down as chief of staff and ultimately made the recommendation that Dr. Meikleham be his replacement.

The two have next-door offices and Dr. Meikleham said she has gleaned much from that close connection. Her role will initially be focused internally, though this will grow as her comfort level increases and the threat of

COVID-19 begins to diminish. She said she was looking forward to working more with the Mindemova hospital site.

"As chief of staff, your scope of influence increases. It's not only at your personal practice and clinic, but at the hospital level and even as a representative of the hospital beyond that on Manitoulin-wide boards and regional boards as well," she said, adding that she hopes to further Dr. Cooper's work of external advocacy for the health of Islanders.

Dr. Meikleham's personal philosophy is steeped in partnerships, something that fits with MHC's culture. This will also be an asset as the Manitoulin Collaborative, a group of Island health care providers, continues its campaign to form an Ontario Health Team and find new ways to work together.

"I'm super impressed with how everybody seems focused on providing the best possible health care to community members. I'm hoping that this position will allow me to help people achieve those goals," she said.

Dr. Meikleham does not come from a long line of medical professionals

but her mother was a personal support worker, her sisters are a physiotherapist and occupational therapist respectively, and one of her daughters is a nurse while her youngest is finishing university.

Dr. Cooper is stepping down from the position because of his many leadership roles in the region and Ontario, as well as to enable a smoother transition before his own career winds down within a decade.

"She's got the ability, the organizational skills and the personality to pull it off very, very well," said Dr. Cooper at the May 28 MHC board meeting.

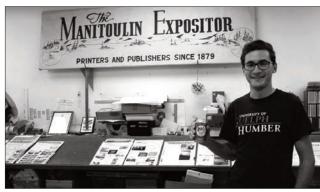
"Dr. Meikleham has shown a lot of leadership over the past years through the COVID experience, with primary care. The senior team has a lot of confidence in her abilities,' added MHC VP of clinical services and chief nursing officer Paula Fields.

The board approved Dr. Meikleham for a one-year term as chief of staff as opposed to the usual three years, per her request, allowing her to get a feel for the position.

... Expositor writer to receive RNAO media award

... continued from page 3

was "in any way exceptional. I really only did what I do for any story: try and speak with the right people and give them the space to share their perspective in the best way I could. It is how we should approach our work.'



Warren Schlote is set to receive an award from the Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario for his five-part series on Indigenous dementia, published this past winter.

"I would like to send out a chi-miigwetch to the Indigenous-led research team who gave so generously of their time so I could fully understand everything that was

The award presentation will take place during RNAO's 95th annual general meeting this Friday, June 12 between 6:15 and 6:30 pm via Zoom. A future celebration will be held with the winners in other categories once social gathering limits are released.

RNAO director of communications Marion Zych said the organization looks forward to "celebrate this honour with you in person."

Mr. Schlote is also up for an Ontario Community Newspapers Association Award for feature writing which will be announced in the weeks to come.



For only \$40, and as part of our 40th Anniversary celebrations we are offering the following golf special for the month of June



Alan Wilkin is one determined Mustang who is always willing to lend a helping hand. Alan is a Grade 9 student who likes to play video games and hang out with his friends when he isn't busy with school work.

Alan has been playing sports since he was young. During his years at Little Current Public School, he participated in track and field, basketball and cross country. In his Grade 8 year, he didn't lose a single cross country race on the Island. When he was 5 years old he started playing hockey with the Little Current Flyers and has been playing for them ever since. When he got to Grade 9 he joined the MSS cross country team and basketball team. In cross country, Alan placed first at NSSSA cross country and competed remarkably well at NOSSA. He also went on to run in the snow at OFSAA cross country against over 250 other athletes from across Ontario. Alan's dedication and perseverance have aided him with his success in his sports and he plans to continue with them throughout the rest of his high school career.

Although he is extremely talented at running, Alan's favourite sport is hockey because it's the sport that he's played the longest. He has played for the Flyers since he was 5 and he plans to join the team again next year. He enjoys playing sports in general because they're a nice break from other things going on in life. For his next year at MSS, Alan hopes to participate in cross country and basketball again, and also get a chance to compete in track and field. In school, his favourite subject is gym because he gets to play sports and learn to further improve the skills he already has. Alan is one of many talented Mustangs, and with his intelligence, determination and athleticism, he is sure to make MSS proud. Let's go, Alan, let's go! Proud Supporter of our MSS Mustangs Manitowaning Freshmart **Open late Fridays** until 8pm Sundays 11am - 4pm 368-3565 Proud to sponsor MSS 282-2496 Proud to serve our Randy Noble customers!

involved," said Mr. Schlote.

As to any advice he might pass on to aspiring writers tackling a complex set of issues or story, Mr. Schlote said "take the time to understand. If you don't understand what you're reporting on, you won't be able to tell the story properly.'

...Lodge staffer back at work

...continued from page 3 health, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Long-Term Care and the Ontario government at large.

Of the all the deaths reported by the Ministry of Health from mid-January to Saturday, 1,557 were of residents in longterm care homes (64.2 percent), while another five were health care workers in long-term care homes.

According to the ministry, 44.6 percent of all cases of COVID-19 discovered in the province between mid-January and last

weekend were male, while 54.5 percent were female. Some 38.1 percent of those cases are 60 years of age and older. The greater Toronto area accounts for 67.2 percent of cases. The ministry also reports that 12.1 percent of cases were hospitalized.

The ministry said 311 outbreaks have been reported in long-term care homes to date, but no new outbreaks were reported as of Monday.

As of press time Monday, there are no cases of COVID-19 in the Manitoulin-Sudbury District.



The ogimaa encouraged community members to reach

While the lifting of the checkpoint is due to a current low

out to either the Wiikwemkoong Health Centre or to band

administrative staff for guidance and recommendations if

risk of COVID-19 in the area, the community of Wiik-

Jill's Bookkeeping

&

wemkoong remains under a state of emergency.

Deductions! Tax Services

again, chi miigwetch to everyone."

out-of-district travel is necessary.

The Duchess of

...Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory announces checkpoint at enterance lifted loved ones, keeping your households safe. I do want to say Districts of Sudbury and Manitoulin "and especially, we

don't recommend travelling to where cases are still active."

distance themselves and follow public health guidelines

urged. "Thanks everyone for doing their part, but now it's

up to you as an individual to continue protecting your

Ogimaa Peltier asked the public to continue to physical

"Let's do our part and take care of all our loved ones," he

...continued from page 1

wemkoong."

Ogimaa Peltier asked everyone to continue to shop locally. "The local businesses in Wiikwemkoong and Manitoulin have stepped up," he said. "...Those businesses need to be congratulated and supported."

Ogimaa Peltier went on to say that Wiikwemkoong's leadership is not recommending any travel outside of the

tive way."

...M'Chigeeng First Nation lifts essential checkpoints

The reopening strategy will be business-heavy to ensure that set policies and procedures are in place so M'Chigeeng businesses can operate safely when they can reopen to the travelling public, Ogimaa-kwe Linda Debassige told The Expositor, noting that "places of business are the locations where our (band) members and non-member visitors interact and are places that have greater risk of exposure. As the decommissioning strategy rolls out, M'Chigeeng businesses will become the front line of protection for M'Chigeeng citizens.

...continued from page 1

As has been reported previously, M'Chigeeng instituted a non-essential travel ban in late April, installing highway checkpoints that limited non-essential travel through the community on April 25.

"The First Nation had been working on a reopening strategy for the last several weeks," the ogimaakwe told The Expositor prior to Monday's announcement. "Businesses have been requested to make submissions in relation to their ideas and to provide the First Nation with copies of their COVID-19 protocols. As of last Friday, we had not received any submissions either at our request or voluntarily. It is difficult as on reserve, the provincial laws and regulations in relation to business operations do not apply generally. So, that is an important aspect of community safety. We had not received any businesses protocols that are in place except for a local construction company."

This newspaper had spoken to several M'Chigeeng business owners who had called on chief and council to host a meeting to hear their concerns. The ogimaa-kwe said the band office had received some written requests to meet. but all lacked details except for a repeated cry for a call reopen from few

dents) were responded to mail last Friday, via requesting their ideas in writing to the group responsible for the reopening strategy," Ogimaa-kwe Debassige explained. She went on to note that she had talked with some businesspeople who felt they were being intimidated into going along with the call to reopen the community.

"Businesses were no more important (in the reopening deliberations by chief and council) than our vulnerable elders and members of our community," Debassige Ogimaa-kwe stated.

"There is more to our First Nation operations and council meetings than the topic of businesses and checkpoints," she continued. "We received another petition following Lisa Addison's original petition (requesting the removal of the checkpoints on Highways 540 and 551) that had a greater number of our member's signatures to keep the checkpoints up for the health and safety of our membership," the ogimaa-kwe added, referencing the petition started by BJ's and Addison's OK Tire owner Lisa Addison, who has been vocal in her call to end the checkpoints. (Ms. Addison, along with Jessie Debassige of Paul's Corner Store and Janice Sweeney and Basil Panamick of Finn's Gas Bar had announced they would be seeking legal counsel regarding the checkpoints and the respective effects on faltering business.)

The Expositor contacted Ms. Addison on Monday following the announcement that the checkpoints would be removed. Ms. Addison said she is relieved in one sense, but was still hoping for a meeting between chief and council and the business community. She said she was in the process of writing a letter to the chief suggesting that the powwow grounds be used as a safe outdoor space to talk in a respectful manner. She "They (the correspon- coming together "in a posi- nesses and therefore it is

"We have 1,200 people in our community and our members are highly vulnerable," Ogimaa-kwe Debassige said by way of demonstrating the importance of the checkpoints and minimizing outside contact with M'Chigeeng's citizens.

until a vaccine is found.

The following press release, issued on Sunday by the M'Chigeeng First Nation, outlines the timeline and process of the strategy checkpoint to designed protect M'Chigeeng's residents that led to Monday's decommissioning of the checkpoints and the notification by the ogimaa-kwe to the other members of the Island-wide leadership committee of this change.

"On April 23.M'Chigeeng exercised its inherent authority and jurisdiction by implementing a non-essential travel ban and border closure in response to the risk of COVID-19 to M'Chigeeng citizens. The council determined that it is the protection and preservation of life that must be the guiding principle in all decisions. On April 25, M'Chigeeng moved into a non-essential travel ban." "Over the last several

weeks, the Emergency Operations Group (EOG) and Non-Essential Travel Ban Advisory Group (NET-BA) have been meeting on a weekly basis and working on various initiatives including a M'Chigeeng First Nation Reopening Strategy. On June 4, as part of the reopening strategy, both the EOG and NETBA Group made the recommendation to council to support a checkpoint decommissioning strategy process to finalize a level of activation protocol for checkpoints. Part of the recommendations are for local businesses to submit their ideas and COVID-19 policy and protocols which have been requested. Most businesses on reserve do not have the same require-

important to have properly registered MFN businesses provide assurances that they are committed to ensuring the safety of M'Chigeeng citizens.

tions, please contact the office administrator at 705-377-5362 or via email to marlened@mchigeeng.ca."

"If you have any ques-



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- John Deere 6420, Cab, Loader, 4x4, 100hp, 5585 hrs \$59,995 • John Deere 7330 Tractor, Loader \$104,995

- - Kubota B3030 Tractor, Cab, Loader, 2150 hrs \$26,895

- Kubota RTV900 SxS, Hydraulic Dump, 500hrs \$8,995 Kubota RTV1140, 4x4, Diesel, Cab, 2 Row Seats
- \$84,995
- MF 135 2WD Tractor, Loader, Sold As Is, 2291 hrs \$995 • MF 65 2WD Tractor & Loader, 3043 hrs \$5,895
- Universal 540, Tractor, 600 hrs \$12,995

M'Chigeeng businesses.

said was looking forward to ments as off-reserve busi-

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...Queen's Park: 'Stage 2' reopening commences this Friday

...continued from page 1 bled from five to 10 but physical distancing requirements of two metres still apply. Of note, all regions in Ontario, even if they have not been invited to join Stage 2, are allowed to gather in groups of 10.

Although many types of businesses are reopening, the Stage 2 explainer document states that people are encouraged to work from home as much as possible in order to limit potential virus spread.

Child care centres will begin to slowly expand beyond the strict emergency care-only models toward resuming regular child care, keeping strictly to public health measures.

Places of worship will be allowed to reopen at 30 percent of building capacity if physical distancing measures are maintained. Provincial guidance will be offered to worship leaders and staff.

Personal care services such as hair services, beauty salons and shops, hair removal, diet and weight control centres, tattoos and piercing services, day spas and tanning salons can now reopen under strict controls. Patrons and employees should wear face coverings and other appropriate PPE at all times if physical distancing is impossible.

Continuing bans apply to any services on a customer's face, hot spaces like saunas or steam rooms and all baths or water-based services unless prescribed by a health professional.

Personal services such as house sitting, personal training outside of gyms, personal shoppers and wedding chapels can open with health and safety measures in place.

Restaurants and bars are allowed to open for dining in outdoor spaces only, though indoor areas are accessible for washrooms and payment. Eateries are also allowed to temporarily expand licenced patio spaces provided they get the required approvals and follow strict criteria.

Shopping centres, malls and markets are being allowed to reopen with occupancy limits, sanitization, walking patterns and other safety measures in place.

Photography studios and



Shutterstock

No locker rooms, showers

or change rooms may open

and clubhouses may only

be used for equipment man-

agement, washrooms or

At drive-in or drive-

through operations, all

individuals must remain in

their cars except for emer-

gency situations or wash-

Weddings, funerals and

similar gatherings can take

place in locations that

don't have restrictions, as

long as social gathering

and distancing limits are

with limited services such

as computer access and

book pick-up and drop-off.

Patrons cannot touch shelf

materials and significant

disinfection policies are

cancelled at community

centres but those spaces

can be used for other pro-

grams such as counselling

Museums, galleries and

outdoor heritage spaces

provided interactive or

high-contact exhibits are

closed, as well as confer-

Non-essential gather-

ings of all sizes are still

strongly discouraged, but

some small outdoor events

may be permitted follow-

ing size restrictions and

public health measures.

businesses

encouraged to operate on

an appointment basis to

limit the number of people

present at any given time,

as well as gathering the

names and contact infor-

mation of everyone they

serve to aid in contact trac-

ing should an outbreak

events

are

outdoor

remain outlawed.

Indoor rec activities are

Libraries can reopen

emergency access.

room access.

enforced.

required.

or education.

ence centres.

Large

All

flare up.

services from portraiture to aerial operations are allowed to reopen. Tour and guide services such as fishing excursions, tastings and tours at breweries, trail rides and sightseeing tours in cars and boats can reopen under the guidelines, as long as all rental equipment is sanitized between use. Tours of food and beverage production areas are green-lit.

Indoor and outdoor pools, outdoor splash pads and wading pools can reopen, but not attractions like water parks, wave pools and water slides. Change rooms for these spaces can open only if they can be sanitized between use.

Aquatic fitness classes may continue within physical distancing rules, such as only fellow household members being allowed to physically touch other swimmers.

Outdoor rec facilities such as paintball, mini-golf, archery and go-karts will be allowed to reopen, though locker rooms, showers and clubhouses are closed unless they are used for washroom access. Rented equipment must be sanitized between use; if this is impossible, those facilities may not reopen.

Outdoor playgrounds and play structures are still closed, including outdoor fitness equipment. Indoor rec facilities are closed except for driving ranges and rod and gun clubs.

Campgrounds can reopen for all types of camping, though gathering and distancing limits still apply. Beaches at said parks will also open with capacity limits in place.

Outdoor team sports can resume in practices only no scrimmages or games. Patrons should be screened for symptoms and risk factors before entering a facility, increased sterilization should be implemented and appropriate PPE should be worn in addition to frequent handwashing.

Ontario's reopening plan is divided into three stages of providing targeted support, a gradual and measured reopening and finally long-term economic recovery.

At the start of every week, Ontario will offer a re-assessment of the regions and determine whether or not they will be able to enter Stage 2 by the end of that week. The report does not specify whether or not regions will be able to regress back to Stage 1 if regional conditions deteriorate.

Full details of Stage 2 of Ontario's reopening framework can be found at Ontario.ca/reopen. Any business or organization seeking clarification on

BAHA'I WRITINGS

No man, however acute his perception, can ever hope to reach the heights which the wisdom and understanding of the Divine Physician have attained.

To meet local Baha'is please email manitoulinbahais@gmail.com or call 705-210-0529 www.building-community.ca



Happy 18th Birthday Lil' Girl on June 13th

we wish you all the best!! Love Mom, Dad and Family



NOTICE BOARD

14 Water Street East (Post Office Building) Town of NEMI PO. Box 608 Little Current, ON POP 1K0

NOTICE

The public garbage bins are for household garbage ONLY.

Do Not place construction debris, metals, furniture or electronics in theses bins.

The landfill is open: Tuesday and Saturday 9 am to 3 pm Sunday 11 am to 6 pm

DON'T LITTER KEEP OUR COMMUNITY CLEAN

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All unauthorized signs and personal items on or within the Municipal road allowance will be removed at the expense of the owner.



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GG's Foodland in Little Current is your official Manitoulin Strong merchandise dealer! Check out our selection of hoodies and other merchandise

coming soon.



to get your pass to the launch ramp.

ROAD CLOSURE

Meredith Street will be CLOSED from Worthington to the west entrance of the Hospital for construction work

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 comments or ask questions during the meeting.

Please follow us on Facebook and check our website for updates. www.townofnemi.on.ca

...Around and around and around and... paddling duo plans lakes circumnavigation

...continued from page 1 of Lake Huron-all in less than two weeks.

During that time they faced fast-moving storms, currents strong and unfriendly headwinds. Nevertheless, they persisted and not only lived to tell the tale, they had already begun planning their next major adventure.

"The first attempt to circumnavigate was definitely inspiring. In terms of the massiveness of Manitoulin and how beautiful it is, I think it motivated us to explore more of our own backyard," said Ms. Bickell.

This summer marks the start of The Attempt: Part II, a challenge to paddle the shorelines of every one of Manitoulin Island's inland lakes.

Part II is incomparable to the inaugural event, said Ms. Hastings, due to the absence of time constraints and the ability to break it down a lake or two per day to enjoy the moment without racing to a destination.

Unique challenges arise when trying to circumnavigate all of Manitoulin's inland lakes. For starters, how many lakes even exist on Manitoulin Island? And, perhaps more to the point, what constitutes a 'lake' that differentiates it from a pond or other body of water?

"There isn't a comprehensive list out there. If you Google it you'll find an unsourced Wikipedia article saying there's 108 lakes, but we can't figure out if that's backed up by any legitimate sources. We've heard so many people say over the course of our lives, too, that there's 108 lakes on Manitoulin," said Ms. Bickell.

They have tried to make their own list using online mapping tools from Google and have found about 60 named lakes and many more unnamed water bodies. They figure locals may know the names of those unmarked waterways and will be posting a draft list at Facebook.com/TheAttemptManitoulin to gather input from community members.

Then there comes the difficulty of identifying marshy wetlands from true lakes, which is a difficult task using satellite imagery alone.

"Some of the lakes, it

Sheguiandah on May 30.

We weren't timing ourselves, not trying to do any power paddling; we were stopping and went on shore a couple of times and just listening to everything going on around us, taking it all in," said Ms. Bickell.

Another factor is access. While many lakes have public boat launches or roads near their shorelines, others (such as Maple Lake within the Vidal Bay Forest property that represents three percent of Manitoulin's landmass and is listed for sale at about \$25 million) are isolated on private property.

"When we've been looking on Google Earth trying to figure things out, you can see road access to a lot of the lakes usually. If a road was private or there was property between the shoreline and a public access road, we'd approach the landowners," said Ms. Bickell. "As we saw on our bigger trip when we chatted with people, Islanders are so friendly, awesome and supportive of adventures like this.'

Venturing into rarely-visited waters offers many possibilities for data collection.

Although the two are planning to document their travels in logs on their Facebook page, they said they would be open to gathering data if approached by a researcher.

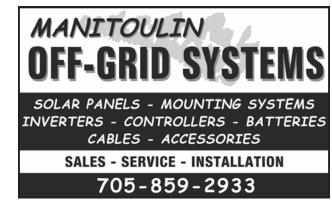
Some of the conditions they plan to record include water temperature and bottom conditions near the shorelines.

The previous trip was meant to encourage others to get out in nature and explore their world, a daunting suggestion when considering an Island circumnavigation. This challenge, however, is more accessible. The two have invited others to join them on their one-day paddles and encourage followers to keep exploring their local environment.

"Everyone's going through similar things with isolation and having their routines disrupted. I think both Nat and I would agree that taking care of yourself is so important. Paddling in this beautiful landscape and all lakes that we have can do wonders for your mental health and happiness in general," Ms.

Bickell said.

As with the Huron trip, proper preparedness is paramount for the two selfprofessed "safety geeks." They carry boat safety kits, have flotation devices on hand at all times and monitor the conditions to ensure they can continue safely.





The Ontario Association of Interval & Transition Houses (OAITH) acknowledges the recent events of racial injustice during the past week. These acts of racial injustice and anti-Black racism are creating conscious movement-building resulting in what could be an historic, unprecedented turning point through increased mainstream public awareness and media engagement. Over the past few days, thousands of Ontarians have called for increased action and accountability in relation to anti-Black racism in Canada. It's up to all of us to create the change needed

Today and every day, we join that call, and recognize that while social media has brought attention today, these truths have existed for hundreds of years. Here in Canada, Black and Indigenous Lives have been taken due to systemic violence. It's time to listen and believe these experiences as real and work towards a future without racial and colonial violence.

The following considerations/recognitions may be helpful as we move forward together:

- Ensure access to key information re: protests, donations and documenting injustice by ensuring thoughtful social media posting and viral digital campaign participation (for example, if you are posting black squares as part of #BlackoutTuesday, ensure you do not include the hashtags #BLM and #BlackLivesMatter as these posts are hiding critical online information(i).
- Take time to acknowledge and remember the Black, Indigenous, and Other
- People of Colour killed by Canadian police(ii) Parents are encouraged to speak to their children about anti-black racism Support the call from Black Health Alliance and the Network for Advancement of Black Communities (NABC) to declare anti-Black racism as a public health
- crisis (in addition to gender-based violence)(iii) Recognize "it's long-past time to talk about policing Black women in Canada"(iv)
- An increased understanding of surveillance as violence, especially in the context of a global pandemic and the unique impact of COVID-19 restrictions and surveillance on racialized women(v)
- Recognize violence and oppression is a non-partisan issue, while promoting systemic change to increase access to justice: "If we want to bring about real change, then the choice isn't between protest or politics. We have to do both. We have to mobilize to raise awareness, and we have to organize and cast our ballots to make sure that we elect candidates who will act on reform" (vi)



Birds of a feather

For a number of years John Savage had noticed a stick nest on top of a hydro pole across from the entrance to the airport on Highway 6. "It had always been empty, except for last summer, when a pair of Osprey did decide to call it home and were successful in rearing some young-'uns," he said. "Later in the fall we saw a Hydro One crew placing a wooden platform on top of the pole where the nest had been and we assumed it was done to make any nesting more secure. We were skeptical that the birds would return but hoped for the best. This spring, any time we have been going that way, we have checked for any sign of life up on that platform but none was seen until this Monday. To our surprise and pleasure there he or she was, up in a new stick nest looking very happy with the home improvements! Hopefully we'll have more to show you in a month or two.'

photo by John Savage



looks like the perimeter is only a kilometre-and-ahalf long in the middle of nowhere, and it would take a lot of bushwhacking to get there. Those are going to be challenging because it may be a low reward or a short paddle once we get there," said Ms. Bickell.

Ms. Hastings added that she could only name perhaps 20 inland lakes at the start of this challenge, a testament to how overlooked they tend to be in contrast to the bigger waters.

Assuming 108 inland lakes. The Attempt: Part II will be a lengthy process. They plan to spread their mission out over the next two warm seasons and have already completed their first circumnavigation of the interior—a Bass Lake paddle in

He is a family dog that has been missing since May 23 and we would like to have him back home. **Please call Jessie at**

705-670-4464

A NICE REWARD WILL BE OFFERED. **IF YOU CAN BRING HIM BACK HOME TO US.**

- s of ide services, and access to justice, within and beyond policing (including genderbased violence and mental health services)
- Participate in training and education which promotes critical thinking and collective action
- Consider your own role in supporting racial inequality and the way our own "silence can be violence."(vii)

As always, we stand in solidarity with our communities both locally, provincially, nationally and globally. We know we strive to be the best allies possible by being informed, engaged, and thinking critically about our own actions online, in person, and within radical moments of change like the one we are currently living in.

i Vincent, James. "Blackout Tuesday posts are drowning out vital information shared under the BLM hashtag." The Verge. June 2, 2020.

ii Cole, Desmond. "Remembering Black, Indigenous, and Other People of Colour killed by Canadian Police." Pyriscence. May 29, 2020.

iii Alliance for Healthier Communities. "Statement from Black health leaders: Anti-Black Racism is a Public

Health Crisis." June 1, 2020. iv Maynard, Robyn. "It's long-past time to talk about policing of Black women in Canada." The Toronto Star. May 29, 2020.

v Bain, Beverly. "Covid-19 discriminates against Black lives via surveillance, policing and lack of data: U of T experts." U of T News. April 21, 2020.

vi Obama, Barack. "How to Make this Moment the Turning Point for Real Change." Medium. June 1, 2020. vii "Where Draw The Line", Facebook page post. June 1, 2020



Dobby marks one year with Rob Maguire, online following grows

by Warren Schlote

MANITOWANING—It has been just over one year since Dobby the fire-rescued kitten found a home with Manitowaning's Rob Maguire and the frisky feline feller has continued to grow and thrive in his new palace despite the injuries he sustained as a weeks-old kitten last spring.

"Today marks one year from the first day I met Dobby in person. He captured my heart relative to his plight, which was what prompted me to contact (the vet clinic)," said Dobby's keeper Rob Maguire in a May 28 conversation with The Expositor.

Last May, Dobby was rescued from a garage fire in the Sudbury area. He received extensive care at Walden Animal Hospital and received sock-like bandages for each of his burnt paws as well as the name Dobby—an homage to the Harry Potter universe in which Dobby the House Elf is freed from captivity when he is given a sock.

Dobby's health was challenged by third-degree burns, bad scarring and losing a bit of an ear. The vets at the clinic took him home every night to ensure he was always within good care until his condition stabilized.

On June 5, Mr. Maguire began to foster Dobby and he was approved as his forever home just two days later.

Dobby still has some scarring in spots under his fur, he is missing toes, has a bald spot under his chin and is missing several claws. Last year, the vets were concerned that he may have a hernia but this issue did not ultimately materialize, a relief to Mr. Maguire.

Dobby has also grown to a healthy weight on the smaller size range of average and he hasn't needed a vet visit since October.

Mr. Maguire described Dobby as always being in a good mood and a ball of energy. On the day Dobby was neutered, Mr. Maguire couldn't keep the cat's protective cone on, nor could he keep Dobby in a resting state (though vets assured Mr. Maguire that Dobby would likely not hurt himself).



Dobby the miracle cat survived a fire one year ago that caused him severe injuries. Despite those injuries when he was just a tiny kitten, Dobby has made a remarkable recovery thanks to the care he recieved at the Walden Animal Hospital and went on to find himself a loving forever home with Manitowaning's Rob Maguire.

"This is why people are really interested by his story. Besides all the hardships he's occurred and being near-death and going through surgeries, he's just so happy and so goodnatured all the time," said Mr. Maguire. "He's got lots of character and he has a real sense of humour."

That is perhaps the real shining star in Dobby's tough life story: the impact he has had on people across the globe.

"Since I got him, I've been putting up photos and captions on my (personal) Facebook page. From that, he's been building this following," said Mr. Maguire.

Enough people had shown an interest in following Dobby on Mr. Maguire's Facebook that he began receiving friend requests from across Ontario and beyond. Three months ago he started a public Instagram page for Dobby, @DobbyTheFireCat. In that short time Dobby has amassed more than 1,100 followers.

A story about Dobby and an edited compilation of clips from Mr. Maguire were posted by cat-loving community Love Meow. The video has been viewed more than 81,000 times.

"Ever since then I've had people contact me from New Zealand, England, Scotland, India, China, Japan, the US and Canada, all with people telling me they're inspired by his story, his strength and his love. And that's inspired me," said Mr. Maguire.

Some of the commenters have suggested that Dobby's story should be told in a children's book, something Mr. Maguire said may be an interesting future project.

"I also find if I don't share any photos of him, if a week goes by, I start to get messages from people I don't even know asking if everything is okay," said Mr. Maguire.

Some of the comments have been particularly touching. One woman said she was going through a rough patch and Dobby's story of persistence gave her the will to continue living.

The stories of resilience, comfort and companionship afforded by pets is something perhaps more important than ever in the uncertain world, said Mr. Maguire.

He credited the Walden Animal Hospital team for saving Dobby's life despite the odds. The vet team still refers to the kitty as their superstar.

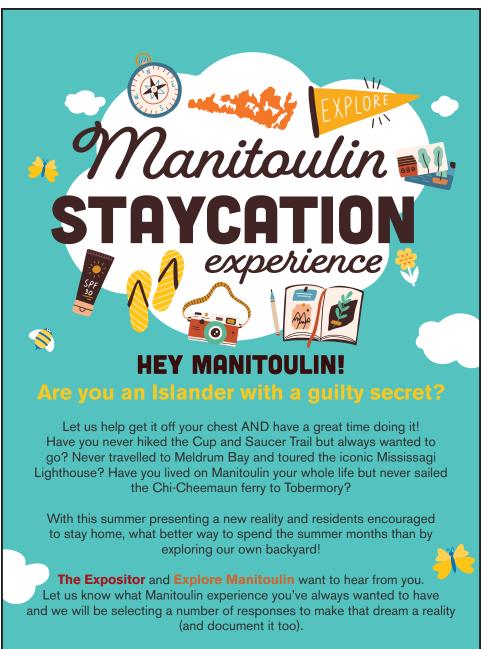
"This story wouldn't have been told had they not done what they did. That's something for us all to think about, the repercussions of our daily actions," he said.

Dobby's growing fame has not outshone the other cats in the Maguire household—cat-castle-mates Swif and Little Norisle have taken to the newcomer and each bring their own personality to the mix.

Whether it's taking his medication without a fuss, getting into the potatoes or zipping around the house but always coming back to Mr. Maguire's side, Dobby has a big personality that fits well in the world of social media.

It's also a match made in heaven for the two who were inseparable on the day they first met. Mr. Maguire said he believes in creating the best possible life for his cats considering the horrible things that others have done to animals, and he doles out all the love and support they could ever want, even building a cat castle in his home.

"Dobby is a little treasure in a lot of ways. It's funny, I've gone places and people say 'hey, you're Dobby's dad!' These are people I've never met before so they've obviously been reading the posts and scoping him out," Mr. Maguire said with a laugh.



Please send us your dream Manitoulin staycation experience to: editor@manitoulin.ca with 'Staycation Experience' in the subject header and be sure to include all of your contact information.





<text><text><text><text>

Little Current United Church congregation says farewell to Allards

by Warren Schlote

LITTLE CURRENT—Three years is a short time in which to make a major impact on the lives of people in the communities you serve, but for Little Current United Church (LCUC)'s outgoing pastor Paul Allard and wife Karen, that impact was on full display this past weekend when dozens of cars filled with well-wishers paraded past the church after their last Sunday service on the morning of May 31.

'I had no clue the parade was coming. It was an overwhelming testament to how gracious this community and our congregation is. It was very heartfelt and emotional," said Pastor Allard. "The finality of it all is starting to sink in.'

"What a shock! I was flabbergasted. You have your suspi-



Numerous types of vehicles were represented at the farewell parade for Little Current United Church pastor Paul Allard and wife Karen. They will be moving to a new church in Hardisty, Alberta this month.

cions something might happen on the last day but that just warmed my heart, oh my gosh," said Ms. Allard. "And it's been like that since we came here."

The Allards are beginning to pack up their home for a move to Hardisty, in central Alberta.

The LCUC church council had discussed the best way to honour their departing leaders and thank them for their three years of service. A parade was deemed a safe and effective way to convey their gratitude.

"Paul has meant a lot to us over his three years," said church council chair Scott Mosher. "We're going to miss them a lot but we wish them well.'



Little Current United Church Council chair Scott Mosher presents Paul Allard with a parting gift before the cars began to roll past. photos by Warren Schlote

Several cars and vehicles of all kinds passed by the church following their final service and many dropped off gifts and cards.

This marks the end of their tenure serving the United churches of Little Current and Sheguiandah and the beginning of service out west.

Pastor Allard was in fact interviewed for the Hardisty pastorship before his interview in Little Current three years ago, and he was offered the Alberta job on the spot. He requested to complete the Little Current interview in the spirit of fairness but was drawn to Manitoulin's charms and had to disappoint the western pastoral charge.

Although the Allards have been lovingly welcomed into the Island community, when the phone rang near the end of February it was an offer he could not refuse.

"I thought about it; this was an opportunity that might never come again, to be taken out there without any com-petition. Maybe it was meant to be," said Pastor Allard. "Perhaps this is something I needed to broaden my horizons.'

His first contract was at St. Paul's Church in Cochrane for four years, followed by Little Current.

The things he will miss the most are the sense of community and his great congregation, said Pastor Allard, citing the warmth of Islanders as a major reason he chose this position-in addition to Manitoulin's great landscapes.

He took had a major role in developing that connection-Pastor Allard was a member of the Little Current Lions Club, an active curler and the host of numerous events from craft fairs to musical events at the church. He will also be missed as chaplain of Royal Canadian Legion Branch 177 in Little Current.

Both called out the names of every person who drove



Marcel and Wendy Gauthier had a vibrant red heart on display to reflect some of the love the Allards poured into their community during their three-year stay on Manitoulin Island.

past them in the parade, a testament to their deep care for their community.

"I like to include fun and humour in my services to get people engaged. I really like getting people participating and creating activities to enjoy beyond services to create community connections. That's my calling, to build communities, work with others and



make it a nicer place to be," he said, adding that he hopes some of his events carry forward into the future.

Ms. Allard did not move to the Island with her husband in 2017 because she was still in the process of selling their home in Cochrane. When she came down to visit, organist Barb Cranston was conducting a choir practice and sang a hymn to welcome her in as part of the family.

...continued on page 29



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Central Manitoulin Public School celebrates World Environment Day

by Lori Thompson, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter MINDEMOYA—Students and teachers from Central Manitoulin Public School (CMPS) enjoyed the warm spring weather on Friday, June 5 as they participated in self-guided activities in support of World Environment Day (WED).

'We don't always celebrate just the day,' explained Cori Davy, CMPS teacher and Eco Team lead. "We usually have a whole Earth Week but weren't able to do that this year.' Other CMPS teachers agreed it would be a nice break to get outside and do something positive for the Earth. They brainstormed and came up with a list of potential activities suitable for all grades whether the students lived in town or on a farm.

Some students planted or watered gardens, others created no mow areas in their yards. Other activities included hanging clothes on the line, building a birdhouse or feeder, making bee boxes for wild bees, picking up litter on the beach, identifying birds, creating shelter in gardens for frogs and checking tire pressure for better gas mileage.

"We just wanted the kids to come out with a positive attitude today," said Ms. Davy. "We wanted them to know they can make a little change, a difference in the world and what's around them. We're blessed to have a rural society. Kids appre-



Picking up litter on the beach was the activity chosen by these Central Manitoulin Public School students to help the Earth as part of World Environment Day.



Maeve plants a cherry tree at Central Manitoulin Public School for World Environment Day.



ciate it."

Ms. Davy and family also planted some fruit trees in the school yard. The money to purchase the trees was received from a Learning for Sustainable Futures grant. "Schools can put in proposals for up to 400 dollars. We've used that grant many times for different projects but this year we wanted fruit trees."

Student members of the CMPS Eco Team decided what they wanted and Ms. Davy assisted with the online application. They planted cherry trees, a pecan tree, seedless grape vines and some shrubs. The trees are planted throughout the yard behind the school in a no mow zone, Ms. Davy said. "They're planted strategically to make shady places for the kids in 20 years."

Last year two apple and two pear trees were planted in the same no mow zone. "The lawnmower will stay far away from the trees and it's a nice corner for kids to have shade," said Ms. Davy, a little sad the kids weren't there this year to participate in the planting. A slide show was created for students with photos of their various WED activities.



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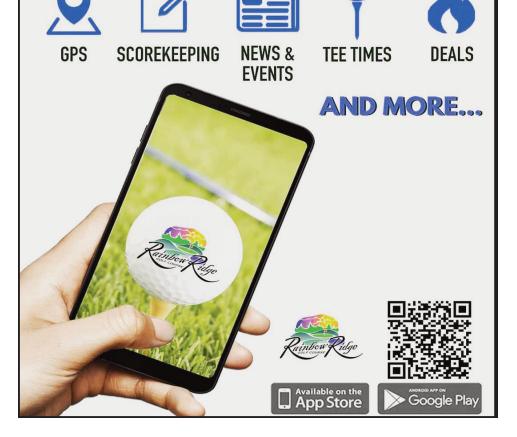
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Friendship Treaty text gets remade into Manitoulin Island anthem How the original text came to be, later finding a musical accompaniment

by Warren Schlote GORE BAY—The Mani-toulin Friendship Treaty of 1990 is a symbolic document that has come to represent the positive relationships that exist on the Island between its Indigenous inhabitants and settlers, encouraging a spirit of collaboration and understanding that has sprung back into relevance during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Expositor has recent-

Kanesatake and the town of Oka, Quebec (aided by police forces and the Canadian military) engaged in a tense standoff over a proposed golf course expansion and housing build on disputed territory that contained a Mohawk burial ground.

The conflict lasted into September and led to the death of a Quebec provincial police officer, with dozens more hurt on both

Ojibwe translation was not able to be recorded by the group and the publisher lost interest.

The Island Singers continued to perform the song and 'Friendship' appears as track three on Ms. Best's 2011 album 'Not Alone.' This is a simpler four-part harmony version sung by Mr. and Ms. Best and Chris and Heather Theijsmeijer. A copy of the song is embedded in this story on

happy that better understandings are starting to form, especially on the topic of respecting Mother Earth, but acknowledged that there was still much work to be done.

For Mr. Armstrong, the words he wrote still remind him of the love he felt as a child growing up on Mani-

"I had good friends in public school that came from Sheshegwaning. Within the last year, I encountered one of those old friends in the grocery store," said Mr. Armstrong. "Our first reaction, because we hadn't seen each other for a while, was to hug.'

He added that the words in the 1990 treaty seem to be as relevant to the people of 30 years ago as they are now

The four-part harmony sheet music is available for free on Ms. Best's website, BestSongs.ca.



The Island Singers and the Jubilate Singers of North York will perform an evening of Mozart and premiere Jane Best's composition of the Manitoulin Friendship Treaty at a concert this Saturday, May 23, in Mindephoto by Bryant moya

The Island Singers and Jubilee Singers premiered the Manitoulin Friendship Treaty composition by Jane Best (right, holding her infant son) in 1992.

sides.

ly explored some of the relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples on Manitoulin Island. Since those stories began to appear, this newspaper has heard from some people who shared their perspectives on important links, including the Friendship Treaty.

One such person was Jane Best, a Gore Bay musician who turned the treaty's text into a choral song that might be considered a Manitoulin Island anthem.

She attended the 1990 signing ceremony, having just moved to Gore Bay from Toronto in the previous summer with husband Paul and two-year-old daughter Anne.

The family was adjusting to Island life and witnessing the strong connection between people of Anishi-naabe and settler backgrounds. This co-operative spirit was also evident at . Manitoulin Secondary School, where Mr. Best took up a teaching role.

The announcement that a friendship treaty would be signed to more formally bridge the Island cultures was a must-see for Ms. Best. It was well-attended and featured prayers, a smudge, songs and dancing.

"I found it very inspire said. "They're say·

Mr. Armstrong had been watching tensions rise across Canada and recognized that Manitoulin Island's cross-cultural relations were much healthier and balanced. He figured they should be celebrated, especially with Gore Bay's 100-year anniversary festivities coming later that year-he was also on the town's centennial commit-

tee "I had an appreciation of Manitoulin Island and the relationships that formed here, so I was distressed by Oka. And I just thought, 'no, Oka cannot be the only message that comes out of that summer. There's got to be a message of harmony as well,'" he said. Mr. Armstrong was cau-

tious to keep the text of the pledge pragmatic and reflective of the day-to-day realities of Manitoulin Island, rather than trying to create an impression of an impossible utopia.

The words were evidently effective, having been adopted as the official treaty text and resonating with Islanders like Ms. Best. Long after the ceremony, she still had the treaty in her head.

"I remember thinking these were really deep words, and if we could live how wondertu up to them, that would be," she said. "There's a sense of both trying to understand each other and working together, and the last line is about keeping harmony by respecting each other's ways. I think that's being put to the test now." Ms. Best has a background in writing and publishing choral, hymn and folk music. She has released three independent albums. She contacted Mr. Armstrong for permission to use the words and longtime Island Singers director Dorothy Anstice took an interest as well. It was premiered by the Island Singers in 1992. A publishing company then wanted the Island Singers to record a version with both English and Ojibwe words. However, due to complications, the The Expositor's website.

Ms. Best said adding music means the words last longer in one's memory and can carry a importance stronger

through their repetition. "Learning a text through a song is a way to feel those ideas stronger; it slows it down and puts it in a certain way that rein-forces them," she said. "Those words can get inside you.'

Ms. Best said she was





ıng, 'let's really work ing, together to find ways to share the land and make things more just, to circumvent the horrible tensions that can happen when there's real injustices about the land and who lives on it."

The words of the treaty were penned nearby by then-lawyer Blaine Armstrong. He still remembers setting the words to the page as he sat in a recliner to do his early morning thinking.

"It was from just before daylight that particular day, until the household got stirring and the distractions began. That's how much time I had, and that's how much time it took," Mr. Armstrong told The Expositor.

The Oka Crisis was ongoing in the summer of 1990 in which Mohawks of

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Invasive species alert: Garlic mustard is invading Manitoulin forests

by Judith Jones

MANITOULIN—Another invasive species has crept onto Manitoulin Island and has now spread enough to become worrisome—garlic mustard.

Garlic mustard (Alliaria petiolata) is a herbaceous (not woody) plant in the mustard family. The upper leaves are shaped like a spade with a long point, while leaves on the ground are like a rounded heart. Both have scalloped edges and a wrinkly, veiny surface texture. They look a little like violet leaves but smell of garlic when crushed. Garlic mustard plants have a two-year life cycle. In the first year, they are just a cluster of leaves growing on the ground. In the second year, they make a stalk up to one metre (three feet) tall and a bunch of small white flowers with four petals.

Garlic mustard is capable of wiping out native forest plants. It is a danger to the fiddleheads, trilliums, leeks, adder's tongues and other spring wildflowers. It has some very scary weapons in its tool box. The roots can put chemicals into the soil that stop other plants from growing. Also, one large plant can produce over 3,000 seeds and the



Flowering stems of garlic mustard (foreground in front of the Forgetme-nots) with clusters of white flowers with four petals. Stem leaves are spade-shaped with scalloped edges

can do.

it's going to take a while.

Here are some things you

Hand pulling: This is a

good strategy for small

patches if it's done before

the seed pods are forming.

You'll spot the tall flower-

ing plants, and they pull out

easily. Grasp the plants at

the base and pull gently to

try to get the whole root

without breaking it or the

stem. Once you've got an

eye for the tall plants, you'll

also probably notice a ton

of the first-year plants on

the ground. Do what you

can to get them, too, but

make a mental note to come

back again in a week and

see if some have grown up

seeds can last up to 30 years in the soil. With these weapons, a stand of garlic mustard can become the dominant forest ground cover in just five to seven vears.

This week, garlic mustard is beginning to flower and is very noticeable. Now is the time to check whether this invader is on your property and to make plans to do something about it before it destroys our forests. Getting garlic mustard under control is going to be a multi-year process, so the important thing is to get started and to keep going, even if it's just a little bit at a time. Remember

and also to get back again to this spot next year.

One downside of handpulling is that it opens up the soil and allows new garlic mustard seeds to sprout. Remember, control will take a few years. However, you can cover up the newly exposed ground with leaves or some other type of mulch or plant something else there, but you really don't want to introduce might anything that become troublesome, so stick to native plants (see link at the bottom).

Cutting or mowing at the bottom: This works if you do it before the plants produce seeds. The plants don't all flower at once and some stems may re-sprout, so cutting may need to be done a few times over a couple weeks. Cutting at the bottom is better than just cutting off the flowers because you won't leave a stem where new flowers can sprout. It also doesn't stir up the soil to expose more seeds.

Cutting off the flowers: This does prevent the plants from going to seed and is a little less work than No. 2, but you have to keep at it until the end of the summer since new flowers can still sprout from the stems.

Careful disposal of the material: Don't compost or pile the stems because the flowers can still produce seeds even after the stems are cut. Seal the material in paper yard waste bags or black plastic garbage bags and leave the bags in the sun. After at least a week, the bags can be burned or taken to the dump.

Garlic mustard was intentionally brought from Europe in the 1800s to be grown for edible greens. Smaller plants can be eaten if you like the flavour.

There is a lot more to know about garlic mustard including how to restore the bush and the soil after removing a lot of plants, and what native species can be planted that will outcompete this invader. **Ontario Best Management** Practices (the official document that tells you what works and what doesn't work and why) and a lot more info can be found on the website about Ontario's Invading Species at InvadingSpecies.com/garlicmustard/

Judith Jones is an environmental consultant based in the Bidwell area. Since 2016 she has co-ordinated the Manitoulin Phragmites Project, a program to eliminate invasive phragmites from shores and wetlands on Manitoulin Island and surrounding islands.



Slow down!

With all of the unaccustomed travellers detouring along the Rockville Road this little roadside tricycle rider was set out by Angel and Robert Marcotte to act as a subtle reminder to slow down. Further down the road a radar equipped OPP cruiser sat ready to punctuate the message with an expensive exclamation mark. Ms. Marcotte asks that people refrain from throwing cigarette butts out of their car windows.

photo by Michael Erskine

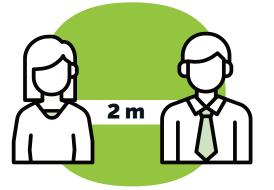


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Decoration Day celebrations a more intimate event this year

by Michael Erskine

SPRING BAY—The martial skirl emitted by Dave Beaton's bagpipes provided a fitting opening for the Decoration Day ceremonies held at the Manitoulin District Cenotaph and Memorial Gardens this past Sunday, as a small but dedicated crowd gathered on the lawn to witness the laying of wreaths beneath the various monuments and the recitation of memorial benedictions for the fallen.

"Decoration Day received its start on Manitoulin in 1921," noted master of ceremonies Roy Eaton in his opening remarks. "Veterans and citizens would travel from across the Island starting in their home communities and ending at Spring Bay where a combined service was held. Along the way, people would stop at the Island graveyards to decorate the graves of veterans who had paid the ultimate price in WWI. Today we continue this tradition as we gather to pay respect to those gave their lives in service to their country and to pay tribute to all veterans who fought to ensure the freedom we enjoy in this land. Unfortunately, this year, due to the restrictions placed on us by us COVID-19, we will have a very abbreviated ceremony. I do thank all in attendance today and urge everyone to follow the guide-



Bugler Roy Eaton plays the Last Post as the Sgt. Golden Memorial Rifle Team readies a salute.



Piper Dave Beaton leads the assembly over to Memorial Gardens for the laying of wreaths at the Women's and Youth Memorials.

lines of social distancing."

The opening prayer was delivered by acting Chaplain Gary MacPherson, president of Royal Canadian Legion Branch 39 of Espanola, followed by 'The Last Post' of



Kirsten and Casey Bowerman lay a wreath at the Manitoulin Youth's monument.



Vanessa Jo Woods, Worthy Matron of Branch 237 of the Spanish River Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star, presents a cheque for \$1,000 to the Manitoulin District Cenotaph Committee. Joining chair Linda Bowerman are cenotaph committee members Jim Corrigan and Lewis Jewell, and Eastern Star members Alice Varey, Mary Lea Buchan along with Jim Woods.

photos by Michael Erskine



Joyce and Peter Daigle hold up a banner featuring Ms. Daigle's mother Thelma Dagg.

Associate Matron Mary-Lea Buchan laid a wreath on behalf of that organization.

Vice President Manitoulin North Shore Naval Veterans Shipmate Roy Eaton then laid a wreath at the foot of the Marine Veterans memorial. A special presentation of a \$1,000 cheque by Worthy Matron Vanesa Jo Woods, Worthy Patron Jim Woods, Associate Matron Mary-Lea Buchan and Secretary Alice Varey, past district deputy grand matron to the Manitoulin Cenotaph Committee, was accepted by committee chair Comrade Linda Bowerman.

Ms. Bowerman thanked the Order, but stressed that she was accepting the cheque on behalf of her hard-working committee members.

The Sgt. Charles A. Golden Veterans Rifle Team provided a 21-gun salute before piper Beaton escorted the assembly across the road to Memorial Gardens for two special wreath-laying ceremonies.

Joyce Daigle laid a wreath at the foot of the Women's Memorial on behalf of all women who served in the various corps during the wars, but in particular in memory of her mother Comrade Thelma "Tommie" Dagg who passed away in February. Ms. Daigle and her husband Peter unfurled a remembrance banner bearing her mother's image following the ceremonies.

On behalf of the children of the world, Casey and Kirsten Bowerman laid a wreath at the foot of the Youth Memorial to conclude the day's events.

Comrade Eaton introduced Stephanie Sissions, daughter of Zone H3 Commander Sharleen Sissions to the assembly. Ms. Sissions is producing a YouTube video of the day's service to be posted on the Royal Canadian Legion's channel and Facebook page in a couple of weeks.

Sgt. Charles A. Golden Veterans Rifle Team proceeded on to the Roman Catholic cemetery in Little Current where they fired a salute over the grave of the late Jerry Loosemore later that afternoon.



bugler Mr. Eaton and then two minutes of silence.

The silence was broken by a lament performed by piper Dave Beaton followed by 'Rouse' again by bugler Mr. Eaton, who then went on to recite the 'Act of Remembrance.'

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 177 Little Current Poppy Chair Comrade Sue Morin began the laying of wreaths at the foot of the memorial wall on behalf of the Province of Ontario, followed by District H Comrade Sharleen Sissions, Zone H3 Commander on behalf of the zone; Royal Canadian Legion Branch 177 President Ruth Eadie on behalf of her branch; Royal Canadian Legion Branch 177 Ladies Auxiliary President Linda Bowerman on behalf of the auxiliary; the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 514 wreath was laid by past president Jim Woods; and the Canadian Forces wreath was laid by Comrade Gary Trimmer, president of the ANAVET Branch 176, Manitoulin North Shore.

Comrade Kathleen Eshkibok, escorted by US Marine Corps veteran Michael McCormick, laid a wreath at the foot of the Memorial Wall on behalf of aboriginal veterans.

"We stand today on the traditional homelands of the First Peoples of Canada," noted Comrade Eaton. "Here on Manitoulin the lands of the Ojibway, Odawa and Potawatomi who together formed the Three Fires Confederacy. We strive for respectful partnerships with all peoples of this island as we search for ways to honour this beautiful land together."

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...Part III of a series: Coping with children's feelings of isolation during pandemic times

...continued from page 1

dren, youth and families in Northeastern Ontario. While Compass does maintain an office in Little Current with three full-time clinicians and one child and youth worker, they are working from home during COVID-19, providing services by telephone and video conferencing. The best way to access Compass services is by calling 1-800-815-7126, said Alana Jackson, clinical manager with Compass Northeast.

Compass's walk-in clinic, MindSpace, is currently a virtual walk-in clinic, she said. Calling the 1-800 number will connect you with a clinician who will determine what is going on, what strengths exist already and how Compass can help. The service is available from 9 am until 6:30 pm Monday through Friday.

Call volumes have actually decreased during COVID-19 but what has increased is the number of parents reaching out for support, particularly parents with young children. "The lack of structure or routine or even just a change to structure and routine can cause some significant impacts for our little people," explained Ms. Jackson. "We do often receive calls from teens and older youth looking for support and we actively encourage that but parents can call as well. If they're struggling with behaviour, if they're struggling with routine, anything really, we can likely support it."

There have also been a number of calls related to COVID-19. "How do I speak to my child about COVID, or how do I give them information that is age appropriate? What should I share and what shouldn't I share?" are some of the questions parents are asking, Ms. Jackson said. "What's going on in the media is impacting our young people and our children, so we encourage families and parents to be very mindful of what their little people are seeing and being exposed to when we listen to the news and we're scrolling through Facebook. Remember, there are little people who may not be able to understand some of the information that is being

expressed there."

The most important thing is for parents to validate their child's concerns. That means taking the time to talk to them and discuss their worries. "Make sure you are giving undistracted attention to you children. Have some open time that is just child-focused," she recommended, adding that anyone who is struggling with what to say or how to say it should call their 1-800 number and Compass can provide guidance. "The other thing is to arm yourself with the most accurate and up to date information, being very mindful of your source."

Parents also need to be mindful to provide information that is age appropriate. "Children have different capacities so what may work for one child may not work for another. You may have children in your home who have different needs and different requirements."

COVID-19 has impacted everybody, said Ms. Jackson, and has changed the way we are living, working and socializing. Families and how they are functioning right now have changed as well, and those families or young people who were struggling with additional stress prior to COVID-19 are now dealing with even more because of job loss and social isolation may not have an infrastructure in place that supports and protects them.

^{*}Our organization is there to support you," Ms. Jackson said. "I wouldn't want to hear that any young people aren't reaching out if they're able. We can be really creative in how we support you."

Returning to school and social activities in the fall may cause additional anxiety and that's natural, she said, and it can be beneficial to practice now those skills they might use when their anxiety is increased. Now is a good time to call Compass for guidance on preparing kids for going back to school, or for a young person to call to start learning and practising those skills.

Trauma is an individual experience, and while we can't

predict how people will live through an experience, teachers have a pre-existing relationship with their students and are able to compare post-COVID behaviours with their baseline prior to this. Some of the major things teachers can look for, and parents may notice even now, are significant differences in the child's irritability; whether they are more withdrawn than usual; if there are significant mood changes, or changes in appetite or sleeping patterns, Ms. Jackson explained. "Teachers could be well versed in trying to speak to parents if they have a concern, but we do have a plan to provide support in the event that there is an influx of services being needed" post pandemic. Compass works closely with all Island schools, and teachers are well supported by school social workers and mental health leads as well.

Geography has sometimes been a barrier to accessing services for Island residents from more remote communities but a positive outcome of COVID-19 has been the addition of video conferencing. "We are providing a virtual walk-in clinic and we're going to continue with whatever works for the family post COVID, whether by phone session or face-to-face or video conference," she said. "I want to encourage people to use whatever platform works for them. The big takeaway is we are here. All we want to do is support children. We wouldn't want the way they connect to be the barrier."

Compass is offering free webinars to support youth and caregiver mental health this week. The June 10 topic is Youth and Substance Use, suitable for parents or youth over 12 years. June 11 is Self-compassion and Mindfulness for ages 12 plus. Parents and caregivers can learn about Nurturing your Child's Mental Health on June 12. All webinars run from 1 until 2:30 pm. To learn more or register, visit CompassNE.EventBrite.com.

...Court rules long-term care workers voluntarily isolating aren't eligible for paid leave

...continued from page 1 central rights arbitration.

ONA's two main concerns were that all nurses who self-isolate, regardless of whether they have symptoms or are acting out of precaution, should be given a paid leave of absence whether they are full-time, part-time or casual. The union also argued that forcing asymptomatic nurses away from the workplace should not be permissible.

Mr. Stout said that, in general, employees are not entitled to pay if they do not go to work, unless their contract states otherwise. The LTC homes, he said, were not required to pay for precautionary self-isolation because there was no evidence of those workers being ill.

Although the homes in these cases had prevented employees from attending work, meaning the employee did not have a choice but to take unpaid leave, Mr. Stout said that was in line with the precautionary principle to keep LTC residents safe from the virus.

Under the current collective agreements, a full-time employee with COVID-19 symptoms would qualify for paid leave. However, if an employee with COVID-19 symptoms was part-time or casual, they would not get paid leave when they would enter self-isolation.

Likewise, if any employee was worried that they may have come into contact with the virus and chose to self-isolate without having any symptoms, regardless of their employment status, they would not be entitled to paid leave.

An employee might choose to self-isolate without symptoms if they worry that they may be carrying the virus asymptomatically and capable of infecting the vulnerable people within their care.

Vicki McKenna, president of ONA, told The Expositor that the union was very disappointed in the ruling.

"Even if they're asymptomatic, there is a risk and they want to keep the patients and residents they care for safe," said Ms. McKenna. "When they selfisolate, the nurses suffer economically. They don't get sick pay or any other form of compensation at all when that happens."

Ontario's Workplace Safety and Insurance Board stated on its website that it does not cover any precautionary self-isolation when

no COVID-19 symptoms are present.

Public Health Ontario, meanwhile, issued guidelines in late March for how health care workers should self-isolate while working if they are critical to their organization.

The Expositor contacted Employment and Social Development Canada for clarification on whether precautionary self-isolation would be legitimate grounds to collect Employment Insurance, but did not receive a response by press time Monday.

Ms. McKenna said lost income can be devastating to employees who work paycheque to paycheque or are navigating single parenthood. She said some employers have granted paid precautionary isolation leave but many others are hesitant.

She also cited the funding the Ontario government has given to the LTC sector to help during the COVID-19 crisis, saying the employers could have chosen to use that money to support unpaid self-isolating employees and reduce the risk of transmission.

"I think that's very bad for staff morale, for one thing, but also a bad HR practice. I think we're all in this together, let's help one another," said Ms. McKenna.

The Expositor contacted Jarlette Health Services, parent of Manitoulin Lodge Nursing Home, for comment on the ruling.

"We believe the award made during arbitration was the result of a well-reasoned decision," read the full statement from spokesperson Stephanie Barber.

A follow-up question was not answered regarding how Jarlette would balance the risks of an asymptomatic employee being at work if they are unable to afford to take unpaid time off, even if they worry they may have been exposed to the virus.

Mr. Stout stated he felt for the workers facing financial hardship and not being entitled to paid leave, but said COVID-19 financial impacts are widespread.

Ms. McKenna said her union would begin to prepare for their next round of contract bargaining this coming fall and said COVID-19 would bring changes to working conditions just as SARS did in 2003.



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PAGE 22-THE MANITOULIN EXPOSITOR







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To receive adult or youth/parent information on Myalgic Encephalomyelitis, more commonly known as Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, or to volunteer with our Association, please contact: The Myalgic Encephalomyelitis

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.

Parkinson's Disease Support Group. For those affected by the disease and their caregivers, meetings will be the third Thursday of every month, 1:30 - 3:30 pm. Mindemoya Public Library (at the Municipal office building), Mindemoya. Call Marilyn at 705-368-0756, Ext 238 if there are any questions. All welcome.

HELPING ORGANIZATIONS IN PLACE FOR ALTHOUGH THE MEETINGS ARE SUS-PENDED FOR THE TIME BEING THE CONTACT INFORMATION MIGHT PROVE TO BE VALUABLE.

Is alcohol a problem? AA may be able to help. Meetings 7 days a week visit www.area84aa.org/manitoulin or call 705-674-6217 for more info.

Tfn

Private classified word ads, like this, are \$8 for up to 25 words and 10 cents for every additional word, per week, plus HST. Pre-payment (VISA, MasterCard, cheque or cash) is required. Private sales only. Call 705-368-2744 to book your ad. 0202. 4-5p



Donate your old car or truck or farm tractor, etc., or even an old metal boat to our church. We can send a truck right to you to pick these up, and in return you will receive an income tax receipt for the scrap value of your donation to St. Bernard's Church, Little Current. Please, no smaller items such as fridges, stoves, hot water tanks, etc. Contact Tony Ferro at 705-368-3066 or Jim Griffin at 705-859-2289.

17tfn

Deadline for text ads, like this, as well as boxed ads is Friday at 4 pm.

following social distancing and allowing only five people at a time. If these times do not work for you, please call Donna at 705-859-2746 or Joan at 705-859-2451 to arrange a time.





Royal Canadian Legion Branch #177 Fundraiser for Jack and Aline Stephens. Indian Tacos, Friday, June 19 from 11 am to 2 pm. \$10 per person. Take out only, pick up at the Legion. For pre-orders call 705-368-2465. Deliveries available within town limits. 4-5p



Manitoulin Health Centre REGISTERED NURSE (RN)

The Manitoulin Health Centre requires RNs on a part-time basis at both of its Little Current and Mindemoya hospital sites. Qualified applicants will possess a current Certificate of Registration with the College of Nurses of Ontario. Temporary Class members may also be considered. Preference may be given to those with recent hospital experience.

MHC meets the eligibility to provide nurses:

- MOHLTC Tuition Support Program
- Canada Student Loan Forgiveness Program

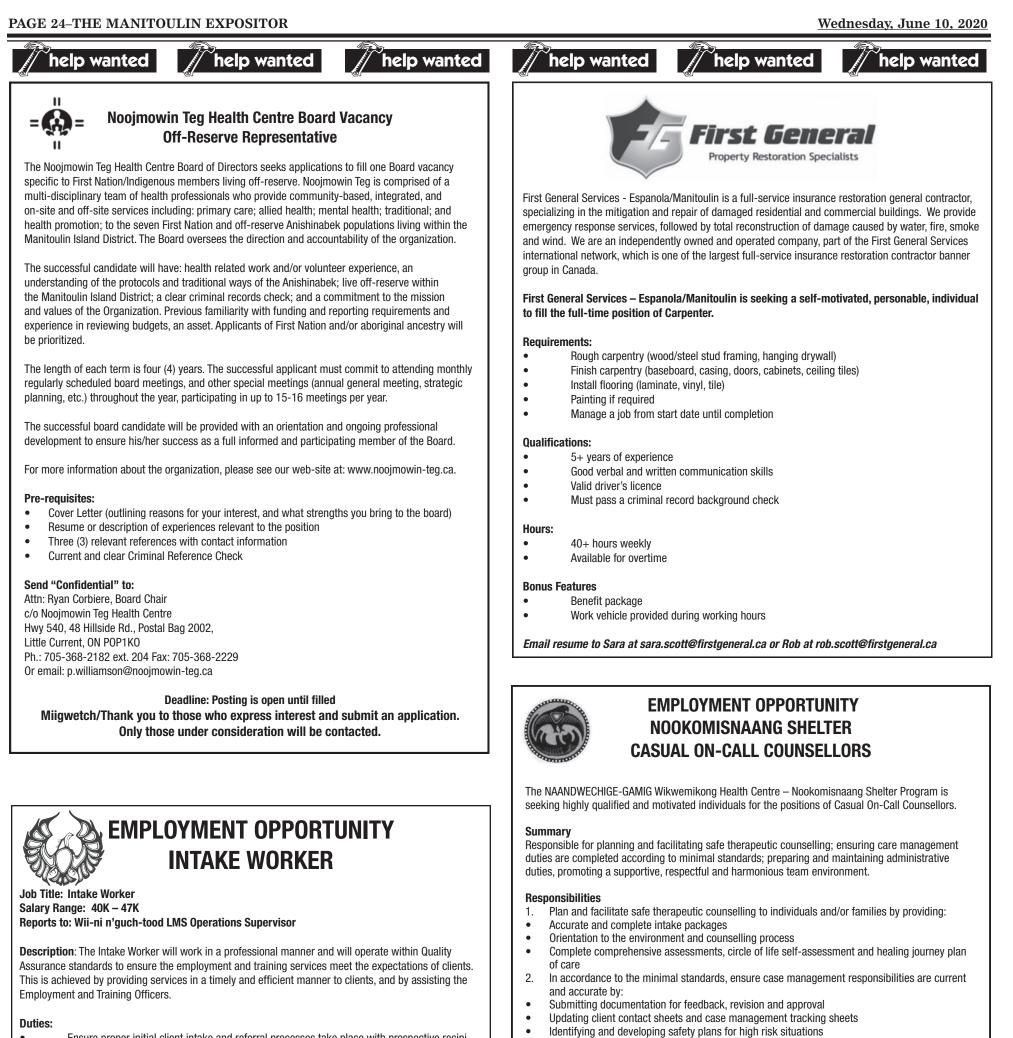
Please apply to:

Human Resources Department E-mail: recruitment@mhc.on.ca Website: mhc.on.ca

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

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- Ensure proper initial client intake and referral processes take place with prospective recipients of WLMS program funding;
- Ensure proper recipient documentation and registration;
- Explain priorities and objectives of WLMS programs to potential applicants;
- Assist with the statistical information gathering process and upload to ESDC;
- Assist clients with Employment Insurance applications, reporting, queries;
- Ensure ongoing file data management processes and data entry is maintained and completed for each recipient;
- for each recipient;
- Providing compassion/nurturance to those involved with the Shelter who are experiencing

Communicating concerns will all staff members in a sensitive and direct manner to promote

- Assist clients with occupation research, career action plans, job search activities and job maintenance issues using resources, internet, labour market information;
- Assist clients with preparation of applications for WLMS program applications;
- Maintain current Job Board information;
- Promote the mission and vision of Wii-ni n'guch-tood LMS.

Qualifications:

- Post-Secondary graduate in human services or office administration
- Previous employment/career facilitation experience
- Two years' experience in general office administration or human services
- Interest in Career Development and Job Searching Techniques
- Class "G" driver's licence and access to a vehicle
- Ability to work flexible hours (evenings and weekends) when need arises
- Ability to respond to criticisms and complaints from clients, community
- Ability to inform and explain rejections, contract compliance with recipients

Please submit cover letter, resume, copies of diploma/degree/pertinent certificates and three most-recent work-related references. The successful applicant must submit a Criminal Reference Check, to be followed by ESDC Security screening.

Please submit application to: Manager, Wii-ni n'guch-tood LMS

2102 Wikwemikong Way

Wikw@hhikong,

P0P 2J0

Please note "Intake Worker" and "Confidential" on the outside of your envelope. We thank all applicants, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted. There will be no return of submissions. **Closing date: June 23, 2020 @ 3:00 pm** death/tragedy e.g. cooking

Adhering to and abiding by the contents of the Shelter Service Operations Manual

Complete and submit weekly time sheets and appropriate leave forms

Promote a supportive, respectful and harmonious team environment by:

Working co-operatively and in co-ordination with all staff members

Prepare, conduct and maintain administrative duties by:

Complete and submit monthly reports

understanding and resolution

Qualifications

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4.

- Post-Secondary graduate in Social Work or relevant discipline or a minimum of three years equivalent combination of work and volunteer experience in the provision of services regarding violence and other relevant disciplines
- Understanding of the impact of family violence on the individual family, clan, nation and community

For a complete job description, please contact Melissa Roy. Salary is in accordance to WUT Salary Grid. All applicants MUST submit a letter of application, current resume, copies of credentials and two work related reference contacts, marked CONFIDENTIAL to:

Casual On-Call – Counsellor Attention: Melissa Roy NAANDWECHIGE-GAMIG Wikwemikong Health Centre P.O. Box 101, 16 A Complex Drive Wikwemikong, Ontario POP 2J0 Telephone: 705.859.3164 Fax: 705.859.3300 Email: mroy@wikyhealth.ca

Deadline: June 19, 2020 @ 4:00pm

Copies of the following will be requested from the SUCCESSFUL candidate: CPIC/VSS, Driver's Abstract, Accreditations and Driver's Licence. DO NOT INCLUDE IN PACKAGE.

We thank all applicants; only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Incomplete submission will not be accepted. No return of submissions.

ALL INTERESTED AND QUALIFIED CANDIDATES ARE ENCOURAGED TO APPLY.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY **NOOKOMISNAANG SHELTER** FAMILY COUNSELLOR

The NAANDWECHIGE-GAMIG Wikwemikong Health Centre - Nookomisnaang Shelter Program is seeking highly qualified and motivated individuals for the positions of Family Counsellors.

Summarv

Responsible for planning and facilitating safe therapeutic counselling; ensuring care management duties are completed according to minimal standards; preparing and maintaining administrative duties, promoting a supportive, respectful and harmonious team environment.

Responsibilities

- Plan and facilitate safe therapeutic counselling to individuals and/or families by providing: 1.
- Accurate and complete intake packages
- Orientation to the environment and counselling process •
- Complete comprehensive assessments, circle of life self-assessment and healing journey plan of care
- 2. In accordance to the minimal standards, ensure case management responsibilities are current and accurate by:
- Submit documentation for feedback, revision and approval .
- Updating client contact sheets and case management tracking sheets •
- Identifying and developing safety plans for high risk situations
- Prepare, conduct and maintain administrative duties by: 3.
- Adhering to and abiding by the contents of the Shelter Service Operations Manual •
- Complete and submit weekly time sheets and appropriate leave forms
- Complete and submit monthly reports
- Promote a supportive, respectful and harmonious team environment by: 4.
- Working co-operatively and in co-ordination with all staff members .
- . Communicating concerns will all staff members in a sensitive and direct manner to promote understanding and resolution
- Providing compassion/nurturance to those involved with the Shelter who are experiencing death/tragedy e.g. cooking

Qualifications

- Post-Secondary graduate in Social Work or relevant discipline or a minimum of three years equivalent combination of work and volunteer experience in the provision of services regarding family violence and other relevant disciplines
- Understanding of the impact of family violence on the individual family, clan, nation and community

For a complete job description, please contact Melissa Roy. Salary is in accordance to WUT Salary Grid. All applicants MUST submit a letter of application, current resume, copies of credentials and two work related reference contacts, marked CONFIDENTIAL to:

Nookomisnaang Shelter

Attention: Melissa Roy NAANDWECHIGE-GAMIG Wikwemikong Health Centre P.O. Box 101, 16 A Complex Drive Wikwemikong, Ontario POP 2J0 Telephone: 705.859.3164 Fax: 705.859.3300 Email: mroy@wikyhealth.ca

Deadline: June 19, 2020 @ 4:00pm

Copies of the following will be requested from the SUCCESSFUL candidate: CPIC/VSS, Driver's Abstract, Accreditations and Driver's Licence. DO NOT INCLUDE IN PACKAGE.

> We thank all applicants; only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Incomplete submission will not be accepted. No return of submissions.

ALL INTERESTED AND QUALIFIED CANDIDATES ARE ENCOURAGED TO APPLY.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY CASUAL ON-CALL FINANCE CLERK

The NAANDWECHIGE-GAMIG Wikwemikong Health Centre is seeking a Casual On-Call Finance Clerk within Home Care Program.

Summary

Finance Clerk is under the direct supervision of the Home Care Manager and is responsible to assist with continued fiscal responsibility of the Home Care Program for the provision of accurate and timely financial information to the Home Care Manager. The Finance Clerk assists and carries forth the financial policy set by Wikwemikong Unceded Territory (WUT) to promote the mission and growth of the NAANDWECHIGE-GAMIG Wikwemikong Health Centre to maintain the integrity of the Health Centre.

Qualifications

- Post-Secondary College Diploma preferred; a High School Diploma is required with experience.
- 2-3 years in Finance industry.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY **CHILDREN'S SERVICES MANAGER**

The NAANDWECHIGE-GAMIG Wikwemikong Health Centre - Children's Services is seeking a highly qualified and motivated individual for the position of Manager.

Job Summarv

This position is responsible for the administration, management, planning and supervision of the comprehensive, wholistic and culturally relevant Children's Services Program, on behalf of the Wikwemikong Health Centre. This currently includes, but may not necessarily be limited to: Early Childhood Development services, Aboriginal Head Start (On Reserve), Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD), Maternal Child Health (MCH) and Canada Prenatal Nutrition Program (CPNP). The program and services are delivered to parents/guardians/caregivers with families and children ages 0 - 6.

Responsibilities

- Ensure resources are used in the best way possible in order to produce measurable and positive outcomes for children 0 - 6 years, their parents, families and community.
- To deliver comprehensive community health programs which include the following: enable the 2. maternal and newborn population and their families to achieve and maintain an optimal level of health and development from pre-conception, pregnancy, birth and early adjustment to parenting.
- To plan, organize and implement the programming that promotes a balanced wholistic health care approach, incorporating physical, mental, social/environment and emotional/spiritual aspects to meet 3. the needs of 0 - 6 year children and their families. To plan programs according to these basic health and cultural indicators utilizing the Children's Bill of Rights.
- To collaborate, communicate, establish and maintain positive working relationships with community, 4. organizations and agencies for meeting program needs, i.e. Library, Prevention Services, Ontario Works, Aasgaabwitwindwaa Binoojiinhik Wiin ni gshkiwewziwaat and Primary Care.
- 5. The Manager will ensure through the various means of case management to coordinate an effective program delivery for the best outcome of the client occurs and to assist families with access to services for those living with complex issues or with children who require special needs.

Qualifications

- Baccalaureate in Nursing from a Canadian University or three year College Diploma in nursing
- Certificate of competence with the College of Nurses of Ontario, with knowledge and understanding of College Standards of Practice
- Member of Registered Nurses Association of Ontario (RNAO) with Legal Assistance Program (LAP)
- Demonstrate strong clinical skills in assessment of infants and young children and pregnant women
- Two (2) years' experience working in a First Nation community or equivalent organization • •
- Knowledge and understanding of First Nation health concerns and issues, and the ability to apply knowledge and skill in the development and implementation of programs to address identified needs
- Excellent interpersonal, written and verbal communication skills, including proficiency in computer applications, especially Microsoft Office
- Ability to maintain confidentiality and be an example of professionalism, as identified by Wiikwemkoong

For a complete JOB DESCRIPTION, please contact Melissa Roy. Salary is in accordance to WUT Salary Grid. All applicants MUST submit a letter of application, current resume, copies of credentials and two work related reference contacts, marked CONFIDENTIAL to:

Children's Services Manager

Attention: Melissa Roy NAANDWECHIGE-GAMIG Wikwemikong Health Centre P.O. Box 101, 16 A Complex Drive Wikwemikong, Ontario POP 2J0 Telephone: 705.859.3164 Fax: 705.859.3300 Email: mroy@wikyhealth.ca

Deadline: June 19, 2020 @ 4:00pm

Copies of the following will be requested from the SUCCESSFUL candidate: CPIC/VSS, Driver's Abstract, Accreditations and Driver's Licence. DO NOT INCLUDE IN PACKAGE. We thank all applicants; only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Incomplete submission will not be accepted. No return of submissions.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY **CASUAL ON-CALL JANITOR**

The NAANDWECHIGE-GAMIG Wikwemikong Health Centre is seeking a qualified and motivated individual for the position of Casual On-Call Janitor.

Job Summarv

The Casual On-Call Janitor will be required to work under the direct supervision of the Maintenance Coordinator. The individual will work 7.5 hours per day, providing janitorial cleaning and disinfected appropriately of the NAANDWECHIGE-GAMIG Wikwemikong Health Centre, Amikook, Youth Services Centre, Home Care and Children's Services.

Responsibilities

Wash all floors daily.

- Wash and disinfect toilet bowls, sinks and mirrors in the washrooms daily.
- Collect all garbage and store in the garbage shed daily and disinfect garbage cans.
- Make sure that all entrances are swept, clean and safe on a daily basis.
- Wash and disinfect medical examination rooms daily. •
- •
- Fill all dispensers when needed.

- Experience with budget, accounting and reporting systems.
- Strong working knowledge of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.
- Proficiency with ACCPAC accounting software and spreadsheet programs and applications is an . asset.
- Effective attention to detail and a high degree of accuracy.
- Able to build and maintain lasting relationships with other departments, key business partners • and government agencies.
- High level of proficiency with Microsoft Office productivity suite.
- Knowledge and experience with office equipment such as photocopiers, telephone systems, email and fax machines.
- Bondable. .
- . Work experience in an Aboriginal community and health care setting.

Salary is in accordance to WUT Salary Grid. All applicants MUST submit a letter of application, current resume, copies of credentials and two work related reference contacts marked **CONFIDENTIAL to:**

Casual On-Call Finance Clerk – Home Care

Attention: Melissa Roy, Executive Assistant

NAANDWECHIGE-GAMIG Wikwemikong Health Centre P.O. Box 101, 16A - Complex Drive Wikwemikong, Ontario POP 2J0 Telephone: 705.859.3164 Fax: 705.859.3300 Email: mroy@wikyhealth.ca

Deadline: June 19, 2020 @ 4:00pm

Copies of the following will be requested from the SUCCESSFUL candidate: CPIC/VSS, Driver's Licence & Abstract. DO NOT INCLUDE IN PACKAGE. We thank all applicants; only those selected for an interview will be contacted

- Wash, wax and strip the floors as required.
- ٠ Wash windows inside & outside as required.
- ٠ Polish floors as required.
- ٠ Make sure all windows and doors are locked on a daily basis.
- Maintain all janitorial equipment.
- Report concerns with building to Maintenance Coordinator.

Qualifications

- Grade 12 Diploma or equivalent
- Driver's Licence
- Previous experience working as a custodian/janitor would be considered an asset •
- . Good communication skills
- ٠ Be in good physical condition
- Must be trustworthy, reliable and able to perform a variety of tasks

This is a full time contract position and continuation is subject to review. Salary is in accordance to WUIR Salary Grid. All applicants MUST submit a letter of application, current resume and two work related reference contacts marked CONFIDENTIAL to:

Casual On-Call Janitor Attention: Melissa Roy NAANDWECHIGE-GAMIG Wikwemikong Health Centre P.O. Box 101, 16 A Complex Drive Wikwemikong, ON POP 2J0 Telephone: 705.859.3164 Fax: 705.859.3300 Email: mroy@wikyhealth.ca

Deadline: June 19, 2020 @ 4:00pm

Copies of the following will be requested from the SUCCESSFUL candidate: CPIC/VSS, Driver's Abstract, Accreditations and Driver's License. DO NOT INCLUDE IN PACKAGE.

We thank all applicants; only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Incomplete submissions will not be accepted. No return of submissions.

help wanted

Climate action plan is focus of Central Manitoulin climate change committee

by Lori Thompson. Local Journalism **Initiative Reporter** MINDEMOYA-The Climate Change Committee (CCC) for Central Manitoulin hosted its inaugural meeting on Wednesday, May 27. The committee is a sub-committee of the property municipality's committee and has the sole purpose of overseeing the development of a climate action plan (CAP) with the assistance of Kristin Koetsier, the municipality's climate change co-ordinator. The plan will help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions on both a corporate and community level.

climate Mindemoya change advocate Jan McQuay was elected as committee chair while Cori Davy, a teacher at Central Manitoulin Public School and head of the Eco-School team, accepted the role of vice chair. Other civilian members are Autumn Davy, a student at CMPS and member of CMPS' Eco-Team, and Katie Gilchrist, a public health nurse with Public Health Sudbury and District (PHSD). Ms. Gilchrist is responsible for PHSD's climate change portfolio, which deals with the increasing intersection of climate change and public health.

Council members include Mayor Richard Stephens, Councillor Dale Scott, a retired Island veterinarian, and Mike Wilton, who worked with Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources until his retirement in 1996.

Ms. Koetsier is a nonvoting member of the committee.

Following elections, the



committee reviewed the terms of reference. Ms. Koetsier clarified that the committee is specifically tied to her daily work. "The purpose of the committee is the make sure that the plan the municipality is working on is something community members can feel confident in and support, and will actually have a hand in creating themselves," she said, noting she also sees the committee as a course for change in the community that will ensure the plan is implemented. "We don't want to just create a wonderful plan and then have it sit on the shelf.'

Ms. McQuay delivered an overview of greenhouse gases before Ms. Koetsier explained her role and the climate action plan. Her position is funded by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and Ontario's Municipal Energy Program (MEP). "The FCM program is for communities working on either mitigation, which means reducing emissions or sucking emissions back out of the atmosphere, or adaptation, which is preparing to adapt to the effects of climate change that we might not be able to escape," she explained. "The MEP program is more about energy planning, conservation and thinking about how our community will source energy in the future but those two things obviously tie together very well so we're just working on this

...continued on page 28



Senior (not disabled) requires help with regular home chores such as dishwashing, cleaning kitchen, washroom, floors, windows, etc. Please email mwmikesails56@gmail.com if interested. 4c







EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY CASUAL ON-CALL MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION DRIVERS

The NAANDWECHIGE-GAMIG Wikwemikong Health Centre is seeking highly qualified and motivated individual(s) for the position of Casual On-Call Medical Transportation Driver with the Medical Transportation Program

Job Summary

The Casual On-Call Medical Transportation Driver will be required to provide effective and efficient medical transportation services for all on-reserve community members, to the Health Centre, Little Current, Mindemoya, Espanola and Sudbury for medical appointments.

Responsibilities

- To provide local transportation for band members to and from the Health Centre, Little Current, Mindemoya, Espanola and Sudbury in accordance with Medical Transportation Agreement and Medical Transportation Policy and Procedures.
- To maintain daily internal administration records (daily logbook, monthly report, etc.) for medical • transportation services for band members in accordance with Health Centre Medical Transportation Policy and Procedures.
- To maintain medical transportation vehicle and all equipment for transportation services.
- To ensure that all transportation slips are received from clients daily and to have ready for transportation clerks to send required information to Health Canada.

Qualifications

- Be able to understand and/or speak the language Ojibwe
- Valid Standard First Aid, CPR
- Valid Ontario Drivers Licence •
- Knowledge and understanding of First Nation Communities and their culture .
- High School Diploma

Salary is in accordance to WUIR Salary Grid. All applicants MUST submit a letter of application, current resume, copies of credentials and two work related reference contacts, marked CONFIDENTIAL to:

Casual On-Call Medical Transportation Driver Attention: Melissa Roy, Executive Assistant NAANDWECHIGE-GAMIG Wikwemikong Health Centre Box 101, 16 A Complex Drive Wikwemikong, Ontario POP 2J0 Telephone: 705.859.3164 Fax: 705.859.3300 Email: mroy@wikyhealth.ca

Deadline: June 19 2020 @ 4:00pm

Copies of the following will be requested from the SUCCESSFUL candidate: CPIC/VSS, Driver's Abstract, Accreditations and Driver's Licence. DO NOT INCLUDE IN PACKAGE.

> We thank all applicants; only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Incomplete submission will not be accepted. No return of submissions ALL INTERESTED AND QUALIFIED CANDIDATES ARE ENCOURAGED TO APPLY.

notice and





Food Cupboard -- The Gore Bay United Church is continuing this service during the Covid-19 outbreak with some changes. They will be open noon to 3 pm on Thursdays. Come to the side door (facing McQuarrie Motors) and knock. Food will be packed and passed out-side to you. If you have questions, call 705-282-2011. Messages are checked daily.

Tfn

Grace Bible Church, 10 Draper Street West, Little Follow us on Current. Facebook for our live service Sundays at 11 am. Virtual Study Wednesdays at 7 pm. tfn



Friends of Misery Bay AGM Saturday, June 20 at 10 am

This will be a virtual meeting due to COVID-19. To attend virtually, please email maddie.wagarlovelace@gmail.com. Agenda will be provided with the link to the meeting. Please join us in these difficult times. If you have an interest in Misery Bay and would like to join our board, please email us at friendsofmiserybay@gmail.com. Membership information can be found at MiseryBay.ca.

First General Services - Espanola/Manitoulin is a full-service insurance restoration general contractor, specializing in the mitigation and repair of damaged residential and commercial buildings. We provide emergency response services, followed by total reconstruction of damage caused by water, fire, smoke and wind. We are an independently owned and operated company, part of the First General Services international network, which is one of the largest full-service insurance restoration contractor banner group in Canada



help wanted



First General Services – Espanola/Manitoulin is looking for a reliable and experienced **Construction Labourer**. Minimum high school diploma or equivalent required. A valid driver's licence and clean criminal record check is required. Experience in construction is a requirement and in the property restoration industry is an asset.

Job includes, but not limited to, cleaning and preparing job sites, garbage and debris removal, assist with demolition and removal of hazardous materials. Must be able to work independently when required. Willing and able to be on call 24/7 for after hour emergency work.

Email resume to Sara at sara.scott@firstgeneral.ca or Rob at rob.scott@firstgeneral.ca



Looking for year-round, full-time employment? Perhaps looking for something different or part-time? 3 Cows is offering full-time, year-round positions for Cooks and Counter Persons. No experience is necessary, we are willing to train you.

All you need is ambition and willingness to learn. These positions are 40 hrs/week.

Can't work full-time or are a student? We have positions for you. Students can get the jump on summer jobs by starting now working the odd evening and weekends. If you think you would like to find out more or give it a try, drop in and see us, ask to speak to a manager. We would be happy to tell you more.

COME JOIN OUR TEAM!

If you wish, you could send your resume to staff3cows@hotmail.com 64 Meredith Street E. Little Current, ON POP 1KO 705-368-3524



THE MANITOULIN LEGAL CLINIC

12A Hillside Rd., Audeck Omni Kaning First Nation, Little Current, ON POP 1K0 Phone: 705-368-3333 Fax: 705-368-3712



Our office has remained OPEN during COVID-19. While we continue to limit in-person access to our office to special circumstances only, our Staff continues to provide services in our usual areas of law

by phone or via email: Susan: mullens@lao.on.ca Michael: shainm@lao.on.ca

We look forward to continuing to serve you.

SANDRA SUSAN MERRYLEES November 10, 1954 – June 1, 2020



Sandra Susan Merrylees passed away suddenly at Health Sciences North on Monday, June 1, 2020 in her 66th year. Beloved wife of Darwin "Red" Merrylees and cherished mother of Donald Merrylees. Grandmother of Matthew and Megan Merrylees. Sandy will be sadly missed by her brothers-in-law Hal Purkey,

Delbert Merrylees; sisters-in-law Marlene Burns, Barbara Blue, Carol Bahnuk and Audrene Merrylees. Nieces Kim (Kenny) Orford, Lynn Delany, Lee (Bob) Chatwell, Lorie Burns and nephews Michael Purkey, David (Joanna) Purkey, Kenny and Linda Lehman. Also remembered by her extended family and friends. Predeceased by her parents Chester and Kathleen (Lehman) Burns, brother Stewart Burns, sister Donna Purkey, brother-in-law Curtis Merrylees, Gary Blue; sister-in-law Audrey Merrylees, Roger Delany, father and mother-in-law Cecil and Dorothy Merrylees. Sandy was born in Mindemoya on November 10, 1954 and grew up in Gore Bay. Sandy married Darwin "Red" Merrylees on February 11 1974 in the Gore Bay Courthouse. They moved to Lively that same year as Red started full time at INCO and Sandy started at the Toronto Dominion Bank in Lively. Sandy and Red had one child, their son Donald was born at the Mindemoya Hospital in 1974. Red and Sandy lived in Lively for 30 years while raising their son, but Sandy's true love was always the Island. After 30 years with TD, Sandy retired and returned back to Gore Bay to join her husband (Red) who retired the year before. Sandy was very athletic growing up playing many sports, although sportsmanship and having fun were some of her best qualities, she had a fierce competitive side. Sandy played basketball, baseball, golf, curling and downhill skiing. She even played baseball on the Sudbury travelling team, the Sudbury Sonics, when she first moved to Lively. Sandy's favourite sport became curling. She was a member of the Copper Cliff Curling Club and Idylwylde Golf and Country Club . Once retired, she became heavily involved with the Gore Bay Curling Club. Sandy was crucial in acquiring funds through government grants and local investors in order to pay for a new and much needed ice making system. She was also heavily involved in helping run bonspiels and booking the club for private venues. Sandy was always trying to think of new ways to retain the current members but also to get "young people" interested in curling. Sandy's love of curling had her travelling all over the world and making amazing lifelong friends. Sandy also loved to travel. Whether Red was willing or not, she was adamant on travelling to as many places as she could. She travelled often with her sister Donna, family and close friends. She travelled to all parts of the world, from the East to West Coast of Canada, throughout the United States and even as far as Europe. She loved adventure and would be up to doing just about anything. She even whitewater rafted the Grand Canyon with family. Recently her main travelling companion was lifelong friend Mary Lynn McQuarrie. They went on many travelling adventures together including a "Thelma and Louise" parody trip in a convertible Camaro from Gore Bay all the way to her sister's home in Arizona. Family was very important to Sandy. Although she was younger than both her siblings, she was very close to them and their children. Her brother Stu's children were not much younger than she was and were brought up more like sisters. She was very close to her sister, Donna, even though she moved away from the Island at a very young age. Sandy was constantly visiting her sister in Chicago, Greenwich, and Phoenix. Sandy and Red only had one son, but seemed to have raised six or seven boys from Donald's group of friends. They were always at the house or camp, like the brothers he never had. If you were to ask them, they would admit that she was like a second mother to all of them. Her pride and joy was the love of her grandchildren, Matthew and Megan. Even though she retired back to the Island shortly after Matthew was born, Sandy seemed to be at everything they did. She went to hockey and ringette tournaments, volleyball tournaments, graduations, birthdays, you name it she was there. She loved spending time cooking, baking, water skiing, downhill skiing, seadooing and four wheeling with the both of them. Most of Sandy's time was spent in their house in Gore Bay and out at their camp on Tobacco Lake with her husband Red and their dogs Gunner and Carley. She had a great life living in paradise in two beautiful places that were near and dear to her heart. She loved a full heart and lived a full life and if she was here to ask she would probably tell you that she wouldn't change a single thing. Cremation has taken place. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. Memorial donations may be made to the Gore Bay Curling Club, (this can be done by e-transfer to GoreBayCC@gmail.com) or the Canadian Cancer Society as expressions of sympathy and may be made through www.SimpsonFuneralHome.ca.

Death Notices JULIAN LUKE CHRISTOPHER SHIGWADJA "Ewaawinad Ma'iigan"

"Howling Wolf"



In loving memory of Julian Luke Christopher Shigwadja, "Ewaawinad Ma'iigan", "Howling Wolf", 34 years, who passed away at Health Sciences North on Friday, May 29, 2020 with his loving family at his side. Julian was a son, brother, nephew, grandson and loving father to

his beautiful daughters. Loving son to Yvonne and Henry Baa. Loving father to Aaliyah and Nika. Brother to Laura and grandson of Nellie and Hector Shigwadja and Yvonne and Boniface Fox Baa. Uncle to Brandon and will be missed by many aunties, uncles, cousins of the Recollet, Shigwadja, Fox, Osawamick, Kimewon and Naokwegijig families. He had a great sense of humour and loved to laugh. A kind spirit, he started to learn traditional teachings and never hesitated to lend a helping hand when needed. He loved the land and water. He will be greatly missed Baa Maa Bii Julian. Fly high my boy, you're home. Rested at 1701 Webkamigade Rd. Kaboni, Ontario after 11:30 am on Tuesday, June 2, 2020. Graveside Committal Service was on Wednesday, June 3, 2020 at 11:30 am at the Kaboni Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Canadian Mental Health would be greatly appreciated. Arrangements entrusted to the Jackson & Barnard Funeral Home.

BARB SAGON



Barb Sagon started her journey to the spirit world on Friday, June 5, 2020 in her 70th year. Beloved mother of Mary Coburn (Chuck Halliday), Ron Drysdale, Derick Drysdale, Charles Coburn and Melvin Sagon. Cherished grandmother of Sage, Myla and Olivia. Barb will be sadly missed

by her sister Mary Anne (Joe) Endanawas and sisters-in-law Eleanor Antoine, Irene Kells, Christine Bigras; as well as nephews Chris, Josh, Max, Carl, Lorne, Kevin, Brent, Charles, Richard and William; nieces Crystal, Yvonne, Daisy, Theresa, Bobbi-Sue, Charlene, Jackie, Mel and Naangoons; as well as many great-nieces, nephews and cousins. Predeceased by her parents Louis and Mary Louise (Niganwina) Sagon; son Norman Coburn; brothers Mike, Raymond, Philip and Ronnie; sister Marjorie and niece Clarice Endanawas. Barb enjoyed listening to old country music, one of her favourites was Johnny Cash. Barb was also an original 'Sagon'. No matter what, Barb always put her family first. She always had a smile on her face and a great sense of humour. Barb loved watching her game shows as well as The Y&R. In her free time, you would often find her baking homemade bread or doing a puzzle. Barb will now join her brother Mike, who always made sure she was alright and was her special chauffeur. Visitation was held on Sunday, June 7, 2020 at the Zhiibaahaasing Community Complex from 1 pm until time of the funeral service on Tuesday, June 9, 2020 at 1 pm. Interment Zhiibaahaasing Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to the Cancer Society as expressions of sympathy and may be made through www.SimpsonFuneralHome.ca.

ANGELINE KIMEWON



In loving memory of Angeline Kimewon, age 97, of Wiikwemkoong, Ontario. Beloved wife of the late Wilfred Kimewon. Predeceased by siblings and siblingsin-law Sarah Wassegijig (Gus), David Mishibinjima (Victoria), Mary Smykalski (Duke) and Joe

Mishibinjima (Lyda). Loving mother of Leonard Kimewon (predeceased)(wife Elizabeth) (Wiikwemkoong), Marjorie Kimewon (Wikwemikong), Beulah Mayes (Ottawa), Teresa Kimewon (predeceased), Howard Kimewon (Michigan), Elaine Kimewon (predeceased), Bonita M. Kaboni (predeceased), Eugene Kimewon (Wiikwemkoong), Danny Kimewon (friend Natalka)(Saugeen), Emily Kimewon (Toronto) and Wanda Kimewon (Wiikwemkoong). Special honorary mother to Brian Kimewon (friend Wanda) (Toronto), Shannon Kimewon (friend Terry) (Peterborough), Caldin Kimewon (friend Rachael) (Sudbury) and Shelley Kimewon. Doting grandma of Vivian McLeod, Blaine Kimewon (predeceased), Larry Kimewon, Marilyn Kimewon, Marlene Kimewon, Lisa Morris, Clint Morris, Rodney Morris, Lesley Kimewon, Randy Mayes, Trish Pheasant, Jason Kimewon, Amy Seim, Nicole Abitong, Ryan Spaniel, Denise Kimewon, John Kaboni, Leslie Kimewon, Darren Kimewon, Daniel Kimewon, Angeline Kimewon, Koby Kimewon, Keyanna Kimewon, Ira Kimewon, Stephanie Fox, Jimmy Joe Kimewon, Cody Kimewon, Keesha Kimewon and Wilfred Kimewon. Special greatgrandma of Jordan, Eric, Collin, Gus, Zane, Hana, Pamela, Taylor, Carmen, Alexis, Isabella, Oscar, Christopher, Jackie, Joanna, Chase, Neegan, Ziggy, Summer, Sky, Julianna, Jenna, Brittany, Katrina, Tanner, Callista, Selena, Cameron, Lana, Joshua, Kobe, Kurtis, Rylie, Hawkea, Derrick, Oliver, Bret, Johnny (predeceased), Mathew, Ian, Rush, Savanah, Quintin, Rose, Gomez, Cooper, Jada, Olivia, Isaac, Emily, Donavan (predeceased), Clarissa, Eli, Rebecca, Willow, Ivy, Khoda and Amilia. Extraordinary great-great-grandma of Audrick, Raiden, Xavier, Lucas, Alexis, Sweetgrass, Delilah, Marcus and Silas. Exceptional guardian of many, forever treasured. She will be missed by her godchildren, the many children she helped raise, special nieces, nephews, great-nieces and nephews, great-great-nieces and nephews and all the others she took under her wing. Angeline was a good-natured person who eyes lit up when she saw her family and friends. She opened her home and heart up to everyone. She loved them unconditionally with her kindness, sense of humor and laughter. Although everyone did understand "the look" which meant to behave. She was an extremely hard worker all of her life even after she retired. She was very gifted and talented and would not take NO for an answer. She would always find a way to accomplish what she had set out to do. Angeline was a great cook and enjoyed baking for her family and friends. She spent time knitting socks and mittens for everyone, doing birch bark and making sweet grass turtles. One of the most precious gifts she gave to each member of the family was a handmade quilt just for them. Each new member of the family could be seen safely tucked into one of her quilts. She was a keeper of the language. She made sure everyone who she cared for received the teachings and now the teachings that were so very important to her can be carried now that she is on her spirit journey. Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, a private family visitation was held on Monday, June 8, 2020 at 600A Kaboni Road at 1 pm. A private graveside service was held on Tuesday, June 9, 2020 at 2 pm, Wikwemikong, Upper Cemetery. Angels are like diamonds. They can't be made; you have to find them. Each one is unique. Jaclyn Smith

CALVIN ERNEST MANDIGO June 11, 1964 - May 18, 2020

Calvin Ernest Mandigo of Sudbury, born June 11, 1964, passed away Monday, May, 18, 2020 at the age of 55. Beloved son of the late Roy and Tina Mandigo of Spring Bay. Predeceased by brother Doug (Lorraine) of Gravenhurst and sister Sue of Spring Bay. Survived by

brother Don (Ethel) of Edmonton, sister Lyla of Mount Forrest, sister Marilyn (Ken) of Australia, sister Barb (Doug) of Evansville, brother Willie of Mindemoya, brothers Jeff, Les (Bobbie Jean) and sister Trish (Gary) all of Espanola. Lovingly remembered by many nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews. Also remembered by many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. Interment with his parents and sister in Gordon Cemetery. Arrangements entrusted to the Arthur Funeral Home -Barton & Kiteley Chapel (492 Wellington St. E. 705-759-2522). Please visit Arthur Funeral Home website obituaries to leave a message of condolence for Calvin's family.

Burial Notice

ROB ROY PORTER

Rob Roy Porter was buried in Gordon Cemetery on June 6, 2020. Due to restrictions of COVID-19, we were only able to have nine people present. We regret not being able to include more family and friends.

Memorial donations are gratefully appreciated and can be made at the admitting office to the auxiliaries of the Manitoulin Health Centre and the Renovation Fund in both Mindemoya and Little Current and the Gore Bay Manitoulin Lodge Auxiliary Incorporated, 3 Main Street, Gore Bay, Ontario, POP 1H0 and the Manitoulin Centennial Manor Fundraising or Manor Auxiliary, Postal Bag 460, 10 Robinson Street, Little Current, Ontario, POP 1K0. Donations can also be made to the Manitoulin District Cenotaph Fund, Box 656, Little Current, Ontario POP 1K0 or Pet Save Manitoulin, Box 393, Gore Bay, Ontario POP 1H0.

Island farmers' markets remain in COVID-19 induced limbo

by Michael Erskine MANITOULIN—The world around us changes by the moment since the advent of the COVID-19 pandemic, or at least so it seems, but for an economy reeling from the impact of travel restrictions and retail business closures, the prevailing prognosis is not one of confidence when it comes to the Island's farmers' markets.

Although farmers' markets have been deemed an essential service by the province, that designation comes with strict caveatonly the food portions of the markets are allowed. Since many of the markets depend on the membership and/or participation of a wide range of artisans and crafters in order to make them economically viable (especially earlier in the growing season), some remain uncertain as to whether the markets will be able to function this year.

"I can only speak for the markets in Gore Bay and Providence Bay," said Ted Smith of Evensville, who organizes the two farmers' markets. "At this point in

time we are not going to open."

Mr. Smith cited the restrictions on the arts and crafts segments of the markets as a key factor. "Another factor is that most of the vendors don't have an Interact option and then there is the physical distancing challenges," he said. "We might be able work something out with e-commerce where people pay in advance and then come to pick something up." But from a practical and economically viable point of view, those options are very limited.

"So many of my volunteers are seniors and we depend on the café in Gore Bay," he said.

A number of the vendors at those two markets have been offering farmgate sales instead and that has seen a fairly positive uptake amongst those customers who regularly frequent the markets.

"It is difficult to imagine physical distancing methods you could use at a farmers' market," agreed Assiginack CAO Alton Hobbs. Assiginack holds a Her-



The fate of the NEMI Farmers' Market, like so many Island farmers' markets, is still pending for 2020.

itage Market which also n't think we could. I myself depends a great deal on am not comfortable with going ahead because of artists and artisans as part of the mix. "The Heritage COVID-19." Still, like many Market is held on the museof the Island market organum grounds," noted Mr. izers. Ms. McQuay said that Hobbs, "and the province she was not entirely shuthas not opened up museting the door on the season just yet. "It doesn't look good,"

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"Some of the people in the garden area are talking about setting something up online," said Ms. McQuay, "but I don't know if that is getting started."

Expositor file photo

The Tehkummah Seniors Club has been holding a farmers' market at the Triangle Club Hall, but things are up in the air there as well.

"Well we are not too sure what is going to happen this year," said spokesperson Andy Bowerman. "We are not making any plans until we know what is going to happen. We don't know, we might not even be able to open the hall. We don't want to open up and not be clear (of the pandemic)."

Mr. Bowerman noted that the Tehkummah Seniors' Club consists of older members and generally more vulnerable people. "We went in and cleaned the hall about three weeks ago," he said. "But we decided that we weren't going to make any plans until we see where things are going."

Long-time Little Current market organizer Ken Ferguson said that they were concerned about whether they would be able to open this year, citing the decisions of the Northeast Town and the Bank of Montreal (on whose property the market takes place) as paramount.

"I hope it will open up so that those selling things other than food can participate," said Mr. Ferguson.

He pointed out that the market needs to have insurance in place in order to open and a major portion of

the annual membership fees of \$30 goes towards paying insurance. "If we don't have people signing memberships up for because they can't participate in selling at the market, I don't know how we will be able to go forward with it." Mr. Ferguson noted that market gardener Ray Bernstein is currently polling the community online to determine what the response would be from consumers.

Another factor is the availability of water and the public washrooms located across from the market. "It's a long time to wait for the vendors from when we open until we go home, if you get my meaning," he said.

The Kagawong market's season is also very much up in the air, especially as it is not officially a 'farmers' market' per se. "Right now a lot of it is in the hands of the province," said Billing's clerk Kathy MacDonald. The town is not officially calling the season closed, however. "We will play it by ear," she said. "I don't think it would take all that much to get it organized if we are able and decide to open the market up. It really would be just calling the vendors to let them know."

...Climate action plan is focus of committee

ums yet."

organizer

said

...continued from page 26 as one plan."

Ms. Koetsier is also working for Billings Township on a similar project with very similar timelines.

The Central Manitoulin project is looking at greenhouse gas emissions which includes energy usage as well as topics such as waste and, potentially, farming. FCM recommended the municipality work under the Partners in Climate Protection (PCP) program.

For communities working on mitigation under PCP, there are five milestones to work through, the first of which is an inventory that looks at where all emissions are coming from within municipal boundaries. The draft inventory has been completed and should be available for public viewing once it has been approved by council.

The second milestone is setting targets for emissions. "We don't necessarily have to do that right away," Ms. Koetsier said. "To set a target you have to know what you're trying achieve and, maybe vaguely, how you're trying to get there which kind of ties into the third milestone which is writing an actual plan for how we're going to reduce those emissions. The fourth milestone is then implementing that plan.

that time there should be a completed plan with targets and the inventory. Implementation should also have begun by then.

'The fifth milestone is monitoring so this is something we need to keep in mind throughout the whole project is we need to find a way to track how we're reducing those emissions from year to year to make sure we're keeping up with the goals we set out in the plan," she added.

stakeholder Some engagement has already been completed that includes an open house last December. There will be additional stakeholder engagement to satisfy MEP requirements. At this time, several comments and suggestions have been submitted and will be reviewed by the committee.

Completing the invento-



On behalf of the Porter family, I would like to extend a

rv proved challenging at times. "It is very challenging to get data, especially when you're in a small rural community. We don't always have the same data sources as larger cities,' said Ms. Koetsier, so many numbers are estimates. Corporate numbers are from municipal records but in the community categories, estimates had to be made in some sections.

Jan McQuay,

intend to speak with

(M'Chigeeng Ogimaa) Lin-

da Debassige about it. I did

speak with Jeff Bebonang,

the arena manager, he did-

M'Chigeeng market.

of

"What you are going to get is a guideline to how much action we think we need to take to reduce our

in memoriam

emissions by such and such an amount, so having that first picture is still important to gauging the types of changes we need to make," she said.

Councillor Scott noted he was happy with the report and the data obtained.

Meetings will be held monthly but due to the timelines and amount of work to be completed, working groups will likely be struck to meet more frequently.



In Memory of Ernie McDermid June 17, 2018

Help yourself, a friend, a family member, a neighbour or community member. Learn the acronym **ERNIE** in preschool, remember it in middle school, learn coping strategies, so they become automatic by high school. It's a lifetime of help.

Death Notices

BETTY LOUISE WICKENDEN (nee Babin)



Heaven gained an angel and we lost ours. Betty Wickenden (nee Babin), 80 years, passed peacefully in her sleep after a lengthy battle with cancer on June 1, 2020 at Health Sciences North. She was predeceased by her parents, Donat and Veronica (nee McHugh). She was the second eld-

est of 13 children: Oille (Alvin Byce), Bonnie (Henri Desbrois), Edna (Bruce Clouston), Alex (predeceased) (Suzanne), John (predeceased) (Sue), Shirley (Rodger Chenier), Danny (Sharon), Joe (Linda), Peggy (John McKnight), Allan (Joy), Mary Katherine (Tim Johns) and Troy (Rina). Beloved wife of Dick Wickenden of Mindemoya, Ontario. They were two months shy of their 60th wedding anniversary. Loving and devoted mother to David (Gina) and Mary (Mike Sheridan) of Clarksburg, Ontario. Grandmother to Adam (Krista), Cheryl (Nathan), Julie (Ethan), Grant (Jessie), Daniel and Ian. Great-grandmother to Bryson, Jaxson and William. Also remembered by Donald Wickenden (Diane) and other nieces and nephew. Betty had always been overflowing with love and she shared herself to hundreds of others through her devotion to the church and her countless hours of volunteerism. Born and raised in Chapleau, she worked for Bell Telephone as an operator rising to supervisor. When a Bell linesmen arrived in town, she found herself engaged within two weeks and married two years later. She was an active member of the Lady of Perpetual Help, Church of our Lady of Canada and Sudbury Palliative Care. When she moved to Manitoulin, she started a chapter of Palliative Care on the Island. Known for her pies, she was always at the center of any fundraising event. She loved gardening and family and doted on her grandchildren. We know that Betty will continue to love us from the Heavens always and will continue to do wonderful things from that vantage point. As per her request, there will be no showing. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. The family would like to thank the doctors and nurses of both the Northern Cancer Centre and the Mindemoya Hospital for their kindness. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Northern Cancer Foundation or the Warmhearts Palliative Caregivers Sudbury/Manitoulin or Manitoulin Health Centre, Mindemoya site, in care of the Ladies Auxiliary would be appreciated. Arrangements entrusted to the Sudbury Park Lawn Cremation Service.

There is approximately nine months remaining in Ms. Koetsier's contract. At

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heartfelt thank you to Mary and the Simpson Funeral Home; Dr. S. McRae and the Gore Bay Medical Centre staff; Peter and staff at Robertson Pharmacy; Dr. M. Reade and Madeline; nursing and support staff at Mindemoya Health Centre; Susan Robinson PHCNP, your insight and support was greatly appreciated; Father Toni for his visits with Rob during his final hospitalization and for conducting the funeral service; Eric and Nick Harper for providing music at the funeral; Royal Canadian Legion Branch 514 for the service at the funeral home and for providing an excellent luncheon following the funeral; to the Honorary and Acting Pall Bearers; to the numerous family members and friends who provided support, food, hugs and made donations in Rob's memory. I will be forever grateful. Linda Harper-Porter

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...Little Current congregation says farewell to Allards

...continued from page 13 She said she would miss the grace and fellowship expressed by community members who would often drop off gifts and ensure there were items at pot lucks that aligned with their vegan lifestyle.

Ms. Allard said she was excited to experience the new surroundings, having never before been west of Winnipeg.

"I need to thank the people of Little Current for embracing us and for the opportunity to live here. It's

been a wonderful experience," said Ms. Allard. Highlights of Pastor

Allard's Island stint included the Bells of Peace initiative to mark 100 years since the end of the First World War, as well as the murder mystery events (for which



Rhubarb is in season! Rhubarb Upside Down Cake

This recipe dates back to the 1980s from a cookbook by Edna Staebler. It is my favourite recipe but this time around I used spelt flour and maple syrup with extra rhubarb.

1/4 cup butter

1 cup brown sugar or maple syrup

5 to 6 cups rhubarb diced Turn on your oven to 350°F. Add the butter to a 9 x 9-inch pan. Place in the oven to melt the butter. When melted add the brown sugar and rhubarb and set aside.

BATTER:

1 cup sugar or maple syrup 1 1/2 cups flour—white,

whole wheat or spelt 2 tsp baking powder

1/4 cup butter

- 1 egg
- 1 tsp vanilla

About 2/3 cup milk (If you are using sugar you will need to use all the milk—if you are using maple syrup cut back on the milk to about 1/4 cup)

1. Place sugar, flour, baking powder and soft butter into a bowl. Using a pastry cutter or your fingers cut the butter into small pieces into the flour mixture.

2. Beat the egg in a bowl with the vanilla, milk and the maple syrup (instead of the sugar). Pour the liquid ingredients over the flour mixture and blend until smooth.

3. Spread the batter overtop the rhubarb mixture. Bake for about 30 to 40 minutes until the cake tests done.

real estate

4. Let it cool 10 minutes then turn it upside down on a plate. Serve with ice cream, yogurt or whipping cream.

Rhubarb Vinaigrette Use any kind of salad mixture vou like. Add whatever suits your fancy to the greens and then toss with this amazing salad dressing.

1 cup chopped fresh rhubarb

 $1/4 \operatorname{cup} \operatorname{water}$

- 2 Tbsp maple syrup 1 Tbsp red-wine vinegar
- 2 tsp Dijon mustard 1/4 cup olive oil

1 Tbsp poppy seeds optional

Boil rhubarb with water in a small saucepan until rhubarb is tender, about 5 Scrape minutes. into blender along with maple syrup, vinegar, Dijon and oil. Blend until smooth. Stir in poppy seeds if using. (Taste test: you may need to add a bit more maple syrup or salt. Cook extra rhubarb for a later dressing.)

Sweet Onion-Rhubarb Sauce for Meat

The sauce is a stand on its own. You make the sauce, then cook your

real estate

Relax

favourite type of meat and serve the sauce beside or on top. Use either pork tenderloin, chicken breast or thighs, lamb chops or even barbecue a steak.

2 tsp oil

1/2 tsp salt

1 large sweet onion, sliced

2-4 Tbsp water

2 cups diced rhubarb

1/4 cup red-wine vinegar 1/4 cup brown sugar or maple syrup

1/4 cup minced fresh chives or the greens from green onions

In a skillet add the oil and the onion with 1/2 tsp salt. Cook over medium heat. stirring occasionally, until browned, 7 to 8 minutes. Add 2 Tbsp water and continue cooking, stirring often, until the onion is soft, 5 to 7 minutes more, adding water 1 Tbsp at a time if necessary to prevent burning. Cooking the onion this way is very important. Stir in the rhubarb, vinegar and brown sugar and cook, stirring often, until the rhubarb has broken down about 5 minutes.

Spoon the sauce over your meat and sprinkle with chives.

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Richard Glaude

he shaved his iconic mustache for only the second time in his life).

August 25, 2018 will always be an afternoon to remember-he officiated three weddings, offered the blessings at two banquets and attended the third's reception, all at various locations on Eastern Manitoulin (and he still had to wake up to deliver a service the next morning).

"I need to thank those in the community that have worked with me, it's been a privilege to know and work with everybody. I wish them well," he said. "I can see why Manitoulin Island holds a special place in people's hearts-I'm one of them."

Alberta will bring the pastor new curling competition and the opportunity to deliver a faith component at a youth summer camp run by the pastoral charge.

The couple was presented with a painting of the swing bridge by Cliff Jewell, as well as numerous cards and small gifts from parishioners.

Gail Cronin is a lay worship leader and will be helping to lead services in the interim alongside others across Manitoulin. The Allards leave for Alberta on June 15



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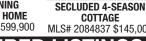
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MLS 2084067 | Price: \$1,099,500 | Gorgeous Waterfront

675 Lake Huron Drive, Spring Bay









MLS 2084099 | Price: \$469,000 | Modern Lake Huron Home

96 Steven Street, Gore Bay







MLS 2084469 | Price: \$534,500 | Executive Home on Private Lake

Tehkummah Talk and Times

Day 78: Monday. I was going to write one more page last week but somehow in my klunkiness I upset a full cup of coffee all over everything and, so. It felt like a gallon to mop up and wipe off.

I sat out back this morning in the sun. I had made fresh hummingbird feed and they were probably grateful for a warm drink. Five degrees this morning, darned chilly earlier. I heard frost in some areas?

Sherry cleaned my under roof at back, I didn't get it tidied last year at all. So, I am so glad to have had the help (don't laugh, I rested on my chair the whole time she worked with my eyes closed at that). Sherry is a busy girl, but it is the busy folk who get things done, isn't it?

Sharon just brought my grocery order from Ward's Store and startled me awake. It's 2 pm, time to make me some lunch.

Cal scared me this morning too when I was sitting outside reading a book that had come in the mail. I had delivered my news over to fax out and forgot all about going into greet the "big ships" first sailing of the season. Dash it! Talked to sis Susan later in the eve. I must have been the only one who forgot. She said lots of folks she hadn't seen for ages. Opening the door or the gate.

I slept and slept my afternoon away. Sherry had called with news, maybe? I had just wakened when grandson Kirby called and we must have chatted for a half an hour. That was the blessing of the day. I had my supper (a mooseburger) about nine.

Day 79: Watching A.G.T., had a tired day but got my meatloaf made and a few peanut butter cookies. I see the chill, or frost, or wind got Tara's beans that were up. A little early maybe. Called Judy in the morning when I saw her on TV, a star?

The elderberry in bloom looks like white lilac.

I heard that Lyle Gordon hurt his leg. What's with the farmers this spring? Not a good plan. Get well soon.

Day 80: Cottage cheese on toast for breakfast and the usual handful of pills chaser. I was crunching when Sherry phoned and allowed me to listen to one of Ramona Jaggard's anthems from Sunday's sermon (I think), what a voice that girl has.

There was sun, overcast now, and I feel kind of on the verge of a migraine. I'm having a peanut butter cookie for dessert, should help?

Day 81: Spent the morning trying to get an ant villa out of one of my big flower pots, they are not easy to discourage. I finally dumped the earth into two other pots. They just were going to make new homes, now I have coffee grounds on top of one. I got rid of them at the Hall (the half barrels) that way, we will see? They bite when they are angry too.

The angels were with Sherry and Dave yesterday. When she got home to no hydro to find that their neighbour Joey Case had spotted smoke over by their barn and came to investigate. The transformer on the hydro pole had blown and had ignited the dry grass and fence rails. Thanks, Joey for your alertness and work to get it out. She had taken me to see the doctor, but it wasn't so critical. Derek phoned when I was hav-

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ing a choking/coughing something in the morning. So he called Sherry and she called Tara and...?

Gorgeous flower crab apple trees.

Yesterday it was TAVI on the horizon/ today it had changed so I have a major decision, and soon. But, I am feeling better today!

The gardens are growing. The butterflies are flirting above the lilacs (a little white fella). The first by dragonfly today.

We, Tara and I, had to smoke the mosquito chasers, no holders, so we stuck pieces in flower pots. The black flies and skeeters have been terrible the past few days.

I called Joan last evening, she was okay, but was doing tricks again. She said folks did a drive by last Sunday, twice around the block, balloons, horns and signs to celebrate Bordie's birthday, I think 91. I got her niece Linda Waugh's phone number (our second cousin) and gave her a call last evening as well. The distancing changes so much!

Did you know if you drop a quart of half and half, cap off, it can fly high, I got it in my eye, in the fridge door, on the cupboard door, in the knife drawer and on the floor? Should have written a poem, right? Anyway, I swore! I didn't lose much.

Today I go outside and don't stay long. The blackflies are chasing me.

I just saw the first monarch butterfly of 2020.

Sympathy to the Merrylees family.

Another great feed of fresh fish, thanks to my neighbours.

Day 81: A phone call from Helen Oswald and a call from Derek in British Columbia this morning.

Day 82: A fritillary flirted around me as I sat outside in the morning sun.

I'm looking around the enclosure and it is getting smaller and shadier every year. We used to be able to see Anstice farm, now it's only in the winter. It's 9 pm before the sun gets high enough to peek over the trees.

Lorna brings in two basil plants this morning. When I planted one pot out, I got three nice plants, so I gave Tara the other. I counted five in her pot. I love this herb. Tara was mowing the edges. I came to the end of one project, but I have to hurry. If one is outside, the flies make you hurry.

On my trip around for the mail, I stopped for a couple of minutes to talk to Dorothy. The bugs were so bad, I felt guilty.

Driving back into the yard, I admired, it looked so neat and tidy. As I'm writing this, the sky to the east is really black. I planted nine hills of potatoes, still three to plant. I quit before I planted myself! We really need some rain to help things along.

Day 83: I just erased 20 messages from my answering machine. Most of them from my kids. A couple of important ones maybe?

These days before the bugs I was doing a lot of sitting outside. Sherry woke me this morning, so I sat on the bench, the sun was hot. It is great to have my space again. But, oh my, we do need rain! The garden is dry, ours anyway. I did hear there were raindrops in spots?

Day 94: It's 4:30 am and I just read last week's Expositor. So, wiping a tear reading

Fred's obit. The story about the ferries, what an amazing journey their life has been and what a lot of challenges. Petra Wall's Now and Then is unique and interesting. Everyone has a story. Delights on Bonnie Kogos, my friends in Midhurst the Jacques and Wayne Burkholder in Ramara, have the same story, they were four Expositors behind as well, so it's not just the Big Apple that has bites out of it.

Happy birthday, sister Susan, June 12. A soak in the tub to take the aches out, a lazy day to follow that.

Lorna brought Martin's sermon in. A lovely long chat with Nancy Arnold Hayes in Toronto filling me in. She watched her dad's funeral on camera? She was saying because of the limitations. It was so nice to touch base. Sounds like she has some health issues.

Cal said when he called that he and Eugene went in to check out the ferry.

I got a phone call yesterday, I hope it turned out all right!

One evening this past week, Susan came in bearing a tray, rhubarb custard pie (it put me to sleep) and banana cake. They were both delicious. As much as I talk about food, I have to remind myself to eat for I rarely feel hungry. Do you think it is because I have no one to share a meal with? Or talk to? Or?



ICE LAKE 13.21 ACHES W/192 TL of shoreline W/road kept open year round. Long rectangular acreage & easterly exposure to the water. \$39,000 (1475) (Exclusive) LAKE HURON WATERFRONT 100 by 420 ft. w/access driveway in place. Includes a small A-frame sleep camp & a licensed travel trailer. Accessed via Little Lake Huron & Pebble Roads. \$55,000 (1484) (MLS 2083357)

LAKE KAGAWONG 4.1 ac. of mostly hardwoods w/291 ft. westerly facing frontage. Remote, off the grid forest w/seasonal access via Mud Creek Road w/elevated sunset view the full length of the lake. Four terraces to water. \$79,000 (1408) (2060462)

GORE BAY RURAL 3 acres w/hydro, municipal water, sewer & year round access via Smith & Fraser Streets w/panoramic view in all directions. Mostly cleared arable land, on west side of Town, for mini farm, market garden & other rural uses. Two separate lots to accom-

garder & other rural uses. Two separate fors to acconmodate two residences for the larger family. \$43,500 plus tax (1420) (MLS 2062357) **BLACKSMITH CENTRE** on corner of Main & Meredith Streets w/4320 sq. ft. over 2 floors. Concrete building

Streets W/4320 sq. It. over 2 100rs. Concrete building 36x60 ft. on fully serviced 39x127.6 ft. lot zoned core commercial. First floor garage plus business space &second level 4 & 1 bedroom apartments. \$119,000 plus HST (1432) (MLS 2084336)



JORDAN CHANDLER

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For a complete list of properties, please visit **theislandbrokerage.ca**



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PARADISE ON LAKE MANITOU MLS#2084714



SANDFIELD HOME ASKING \$269,000 MLS#2085260







CENTRAL MANITOULIN RESORT MLS#2083632



RE/MAX THE ISLAND Real Estate Brokerage

Build your dream house or cottage:

Little Current Waterfront Lot - Asking \$84,900 MLS#2081877

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Campbell Bay with a View! - Asking \$96,000 MLS#2079244

Bass Lake Via P front - Asking \$79,000 MLS#20 2007

Lake Kagawong - Asking \$109,000 MLS#2084374

Lake Mindemoya - MLS#2085060

PLEASE STAY SAFE, MANITOULIN.

Wednesday, June 10, 2020

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maintaining our commitment to our clients and attention to details that has made us your #1 Brokerage on Manitoulin.

COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

WHAT'S YOUR NEXT ADVENTURE?





Prime Corner Location Over 2100+ sa ft 2 Bay Doors (14ft) MLS#2085635 \$260,000

Fantastic Business Opportunity **Turn Key Restaurant** Live & Work in the Country MLS# 2064232 \$329,900



Premium Location Corner of Hwy 6 & Hwy 17 **Approximately 11 Acres** MLS# 2081724 \$399,000



24 Water Street, Little Current, ON 705-368-2271 Branch: 43B Meredith Street, Gore Bay, ON 705-282-8585 1-800-368-6855

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON

THE MINDEMOYA OFFICE

We are in a Seller's Market. It's time to list with us! www.manitoulinproperty.com





EXTREMELY HIGH QUALITY 3 BDRM HOME WITH NICE VIEW OVER LAKE MINDEMOYA!! - This beautiful home with its hardwood floors & vaulted ceilings comes with a mag-nificent kitchen with cherry stained maple cabinets, 3 baths including the en-suite in the huge 600 sq ft master bedroom found at the top of a spectacular oak stair case. The mani-cured lot comes adorned with a variety of mature trees which nicely outline the property, amazing concrete driveway & huge sidewalks leading to 2 large decks of which one is a covered verandah. Also on the lot is a 10 X 12 storage shed & a heat-ed completely finished and insulated double size garage. MLS#2085240





LACLOCHE MOUNTAIN RESORT **ON CHARLTON LAKE IN WHITE-**FISH FALLS!!

Settled in the Majestic Mountain Range of white quartz of Willisville where they filmed the series Rainbow Country, these spectacular mountains and waterways were made famous in paintings by the group of seven. This resort known as Bearskin

Lodge and Outfitters comes turnkey with 9 rustic two and three bedroom log cabins as well as an owners' residence and another cabin they allow friends and workers to stay. The housekeeping cottages each have their own hydro panels and each have their

own bathrooms and appliances that are elatively new with upgraded wiring. Charlton

Lake is really one of many lakes accessible in the area and is renowned for its great walleye and bass fishing. Asking \$975,000. MLS#2077603



<u>VISTA WITH A WOW!!</u> - Reminiscent of a fjord in Norway or the rugged British Columbia coast line, this property sits 450 It above the town of Gore Bay; overlooking the town & har-bour from the top of the East Bluff at the mouth of the bay & facing directly west for beautiful Carribean style sunsets & the famous La Cloche Mountains in the distance across Lake Huron's North Channel. This one acre property is located on a site that has one of Ontario's prettiest cliff views. This nicely manicured acre of property comes with a magnificent 4 bdrm executive-style manufactured log home accented with a centerpiece stone fireplace, granite counter tops with matching tabe, in-floor heating, highest of quality built-in appliances, great flooring & a 5 piece ensuite with a Jacuzzi and a large steam-bath/shower. The double garage which is fed with 200 amps of hydro & comes with an attached ATV garage & an exercise room with a bathroom & sauna & the floors in this building are also heated. This property has a layout which would be very conducive to a bioh-and bard & breakfast.



FANTASTIC BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY !! - Known as Sandfield General Store, this very large commercial building is currently a gift shop, a restaurant & a corner store. It has plenty of parking, storage areas & land. Along with this busi-ness is a 2 storey, 5 bdrm, 2 bath home that would make a great little bed & breakfast. Lake Manitou is a stone's throw away & this location is quite central & very much needed as the competition is mainly 20 mins or more away in every di-rection. There is a resort trailer park directly behind this great commercial business & its huge untapped potential. Reduced to \$300,000 MLS#2062704



1080 SQ. FT. 2 BEDROOM COTTAGE WITH MANY UP-GRADES OVERLOOKING LAKE MINDEMOYA!! - Located at the north end of this very good walleye fishing lake, this beautiful cottage with its spectacular kitchen comes fully furnished and also includes a large storage shed, riding lawn-mower, dockage, waterfront deck and small aluminum boat. The 20 year lease is assumable and has another 15 years left before a new one needs to be negotiated. Asking \$199,000. MI S#2085673



ELEVATED SUNRISE VIEW OVER BEAUTIFUL LAKE MINDEMOYA!! - Large 2 1/2 acre lot with almost 150 ft of shoreline, a dock & a (grandfathered-in) boathouse. A quick flight of stairs brings you from the dock & fantastic deep water shoreline to the top of the flat bluff where you find a 3 bdrm cottage with an eye catching view! The golf course, hospital, restaurants, shopping are only 15 mins away. Reduced to \$179 000111 MI S#2074433



SUCCESSFUL AUTO REPAIR AND BODY SHOP BUSI-NESS IN DOWNTOWN GORE BAY!! - Known as Jewell's Collision, the large 7200 square foot building is newly renovat-ed and maintenance free. The building is currently housing an auto repair shop in the back half of the building and an auto body shop in the front half. The business has grown every vear for the 19 years it has existed and continues to grow with plenty of opportunity to expand and grow especially with spin-off type business such as used car sales/rentals, small motor repairs, car detailing and the list goes on and on. The seller is willing to undergo an environmental audit and an a clean bill of health on one that was done when the seller took over the building. The building could be converted into other uses as well, also rent to own may be a possibility. Asking just \$489,000. MLS#2080433



SOUTH FACING 2 BDRM FOUR SEASON WATERFRONT COTTAGE OR HOME ON SOUTH BAY ONLY 15 MINS FROM THE FERRY!! - This cottage/house has deep water bald rock frontage and comes adorned with beautiful white stone walls and a 32ft X 29ft metal sided and roof fully insulated garage. The cottage comes turn-key with all furnishings and appliances. The Bay is great fishing for all fresh water species and amenities such as shopping, medical center and golfing are less than 30 minutes away. Asking \$299,000!!!! MLS#2077447



2 + 1 BDRM COUNTRY HOME - With Large Double Garage On 3.7 Acres Of Land In The Quaint Town Of Silver Water. This beautiful home located close to Silver Lake which is good fishing for Walleye & Bass has many upgrades including hard-wood flooring, propane furnace and new windows. The 3.77 acre lot comes with two driveways and a 31 X 24 foot garage with storage loft. Many other great fishing lakes are close by and the amenities of the Town of Gore Bay are just 30 minutes away. Asking \$169,000. MLS#2079265 conducive to a high-end bed & breakfast. A steal of a deal at \$799,000! MLS#2077446



950 SQ. FT. 2 BEDROOM COTTAGE ON LEASED LAND!! This Lake Mindemoya cottage is fully insulated with water drawn from the lake and a septic system located in a park setting at the north end of the lake. The cottage is on the first street just a short walk to the nice sand bottom waterfront access which is very kid-friendly. This cottage features a large deck, a forced -air electric furnace as well as a propane free standing metal stove for heating. The amenities of the Town of Mindemoya & M'Chigeeng are close by this great walleye fishing lake. Asking \$115,000. MLS#2085649



2 BDRM COTTAGE PLUS SMALL TRAVEL TRAILER ON A LEASED WATERFRONT LOT!! - The cottage has a nice sand bottom waterfront, several outbuildings including a composting toilet for winter use. The cottage has decking on 3 sides as well as a patio. The trailer (which sleeps 3 or 4) is covered with a steel roof and has a flush toilet connected into the same septic tank as the cottage bathroom and has a nice covered deck as well. The cottage has an enclosed sun room leading to an open deck on the waterfront side. This property comes fully furnished and includes a dock on wheels that is easily taken in and out of Lake Mindemoya which features good fishing for perch, bass, walleye and pike. Very affordable asking only \$159,000. MLS#2085631