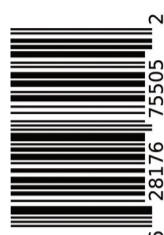


There's lots to think about as we approach the holidays:

- Day of Remembrance for gender-based violence is today (Wed.) at AOK. See ad Page 10.
- Canada launches 'dial 988' suicide prevention hotline. Story on Page 12.



The MANITOULIN EXPOSITOR



Vol. 144 No. 29 \$1.90 + GST

Little Current, Ontario

Wednesday, December 6, 2023

We had Santa parades ...in Gore Bay



First place float! The Chaytor family float with "The Hawaiian Theme" was judged as the best float in the Gore Bay Santa Claus Parade this past Saturday evening. This was just one of the many creative and colourful floats and entries in the parade, which drew a huge crowd of spectators.

...in Little Current



The Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Corps No. 348 Manitoulin took first place for largest float in the Little Current Santa Claus parade held December 2.

...in Mindemoya



Horses (and their riders) in their Christmas finery trot their way through the crowds gathered to watch the Mindemoya Santa Claus parade Saturday evening.

Extending Niagara Escarpment Biosphere designation to Island meets with mixed response

by Jacqueline M. St. Pierre, LJI Reporter
MANITOULIN—The Niagara Escarpment Biosphere Network (NEBN) met with local First Nations individuals to preview photographer and NEBN board member Mark Zelinski's 10th photography book, 'Niagara Escarpment: Land Between Waters.' Mr. Zelinski has travelled to capture cultural heritage sites, critical geological sites and many areas of biodiverse interest along the Niagara Escarpment.

Crafted from the retreat of ice sheets around 18,000 years ago, the Gorge boasts a unique forest ecosystem shaped by its height, closeness to the water and a preserved section of Carolinian forest. Beyond its natural beauty, the Niagara Escarpment serves as a breathtaking landscape and a crucial economic centre.

The Expositor spoke with Tom Hare, a citizen of M'Chigeeng First Nation and Indigenous sovereign-

ty advocate, about some concerns that First Nations face when new organizations come to their territories. "Even though these designations are well-intentioned, they create an air of apprehension to access and use our traditional lands. A lot of people don't understand what all of this means or entails. Indigenous usage of our lands is blanketed with layers of policies and regulations that do not respect our sovereignty. So, when we hear about new designations, we are right to be suspicious," Mr. Hare stated. "We saw this with the Greenbelt and provincial parks that created designations that impede Indigenous land usage. More public access makes it difficult for us to go fast, do ceremonies or harvest. Indigenous people are economically repressed, so we worry about if we are going to be fined or charged and have to fight it in court."

The Niagara Escarpment Commission, founded in
...continued on page 10

St. Joseph's board blesses Gore Bay nursing home build

by Tom Sasvari
SUDBURY—With a motion having been passed by the board of St. Joseph's Health Centre in support of moving ahead with the plans for a new 64-bed nursing home in Gore Bay, applications for approval will now be carried out and forwarded to the province. "Our board had a great discussion and everyone is in support of the project and in helping and supporting the community of Gore Bay," said Kari Gervais, president and chief executive officer of St. Joseph's Health Centre after its board met on Thursday of last week. "We are moving ahead with making an application to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care for approvals."

"As part of the process, this motion of approval

was needed by the board to support the project and go ahead with the planning application," said Ms. Gervais.

"Obviously we are very pleased this has been approved (by the St. Joseph's Health Centre board)," stated Gore Bay mayor Ron Lane. "This is another big step toward the final outcome, and we are very happy with this approval."

As was reported in the November 22 edition of The Expositor, plans were presented to all stakeholders that would see a new 64 bed long-term care nursing home in Gore Bay tentatively open in 2026 in a new location (with access off Armstrong Street). Once the new nursing home is open, the municipali-

...continued on page 11

Mackinac Straits Enbridge Line 5 tunnel a step closer

by Michael Erskine
LANSING—A ruling on Friday by the Michigan Public Service Commission has approved a site permit for a yet-to-be-constructed tunnel that would house Enbridge Energy's controversial 70-year-old Line 5 pipeline. The pipeline currently runs along the lakebed of the Straits of Mackinac posing a significant risk to the waters of Lake Huron and Manitoulin Island as well as Lake Michigan.

The commission indicated in its decision that the proposed \$5 billion tunnel would be the "best option" to improve safety while at the same time securing the public need for fossil fuels. The dual pipeline carries more than half a million barrels of oil and natural gas liquids per day and supplies the bulk of the energy needs of Michigan and other northern states as well as to Ontario's many refineries in Sarnia.

The Canadian government has indicated that the pipeline is also vital to the energy and employment needs of Ontario, Alberta and Quebec and has invoked a treaty to prevent its shutdown.

"It's clear we need to get those pipelines off the bottomlands and out of the Great Lakes," said Commission Chair Dan Scripps in announcing the decision.

Environmental and Indigenous advocates have cited the pipeline as an indefensible risk to the environment and Indigenous treaty rights. The groups also oppose the proposed tunnel to house the pipelines. They have vowed to appeal the commission's decision.

The three-member commission voted 2-0 to

...continued on page 11

Hunger Report shows food bank use highest-ever

by Tom Sasvari
MANITOULIN—Similar to a 2023 provincial Hunger Report released last week, Food Bank services on Manitoulin Island are facing a large increase in visitors needing this support. A new report by Feed Ontario reveals that food banks are experiencing the largest increase in visits on record, more than double the increase seen following the 2008 recession. The report points to insufficient social support programs, lack of quality employment and unaffordable housing as the drivers.

"It's very similar across the province," said Colleen Hill, executive director of Manitoulin Family Resources (MFR). "It is epidemic everywhere, and

we are facing the same challenges here on the Island as anywhere else in Ontario."

Ms. Hill said in the past year the number of visitors to the MFR food bank has increased by 200 visits per month. "There has been a dramatic increase. And this doesn't just include people who are unemployed, or those on pensions who are asking for assistance."

"There are lots of people who visit the food bank that have, for example three part-time jobs and can't make ends meet," said Ms. Hill. "And if something unforeseen occurs and they are faced with additional costs, they have to make choices like either fixing

...continued on page 11



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The Manitoulin *West* Recorder

Sheguiandah First Nation cast ballots for chief and council December 9

SHEGUIANDAH FIRST NATION—There are five candidates for chief and 13 candidates for the three council seats for the Sheguiandah First Nation election, which takes place on Saturday, December 9.

Running for chief are Jason R.K. Aguonie, Elvis Mishibiniijima, Xoë Peltier Roy, Ruby Thompson and Nevada Waindubence. Vying for the council positions are Jake Agoneh, Alison

(Alley Cat) Aguonie, Orville (Bugsy) Aguonie, Emma Chokomoolin, Joanne Fox, Carolyn Pickford, Lisa Sagutch, Darren Shawanda, Nathan Shawanda, Ruby Thompson, Shalyne Thompson, Carrie Waindubence and Matthew Waindubence.

Jason Aguonie

Jason Aguonie has recently returned to his home community with his four children and was welcomed with a nomination to run for chief of Sheguiandah First Nation, an honour he has humbly accepted.



Mr. Aguonie, who drives for AJ Bus Lines, has worked as a heavy equipment operator for the past 22 years.

He cites concerns with a lack of transparency, accountability and involvement in band membership in the decision-making processes as some of the key reasons he chose to run for the top job.

"This will change under my leadership with the direction of membership," he says.

...continued on page 7

Elvis Mishibiniijima

Incumbent Sheguiandah First Nation Chief Elvis Mishibiniijima looks back on his first term at the head of the council table with humility and some satisfaction, having ensured greater safety for his community thanks to new pedestrian signs and a lowering of the speed limit on Highway 6 where it passes through his community.



"That was a two-year project," he said. "We were ignored by the previous transportation minister, but with the new minister in charge things are finally moving."

Mr. Mishibiniijima said that he takes a proactive, rather than reactive approach to leadership. "That has often been an issue in the past," he said. Over the course

...continued on page 8

Xoë Peltier-Roy

In the heart of the upcoming First Nation chief elections, a dedicated candidate fervently advocates for a transformative vision to nurture unity and progress within the community. With a steadfast commitment to fostering change, Xoë Roy has outlined a comprehensive strategy to address pressing issues and cultivate a brighter future.



Reflecting on the community's current status, Ms. Roy acknowledges the unique success and challenges Sheguiandah First Nation faces. While celebrating achievements, there's a recognition that barriers like a lack of cohesion, difficulties with substance abuse, crime and lateral violence among community members impede joint success. Essen-

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Ruby Thompson

Ruby Thompson cares deeply for her community of Sheguiandah First Nation and wants to work with and help community members in the future. Ms. Thompson has put her name forward for both the position of chief, and for a council seat, in the upcoming election to take place this Saturday, December 9.



"I consider myself an ideas person and I guess this is what prompted me to put my name forward for both chief and council," said Ms. Thompson. "My idea is to look at what is working in the community, make any changes needed to make improvements or be part of changing what is not working."

"I would like to help in improving on things that need this and

...continued on page 7

Nevada Waindubence

As the proud father of five boys, Nevada Waindubence has thrown his hat into the ring for chief of Sheguiandah First Nation.



"I decided to move my family back home to Sheguiandah First Nation three years ago and raise them here," he said. "I'm proud of our community and honoured to be nominated for chief."

Mr. Waindubence said that he believes his "youth, experience, communication and focus will guide our community in a direction to better accommodate our goals as a community and hearing our youth, elders but most importantly everyone's concerns."

Transparency is a key element in Mr. Waindubence's campaign, and he said that he commits to being fully transparent about

...continued on page 7

Ministry of Natural Resources lays 53 charges in 2023 Manitoulin rifle hunt

by Tom Sasvari

MANITOULIN—The number of charges laid by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR) during this year's annual rifle deer hunt increased substantially from the 2022 hunt season.

"The number of charges this year during the hunt on the Island were 53 (compared to 28 in 2022)," said Andrew Chambers, strategic development and issues management coordinator, enforcement branch with the MNR told The Expositor last week.

Mr. Chambers explained, "Every year, our priority during the hunt is safety. We are in the field to ensure everyone, from hunters to dog walkers and property owners are safe in their surroundings. This year, the most prevalent charges laid were for failing to wear hunter orange while hunting, which is a violation of Section

26(1) under Ontario regulation 665/98 made pursuant to the Fish And Wildlife Conservation Act. This charge was issued eight times during the rifle hunt on Manitoulin Island."

"In total, we issued 25 Part 1 offences for safety related issues during the hunt, such as failing to wear a proper helmet, having a loaded firearm in a conveyance, possessing a firearm at night, hunting with a gun without required accreditation and having care of control of a motor vehicle with an open container of liquor," said Mr. Chambers. "Other charges were found to come from hunters not carrying their proper licences or tags, or invalidating and attaching the tag on the deer. All hunters using a firearm to hunt must carry their license summary which shows their valid deer licence, their tags, their landowner consent form as well

as their possession acquisition license at all times."

Mr. Chambers explained, "Once the deer is harvested, the hunter must immediately invalidate the tag and attach it to the ear or the antler in a manner that allows a conservation officer to read the information on the tag, as well as not destroy the tag."

"In total, conservation officer gave out 127 official warnings (32 in 2022) to hunters during the rifle hunt," said Mr. Chambers. "Some examples of these warnings included failing to carry documentation while in possession of a gun for the purpose of hunting, hunting without having licence on your person, hunting big game with no licence, for not having their permission slip properly filled out, a few for failing to invalidate tag and for failing to properly attach invalidated tag. As you can see,

many of our warnings were not related to safety, but instead related to the administration portion of the hunt."

During the hunt, four firearms were seized. Two firearms have been returned and two are still pending, said Mr. Chambers. The reason for the seizures included hunters not having their possession licence while being in possession of a firearm. In these instances, the firearms were seized since there was no one with a valid possession acquisition licence available to receive the firearms and either have been or will be returned to a person with their licence.

Mr. Chambers further explained 20 deer were seized during the week of the hunt. "The deer were seized for many reasons, some examples included not having a tag attached, for the tag not being invalidated

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Tim Horton manager Chantelle Dubroy presented Little Current Lions Club President Bruce Burnett and Lions Jocelinne Hillman, Kim Case and Abby Drolet with a cheque for \$2,048 as the proceeds of this year's fall Smile Cookie campaign. The Lions will be donating the funds raised to Manitoulin Centennial Manor's Tree of Lights campaign.

photo by Michael Erskine

Little Current Lions Club harvests Tim Hortons smiles

by Michael Erskine

LITTLE CURRENT—Members of the Little Current Lions Club and a hardy group of volunteers rolled up their sleeves and set to making Smile Cookies during the recent Tim Hortons Smile Cookie Campaign and their work was amply rewarded with a cheque for \$2,048 that the Lions have earmarked for Manitoulin Centennial Manor's Tree of Lights campaign.

"They did an amazing job," said Little Current Tim Hortons manager Chantelle Dubroy as she presented the ceremonial cheque to club representatives.

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Aundeck Omni Kaning welcomes new fire truck

by Michael Erskine

AUNDECK OMNI KANING—Members of the Aundeck Omni Kaning (AOK) volunteer fire department turned out to welcome the community's shiny new fire truck on Saturday, December 2.

"We are grateful that we have had the opportunity to replace our aged fire truck with a new vehicle," said AOK Chief Patsy Corbiere. "Over the past five years I have completed the First Nations Infrastructure Investment Plan for AOK First Nation and requested a new fire truck for the community." The chief noted that it has been a long haul, but persistence finally paid off.

"Updated equipment is a priority for AOK First Nation in relation to the safety of our community members and assets," said the chief. "Chief and council approved new gear for our fire department in 2022 and other supplies to increase the efficiency and safety of our volunteers."

The First Nation began pressuring the government for the new truck several years ago and were finally approved by Indigenous Services Canada in 2021. Funding for the new truck came in at \$885,000, but Chief Corbiere



Members of the Aundeck Omni Kaning First Nation volunteer fire department join Chief Patsy Corbiere in welcoming the new fire truck. In photo are retired firefighter Frank Corbiere, fire chief Rob Howell, firefighters Sheila Howell, Jordan Hill, Tony Audette, Derek Broski Jr., Derek Broski Sr., Mike Abotosaway and Chief Patsy Corbiere. Missing from photo is fire captain Craig Behm and firefighters Jayce Esquimaux, Conrad Wilson, Tierre Abotosaway and Michaela Abotosaway.

photo by Michael Erskine

Northeast Town passes 2024 budget

by Alicia McCutcheon

NORTHEAST TOWN—Council for the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands passed its 2024 budget at a meeting held late last month and with it, an increase to the levy of 6.95 percent for a total levy of \$5,837,080. (The levy is the amount of money needed to be brought into the municipality to fulfill its daily operations.)

With the increase to the levy comes an increase to the tax rates of the four wards: Ward 1 (McGregor Bay/Bay of Islands) will see an increase of 2.26 percent (\$17.12 per \$100,000 of assessment); Ward 2 (Little Current), 5.62 percent (\$77.86 per \$100,000 of assessment); Wards 3 and 4 (Howland), 5.93 percent (\$74.89 per \$100,000 of assessment).

Almost half of the overall budget for the Northeast Town, \$8,936,009, is comprised of "uncontrollable costs." These include \$2,107,895 in wages; \$1,209,644 to the Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board

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 opinion

editorial

Jumping to conclusions shows little leadership potential

Conservative leader Pierre Poilievre has created a great deal of political capital for himself by harnessing the immense frustration of a Canadian public that has been battered by years of COVID restrictions and the continuing supply-chain induced inflation that followed. That is all fair game in the rough and tumble of politics, but the Leader of His Majesty's Loyal Opposition has a distressing disposition to stoke divisions and incite fear, rather than seeking to bring people together.

Striking while the iron is hot for political gain is one thing, jumping to conclusions is quite another. Mr. Poilievre stood in the House recently to grill the prime minister about what he quite plainly characterized as "a terrorist attack," jumping the gun when no credible source, government or otherwise, had identified it as such.

Called on his impetuous line of questioning, the honourable thing to do would have been to own up to the gaff, apologize and move on. Instead, the man who would be prime minister doubled down in true Trumpist style to lay the blame at the feet of "media sources." Going on to add even more "fake news" gas on the fire by claiming it was CTV that made the characterization—he probably should have checked—the CTV report he was fingering actually came out well before his question to the prime minister.

Certainly, US sources were already characterizing the incident as being a terrorist attack, but police and governments alike shied away from labelling it as such. In an abundance of prudence, security was increased at likely terrorist targets, but no official source had decided that was the case. In the end, it became clear that the incident that

killed two people at the Rainbow Bridge was not terrorism related.

There is a great deal of leeway available to a politician who is not in government, but when you are the leader of the Official Opposition, you are also a leader in waiting, and how you perform in that role speaks to what kind of leader you are.

Now, there is little traction to be had in calling any politician a "liar" as most of the electorate unfortunately think they can tell when a particular politician is lying by whether or not their lips are moving—but it is the knee jerk assumption behind Mr. Poilievre's line of questioning that is of particular concern.

It was not necessary to stoke fear and division by using the loaded terms of "terrorism" or "terrorist act" to elicit the answers Canadians needed to hear. Leaders who jump to conclusions without a solid basis from which to act are, quite simply—not leaders.

Governments in power are generally fired rather than an alternative being elected—and the 2025 election is Mr. Poilievre's to lose at this point in the polls. The governing Liberals and the current prime minister may have years of missteps to answer for, some fair, some not, but there is still plenty of time for Canadian voters to consider whether a judicious application of a clothespin is called for come October 2025.

Hubris is a dangerous master, and the current Leader of the Official Opposition would do well to think more before he speaks—an expensive image refit can only go so far.

Caution is the very foundation of peace, order and good government.

Christmas comes to Manitoulin in a bazaar way



Merry Cratemas!

Central Manitoulin's Bazaar saw Sandi Nicholson of the Kagawong Crate Company offering her festive wares.



Busted!

There were plenty of Anishinaabe Christmas themed sweats on hand at the Whitefish River First Nation Craft sale.



It's the most bustling time of the year!

The Mindemoya Community Hall was a buzz with plenty of shoppers looking for the perfect gift for that special someone.



Cookies galore!

There were lots of cookies to choose from at the Gore Bay Anglican Church.



Elves hard at work!

Tony Ferro was dishing out the soup, sandwiches and cookies during St. Bernard's Snowflake tea in Little Current.



Hats a great deal!

Marlene, right, is joined by her daughter Winona, left, and friend Dominique at the Wiikwemkoong Heritage Organization annual craft sale.

Little Current Royal Canadian Legion Branch 177 celebrates its volunteers

by Expositor staff

LITTLE CURRENT—The annual Honours and Awards ceremony and presentations at the Little Current branch of the Royal Canadian Legion saw a good crowd of navy-blazered members out to see comrades honoured and to receive honours and awards themselves.

Branch 177's Honours and Awards mistress of ceremonies was Comrade Christy Deschamps who began the ceremony on Friday, November 24 with memorials to two members of the branch who have passed away this past year.

Comrade Morris Keller from Mindemoya, a 10-year Legion member, was remembered as a lifelong volunteer who, even in his winters spent in Mexico, continued to help those less fortunate and an example was given of the interest he and fellow Manitoulin resident Tom Newburn had taken in working to restore hearing to a handicapped Mexican boy, eventually getting his hearing restored at the Shriner's Hospital in Montreal.

Comrade Morris passed away May 17, 2023.



Blake St. Jacques is Branch 177's Legionnaire of the Year and was presented with his award by Comrade Ruth Eadie, branch Past President and chair of the Honours and Awards Committee.

helped with this and cooked wings each week. He also barbeques at dinners and fish fries and helps with Comrade Linda's Toonie Luncheons. If help is needed for a Legion event, Com-

for taking over the Poppy Chair's job when Comrade Sue retired; Tony Bell for volunteering his time cooking at the branch barbecue events; Comrade Dave Patreau who organizes the Super



Comrade John Hodder is the recipient of a pin and accompanying medal to recognize 50 years of membership in Branch 177 of the Royal Canadian Legion. Comrade Hodder has his insignia pinned on his blazer by Comrade Ruth Eadie, branch past president and chair of the Honours and Awards Committee. Comrade Christy Deschamps looks on.



Certificates of Appreciation were presented by Branch 177 to, from left, Duane Deschamps, Tony Bell, Callum Scotney, Ted Bemister and Christy Deschamps. Absent from photo are Comrades Dave Patreau, Julie Deschamps, Luke Walsh, Kari Borque, Brianna Burnett, Tammy Bryan-Walsh, Roy Eaton and Leslie Burnett.



The Little Current Lions Club, represented by Dave Draper, right and Beth Draper, was one of the organizations and businesses to receive a Certificate of Merit presented by Comrade Ted Bemister, Branch 177 Second Vice President.

of them had come to the branch initially in order to help achieve their volunteer hours required to graduate from high school. These include Wyatte Moore who has done a wide variety of jobs at the branch and plans to continue to volunteer in the future; Paige Moore who helps as a server at food events and also helps out at the canteen; Stephane Giroux helps serving food and setting up

the Legion and for sharing the Catch the Ace funds and, recently, making a large donation towards the new handicap accessible ramp; UCCM Castle Building Supply for donating new flooring for both the meeting room and the pool room; Comrade Jim Corrigan for his help in the Mindemoya area with the Poppy Campaign and for his work on the District Cenotaph Committee.



Comrade Norris Valiquette receives his 20-year membership pin from Comrade Christy Deschamps at Branch 177's Honours and Awards ceremony.

Comrade Debbie Menard, a three-term president of Branch 177, passed away July 12, 2023.

Comrade Menard was remembered as a dedicated and caring Legion member, striving to "make the Legion a family where the branch was not just comrades working side by side but a family of Legionnaires."

Comrade Deschamps explained that through Comrade Menard, she came to understand the importance of "truly recognizing and showing appreciation for the Comrades of our Branch," an appropriate recognition at the Honours and Awards event.

The Act of Remembrance was recited in memory of the departed Branch 177 Legion members.

Past President Ruth Eadie came to the podium to honour Comrade Blake St. Jacques with the Legionnaire of the Year Award for 2023. His citation reads, "during COVID-19, the Legion provided takeout meals and also chicken wings each week. Comrade Blake

rade Blake is there to help. Thank you, Blake!"

Comrade Blake, clearly emotional, said simply, "it's wonderful to be back among family."

The first group honoured were branch members receiving their past president's medal or bar. These included: Comrade Leslie Burnett (first vice president's and Executive Committee bar), Comrade Lois Keller (Third Vice President's bar), Comrade Kari Bourque (Poppy bar), Comrade Ted Bemister (second Vice President's bar), Comrade Ruth Eadie (Past President's and Honours and Awards bar), Comrade Doug Clarke (Lapel decoration), Comrade Roy Eaton (Constitution and Laws bar) and Comrade Christie Deschamps (Secretary bar and Honours of Awards bar).

Certificates of Appreciation were presented to: Comrade Leslie Burnett for stepping up to take on the branch president's role when Comrade Sue Morin retired; Comrade Kari Bourque

Bowl parties each year when he and his spouse Nancy also donate the chili and dinner rolls; Comrade Duane Deschamps for taking on the job as Bar Chair, looking after the lottery and being a handyman for the branch. He has installed a new light fixture for the shed and has donated two fridges to the branch. Comrade Duane worked with UCCM Castle Building supply to have tiles donated for the pool room floor. He picks up products for the bar as required and makes sure the propane tanks are always full; Comrade Luke Walsh chairs the Building and Maintenance Committee. He is also building the new handicap ramps; Comrade Tammy Bryan-Walsh, a new member, had already been the volunteer Karaoke host and has now taken on the demanding role of Membership Chair; Comrade Roy Eaton for sharing his knowledge and expertise with a new executive team. Comrade Roy also oversees Remembrance Day ceremonies and other related events; Callum Scotney for volunteering at the branch whenever he can and helping Comrade Kari when she needs assistance with her many jobs; Julie Deschamps (Comrade Duane's Mom) for the poppy painting she created for the poppy campaign; Brianna Burnett for helping decorate for dances through the years; Comrade Christy Deschamps (presented by Comrade Ruth) for taking on the Branch Secretary's role and volunteering her time for myriad Legion events.

Four students, all grandchildren of Past President Ruth Eadie, were also singled out for certificates of appreciation and each



Four student volunteers were each presented with Certificates of Appreciation for their volunteer work. Each had chosen Branch 177 to fulfill a portion of their required high school graduation volunteer hours and all are grandchildren of past president Comrade Ruth Eadie. From left, Comrade Ruth Eadie (representing grandson Stephane Giroux who was not able to be present to receive his award), Faith Moore, Paige Moore and Wyatte Moore.

the tables for guests; Faith Moore for helping to set up tables, get take-away food containers ready and organizing accompanying beverages. She also assisted her Auntie Leslie collect the payments for food.

Businesses that were chosen for Certificates of Appreciation this year are: Boarderline, Turners, Orr's ValuMart, 3 Cows and a Cone, Elliott's Restaurant, Anchor Inn, Break Away Sports, Dreamers Cove, McQuarrie Motors, Brewers and Manitoulin Brewing Co.

Certificates of Merit were presented to John Roy for donating time to DJ dances to raise money for the pool table refurbishing initiative; the Little Current Lions Club for their longtime support of

Long-service pins were presented by Comrade Christy to: Comrades Lois Keller (5 years), Blake St. Jacques (5 years), the late Morris Keller (10 years), John McLennan (15 years), Norris Valiquette (20 years), Joanne Thurston (35 years), John Ferguson (35 years), Rob Marshall (35 years) and John Hodder (50 years).

Comrade Ruth, chair of the Honours and Awards Committee reminded everyone to keep their dues paid and acknowledged how this event recognizes everyone who has given so much time and effort to Branch 177.

The evening concluded with a light lunch.

Multiple calls resulted in the arrest of one person

On November 24, shortly before 12 am, members of the Manitoulin detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) received multiple calls for service regarding a disorderly person along Highway 542 in Central Manitoulin. While searching for this person, the police received an additional complaint of a stolen vehicle.

Police later located the vehicle parked at a convenience store. Upon speaking with the driver, police were able to determine that the driver had consumed alcoholic beverages. The driver was subsequently arrested and transported back to the OPP detachment for further testing.

As a result of the investigation, Chad Diakow, 31, from Wahnapiatae has been charged with operation while impaired, alcohol and drugs, blood alcohol concentration (80 plus), theft of motor vehicle and mischief under \$5,000.

The accused was released from custody and is scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Gore Bay on January 8.

The driver was issued a 90-day administrative driver's licence suspension, and the vehicle was impounded for seven days.

Collision leads to impaired driving charges

One person has been arrested and charged with impaired driving following a single motor vehicle collision.

On November 24, shortly before 11 pm, members of the Manitoulin detachment of the OPP responded to a single motor vehicle collision at the Low Island Municipal Park.

Police located the vehicle and upon speaking with the driver were able to determine that the driver had consumed alcoholic beverages. The driver was subsequently arrested for impaired driving and transported to the OPP detachment for further testing.

As a result of the investigation, Dakota McGraw, 29, from Aundeck Omni Kaning First Nation has been charged with operation while impaired, alcohol and drugs, blood alcohol concentration (80 plus).

The accused was released from custody and is scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Gore Bay on January 9.

The driver was issued a 90-day administrative driver's licence suspension, and the vehicle was impounded for seven days.

OPP arrests driver for impaired driving

One person has been arrested and charged after OPP officers responded to a call for service in the town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands (NEMI).

On November 25 shortly after 11 pm, the Manitoulin OPP responded to a call regarding an erratic driver on Camp-



Law & Order

bell Street in NEMI.

Further information revealed that the driver had taken a motor vehicle without consent and was driving erratically around town.

Police located the vehicle and upon speaking with the driver, were able to determine that the driver had consumed alcoholic beverages. The driver was subsequently arrested and transported back to the OPP detachment for further testing.

As a result of the investigation, Tina Francis, 29, from Whitefish River First Nation (WRFN) has been charged with operation while impaired, alcohol and drugs, blood alcohol concentration (80 plus), dangerous operation and take motor vehicle without consent.

The driver was issued a 90-day administrative driver's licence suspension and the vehicle was impounded for seven days.

Additional arrest made in Sagamok homicide investigation

The Manitoulin OPP Crime Unit has arrested a second individual in connection with an ongoing homicide investigation in Sagamok First Nation.

On September 24 shortly before 6 am, members of the Manitoulin OPP responded to an assault with a weapon. The victim was transported to hospital and later died from their injuries.

Mercedes Toulouse, 29-years-old from Sagamok First Nation, was arrested November 28 and charged with accessory after the fact to commit an indictable offence, contrary to section 463(b) of the Criminal Code.

The accused was released on bail and is scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Espanola on January 15.

Another individual was arrested on November 5.

The investigation is being conducted by the Manitoulin OPP Crime Unit and the Anishinabek Police Service under the direction of the OPP Criminal Investigation Branch and in conjunction with the Office of the Chief Coroner, Ontario Forensic Pathology Services and OPP Forensic Identification Services.

If anyone has further information regarding this incident, contact the OPP at 1-888-310-1122 or your nearest police service. Should you wish to remain anonymous, you can call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or submit your tip online at www.sudburycrimestoppers.com where you may be eligible for a reward of up to \$2,000.

Traffic stop leads to impaired charges

One person has been arrested and charged following a traffic stop on Highway 6 in Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands (NEMI)

On November 30 shortly after 3 am, members of the Manitoulin detachment of the OPP were conducting general patrol along Highway 6 when a vehicle was observed travelling at varying speeds.

A traffic stop was conducted and upon speaking with the driver, police were able to determine that the driver was impaired. The driver was subsequently arrested and transported back to the OPP detachment for further testing.

As a result of the investigation, Donovan Taibossigai, 37 from Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory has been charged with: operation while impaired-alcohol and drugs, driving while under suspension, drive motor vehicle, no licence, fail to surrender permit for motor vehicle.

The accused is scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Gore Bay on January 9.

The driver was issued a 90-day administrative driver's licence suspension, and the vehicle was impounded for seven days.

OPP, MTO and MNR conduct joint RIDE

A joint Reduce Impaired Driving Everywhere (RIDE) program was conducted on Highway 6 on Manitoulin Island as part of a traffic initiative (held during the annual Manitoulin deer gun hunt season).

On November 24, members of the Manitoulin detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), North East Region OPP traffic incident Management And Enforcement Team, North East Region OPP Snowmobile, All Terrain Vehicle, Vessel Enforcement Team in conjunction with the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) and conservation officers from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry conducted a five-hour RIDE program on Highway 6.

The RIDE program saw 750 motor vehicles and approximately two hundred hunters. The OPP and MTO issued three Highway Traffic Act (HTA) tickets, which were related to commercial motor vehicle inspections, five warnings and 31 mandatory alcohol screenings.

Conservation officers conducted five investigations, which resulted in the seizing of eight deer; one rifle with ammunition, six deer tags and issued three provincial offence notices.

The OPP would like to remind motorists that when you operate a motor vehicle, you have a responsibility to keep yourself, your passengers and other road users safe.

Friends and Neighbours

Kagawong Team Fergmeijer

Winter seems to have settled on us for good finally. This time of year we try to watch the weather channel to know what is coming up, and it's not pretty next week. It's calling for rane, hale, thundre, litnin and frizzing cold. We are really not looking forward to that bad spell of weather. On top of the cold, wet weather, Team Fergmeijer has had some bad luck lately. One half caught a nasty cold from someone at work and has been really sick all week. The second half swallowed a dictionary and now has thesaurus throat she's ever had. The third half dropped a large box of fruit on his foot this morning. Now he cranberry walk.

The Billings Library Silent Auction is over for another year. Over \$4,000 was raised! Those funds keep the book budget healthy and the library late-fee free! Reminder that any items won in the library silent auction can be picked up at the library during regular hours (Tuesdays and Thursdays 4 to 7 pm and Saturdays 10 am to 1 pm). Email billingsreads@gmail.com or call 705-282-2944 for more information.

Let the township know your thoughts! Complete the Strategic Plan Resident/Property Owner Survey by December 15 to give input on what the township gets right, what you'd like to see developed, and where improvements can be made. The online survey can be found at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RGBNWP>

Happy birthday to Laurie Z., Rob B., and Katherine T who are all celebrating their 29th trip around the sun. Don't forget to smile uncomfortably when your friends and family stare at you and sing Happy Birthday!

The township has decided to move council meetings back to being virtual. The public can still watch the proceedings. Contact the town office (tmills@billingstwp.ca) for Zoom meeting information and more information on how to have your voice heard during council meetings.

Last weekend saw a healthy turnout to the annual Kagawong Community Christmas Concert. Despite some acts having to downsize or cancel due to illness, there was plenty of talent (and quasi-talent) to go around! Thanks to everyone who came out as well as everyone who performed.

Citizens with property on the water system are invited to a special council meeting on Tuesday, December 12 to discuss the upgrades that were recently completed on Old Mill Road. The meeting will discuss cost recovery options for the work done including consideration of a Capital Cost

Recovery By-Law under the fees and charges provisions of the Municipal Act. The meeting is at the Park Centre and will begin at 7 pm. Delegations wishing to speak at the meeting must contact the town clerk for a delegation request form (edance@billingstwp.ca). The form must be returned to the office by Wednesday December 6 in order to be placed on the agenda. Written comments and opinions must also be submitted to the clerk by the December 6 deadline to be placed on the agenda. The meeting will also be live-streamed over Zoom. Contact the town office for details.

Please note that the municipal office will be closed December 25 through to January 1. Likewise, the municipal landfill will be closed December 24 and 26 as well as December 31, and the Library will be closed December 23 and 30.

Attention all artists, writers, crafters, potters, artisans, creatives, makers (and their friends and families) - come out to the Manitoulin Arts Community Potluck and Holiday Social on December 29 at the Kagawong Park Centre. Doors open at 4:30 pm, arts announcements at 5:30 pm (share your latest news!).

This week we leave you with some advice from a pickle: Life can be hard sometimes; dill with it. Relish every moment you have with those you love. The door to happiness is always ajar. Remember that life is never a dill moment, but don't worry - in the end everything will be just brine. Have a great week!

Barrie Island Lillian Greenman

JoeAnn Lewis, daughter Angela her husband Darryl Wunsch and their sons Brendan and Thomas were here last week for hunting.

Doug Lane had his son Cameron and friend James here for hunting last week also Keith Rastin, Charlie and Rhonda Smith.

Silver Water Karen Noble

I took DonnaKay McDonald, Myra Duncanson and Lois Wismer to euchre in Meldrum Bay on Friday, November 17. There was a very good crowd with the hunters out to play. On the ride home, I could feel a sore

throat developing.

Gladys Duncanson left on Saturday morning to spend most of the week with Jean Steeves.

Saturday, I spent the day on the couch sleeping. Albert Meijer cooked the 60 pounds of sausages for the pancake breakfast on Sunday.

Sunday morning, we held the breakfast with proceeds to the Mindemoya Hospital. Thank you to all the people who came out to eat and work. Most of the workers wore their masks. The UCW raised a lot of money through a bake sale for the United Church Mission and Service Fund. There were also donations made to the robotics team at Manitoulin Secondary School.

Louise Duke had pictures of a 13-point buck she got last Friday.

There was chair yoga at the Silver Water Community Hall on Monday afternoon.

Euchre in Burpee was cancelled on Monday night. Their community was setting up for a spaghetti dinner on Tuesday night.

Joe Addison's hunters came out of the bush on Monday with a spike buck.

Albert's head cold started on Wednesday.

Brenda Carter, Lynn Pickard and Diane Jones went to Little Current on Wednesday. They took the food handling safety course and all passed.

Sara-Lyn Arnot is done being a vendor at the Royal Winter Fair. She arrived in Peterborough earlier in the week and will visit her family before heading home next week.

I have been sick all week. My apologies to anyone that may have gotten this from me.

The next UCW meeting is the Christmas meeting which starts at 12 noon on December 7 with a potluck lunch. All West End ladies are welcome. Collection boxes for nonperishable food will be out.

Condolences to the family of Jack Colwell. Condolences to the family of Lewis Lanktree.

The recycling bins were open on Saturday, November 25. Thanks to all the hunt camps that donated their liquor containers and pop cans.

Fire practice was held on Tuesday, November 28. There were 14 guys in attendance.

The Local Services Board held their budget meeting on November 29 at 7 pm at the Silver Water Community Hall. Three hours later, the budget was approved with an increase of \$10 per property billed.

Albert Meijer and I went to Gore Bay on Thursday to do errands. That was the first I had been to town in two weeks. There were 18 players out to euchre on Thursday night.

Happy 37th birthday to Kate Duncanson on December 1. Get well wishes to Elaine Bradley.

...Sheguiandah FN cast ballots for chief and council

...Nevada Waindubence

...continued from page 3

ongoing treaties, negotiations and meetings and will better distribute information that is provided.

“Regarding the Robinson Huron Treaty and Manitoulin Project Claims (the UCCM Islands claim) I intend to propose new economic development, infrastructure plans, proposals and oversee projects closely,” he said. “I would like to propose our existing multipurpose round house be finished and would put forward proposals for new elders’, youth centres, mental health and addictions buildings.” In addition, he said he would build and refurbish new and existing roadways “to meet the highest quality standards available.”

On the economic front, Mr. Waindubence said that development of the ‘Stoneman’s’ farm property would be a priority for future considerations and business.

His ambitious plans include the design of Manitoulin Island’s “first multi-purpose complex with pool, arena and gym, with plans to open to the public and thereby creating revenue for the community and future events.”

Also on his radar is the purchase of an established grocery store chain, design casino, bingo hall and new band administration building.

Mr. Waindubence envisions offering invitations to other not-for profit and government-funded organizations for

future business accommodations, entering negotiations for a new police building.

He notes that Indigenous tourism is the fastest growing industry in Canada, and proposes that it would be “extremely beneficial to develop our own tourism department and within our lakeshore space.”

Housing is also a key priority, and the creation of more major housing projects for Sheguiandah’s growing population is extremely important.

“I believe education is among the top three priorities with our community ethics,” said Mr. Waindubence. “We need to promote our culture, language and uphold our identity as Anishinabek. We need to stop accommodating the bare minimum to get by. Raise our needs for all our school attendees. From establishing a daycare within our community, to every student from junior Kindergarten to university.”

“In conclusion, I aim to be a better leader, more responsive, proactive and a present chief within our community to meet needs for events, activities and emergencies. I hope you can envision a new start. I will represent ourselves to the highest degree of standards among all Anishinabek Nations across Turtle Island. Trust our youth leadership to guide Sheguiandah First Nation to a better tomorrow.”

...Ruby Thompson

...continued from page 3

where there is a gap in services, funding and communication,” said Ms. Thompson. “This goes along with accountability and transparency to the community. If I am elected whether it be for chief or a councillor seat I want to help work toward that.”

“I consider myself a team player,” said Ms. Thompson. “I think I would be a good person as chief or on council because I have empathy and compassion for the community and its members. I want to help bring the community closer together.”

“We all know there will be bumps on the road, and you can’t please everyone, but we can all help make improvements for the majority of the residents in the community,” said Ms. Thompson. “And it is important that the young people, as they become young adults, are made to feel empowered know who they are as Sheguiandah citizens.”

“In my work experience over the years I have worked with babies to adults,” said Ms. Thompson. “And I have a lot of experience and skills working with committees and boards.”

Ms. Thompson has run for a councillor seat in two previous Sheguiandah elections. “I have been nominated twice previously to run in elections so this will be my third try, this time for both chief and council.”

Ms. Thompson whose mother is from Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory, has ties to Aundeck Omni Kaning, having moved to Sheguiandah as a young adult and accessed school funding to pursue a career in nursing.

...Xoë Peltier-Roy

...continued from page 3

tial staff education and a call for transparency emerge as pivotal points for change. The chief’s role is crucial in guiding the community towards collaboration and shared success.

A beacon of proactive leadership and community dedication, candidate for chief Xoë Roy, who has served two impactful terms as the Youth Council Chief, is a testament to visionary leadership and tangible change. Her tenure witnessed a dynamic period of transformation, marked by substantial fundraising endeavours that injected vitality into her community’s initiatives. Notably, her initiative in amplifying traffic signage contributed to enhanced safety. At the

same time, the ambitious revamping of a basketball court and the community pool breathed new life into recreational spaces, fostering a sense of pride and unity among the residents. This candidate’s track record echoes their commitment to proactive measures that uplift the community and create spaces for growth, recreation, and communal gathering.

When asked about community involvement in decision-making, Ms. Roy emphasized the necessity of transparency while respecting confidentiality concerns. Plans include various communication channels, such as Zoom links and newsletters, to engage the community effectively. Transparent

agendas and broadcasting council meetings aim to bridge the gap between leadership decisions and community awareness.

The candidate prioritizes the creation of a youth centre. Recognizing the pivotal role of youth in shaping the future, Ms. Roy highlights the need for engagement and resources to empower the next generation. Her vision encompasses providing a space and engaging activities and mentorship to nurture future leaders and address prevalent challenges faced by young members.

“Our young people are going to be the next chiefs, council members, caretakers of the land,” Ms. Roy told The Expositor.

At the core of Ms. Roy’s

strategy lies teamwork, valuing diverse perspectives and skills. Active listening and precision in decision-making are highlighted as vital components to bring the community together towards shared goals.

When discussing core values, the candidate pointed to five principles guiding their leadership style: accountability, self-awareness, passion for youth, bridging generational gaps, and a commitment to fostering change. Each value is a compass, steering the candidate towards a leadership style rooted in responsibility, empathy, and a drive for sustainable progress.

As the campaign gains momentum, Ms. Roy’s vision for a more united, empowered Sheguiandah First Nation community resonates, promising a transformative journey towards a brighter future for all community members.

...Jason Aguonie

...continued from page 3

“The biggest issue at the moment is the disbursement of the annuities claim,” Mr. Aguonie says. “If elected chief, I will ensure that 100 percent of this settlement will be disbursed to our members, both on- and off-reserve.”


The candidate for chief said he will fight for Sheguiandah’s treaty rights and land claims (Heywood Island, the Lewis farm and French River No. 13).

“Community safety and more assistance for the elders and youth will be a priority,” he continues. “Further, the building of a new multi-purpose building will be pursued. This building will be centrally located and will meet the needs of our members for recreation and community gatherings.”


Mr. Aguonie says economic development needs to be Sheguiandah First Nation’s priority. “This will create employment and generate much-needed income for Sheguiandah First Nation members, development of our two farms (Charlton and Stoneman), build an industrial park and pursue tourism.”

The candidate also hopes to create a new housing strategy to meet the new and changing needs of community members that includes building a new subdivision on the water tower hill. “Further, we will secure funding for an independent community living building for our elders.”

“Together, we can change how Sheguiandah First Nation tackles issues in a more positive and proactive approach,” Mr. Aguonie says.




Happy Birthday



We are having a
“Come and Go”
Birthday Celebration in honour of
Alfred Armstrong’s 94th birthday.

Saturday, December 9
2 pm to 4 pm
410 Armstrong Rd, Gore Bay

Light refreshments will be served.
Come celebrate with Alfred!



Fixing Our Felines Manitowaning



Tootsieroll



Domino

A Bonded Pair

Domino and Tootsieroll are 4-month-old bonded littermates. They are a wee bit shy with strangers but love to play with toys and wrestle. This sweet duo wants to be home for the holidays. Please call or text us at (705) 918-2879 or send us a message on our Facebook page.




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Bahá’í Writings

O Son of Man! Humble thyself before
Me, that I may graciously visit thee.

—Bahá’u’lláh

To find out about local activities
or call or text 705-210-0529
www.bahai.ca www.bahai.org



RESTAURANT HOURS:

SUNDAY: 9 AM - 8 PM

MONDAY & TUESDAY: CLOSED

WEDNESDAY - SATURDAY: 9 AM - 8 PM

BAR HOURS:

SUNDAY - TUESDAY: CLOSED

WEDNESDAY: 4 PM - 9 PM

THURSDAY: 4 PM - WHEN TRIVIA ENDS

FRIDAY & SATURDAY: 4 PM - 1 AM

...Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands passes 2024 budget

...continued from page 3 (which includes paramedic services); \$125,000 to Public Health Sudbury and Districts (PHSD); \$94,486 to the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation; \$146,836 to the Manitoulin Centennial Manor; and \$719,557 for Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) services.

include: an increase to the equipment repair and maintenance budget of \$23,200; a decrease is Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund monies by \$32,800; an increase to wages and salaries by \$134,621; an increase to insurance by \$29,106; an increase in road materials of \$126,500 and an increase to the aforementioned

uncontrollable costs by \$35,023. There are several capital expenditures in the 2024 budget. The municipal office will receive a new door and veranda on the second floor and have its bricks repointed with a \$40,000 budget at a net cost to the town.

Under roads, the Green Bush is slated to have 3.2 kilometres of double surface treatment at a cost of \$190,000 (\$179,502 to come from the gas tax, the

remainder from the gas tax reserve) and two kilometres of hard surfacing on Red Lodge Road (which is shared with Assiginack) (\$60,000 from the gas tax reserve, \$60,000 from Assiginack).

Twenty-eight thousand dollars has been slated for bridge and culvert inspections at a net cost to the town with \$140,000 for a new sidewalk along Park Street (gas tax reserve), \$350,000 for a new snowplow (working capital reserve),

\$22,000 for an upgrade to the Sheguiandah boardwalk (net cost to town); and \$25,000 for a new play structure at Low Island for children ages 2 to 4 (net cost to town).

Under 'environmental services,' the municipality has budgeted for a new garbage compactor at \$560,000 (working capital reserve) while under 'recreational and cultural services' a new 30' x 40' community services garage estimated at \$120,000 (to be

covered by a grant) and main recreation centre hall ceiling improvements (pending funding) is in the works at \$20,000.

The municipality is also looking to purchase a new lawn mower at \$35,000 and washrooms at McLean's Mountain looking at \$90,000 (pending funding).

The Centennial Museum of Sheguiandah will see a \$12,700 window upgrade (net cost to town) while the marine facilities will gain a

...continued on page 9

LITTLE CURRENT

CATCH the ACE



WEEKLY WINNER!
 Congratulations to Linda Bowerman!
 The "draw" prize winner of \$819.00
 Thank you to Green Acres Manitoulin - Family Campground & Restaurant for sponsoring the 24th Progressive Raffle Lottery!

DRAW DATE THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2023 AT 8:00 PM
PROGRESSIVE PRIZE STARTING AT \$16,663.00!
 (before 30% of weekly sales added)

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

...Aundeck Omni Kaning welcomes new fire truck

...continued from page 3

explained that COVID price increases meant the final tally was actually considerably more. "We requested an additional \$90,000 and were approved for a top mount pumper and a single axle tanker." The tanker has yet to arrive.

Parts for the older fire truck were often unavailable, noted Chief Corbiere. "They were either non-existent or we had to wait long periods for the parts."

Chief Corbiere offered thanks to the neighbouring community of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands "for providing us with fire services at times when our truck was not operational. I would like to also thank Mutual Aid

and our fire chief and volunteers for keeping Manitoulin safe."

Chief Corbiere also thanked Rod Harris of Carrier Emergency Vehicles for "his excellent service in working with our First Nation throughout the building process of our new equipment."

Although the new pumper truck has arrived, it will still be some time before it is fully operational, cautioned Chief Corbiere, as the new vehicle still needs a variety of equipment to be attached and training on how to safely use the equipment will be vital to maintaining it in good working order.

...Sheguiandah First Nation cast ballots December 9

...Elvis Mishibinjima

provide the supports the community needs. "We can't run the staff ragged," he said. "There are only so many hours in a day."

Also on the financial front, Mr. Mishibinjima said that he plans to continue with the financial management board, putting in place the best practices for financial management.

"Another big issue is a band rep for child and family services, that is going to be key," he said. "That was put in place by the previous leadership and it is something we need to continue—we have to see it through with a high priority."

Mr. Mishibinjima noted that he was under no illusion that building capacity would be an easy task. "There is a lot of competition out there, other agencies, other Nations," he said.

Complicating the issue of finding the skilled people to deliver services is the current rental market. "With COVID, so many people moved to the Island and took up all the rental spaces," he said. "You can't bring in outside resources because you have nowhere for them to live. It isn't helping that they are bringing

in all these immigrants."

When it comes to one of the largest elephants in the room, the question of the disbursement of Robinson Huron Treaty (RHT) annuity settlement monies, Mr. Mishibinjima expressed dismay at the suggestion that a chief, or even council, could simply make those decisions.

"This has to be community-driven," he said. "This is not something that is in the hands of the chiefs or the councils—it is a community decision."

He noted that both the RHT and the Manitoulin Project (UCCM islands claim) must be focussed on the collective benefit of the nations. "This will be a community decision, not chief and council, not a committee, but the community who will decide," he said. "That is our way, to look forward to seven generations' benefit. To do otherwise is against everything we have been taught."

Food security is another key issue in this election, noted Mr. Mishibinjima. "Food bank usage is up 38 percent from last year," he noted. "We still have a community cupboard, but it needs the resources to meet

the need."

Mr. Mishibinjima said that all things are currently pointing to a Conservative government taking power in the next couple of years. "Conservatives have not been what you could call 'Anishinaabe friendly,'" he said. "They are talking cuts across the board."

When it comes to global warming, Mr. Mishibinjima said that he finds it amusing. "Green initiative? When 61 percent of the contributions to greenhouse gases come from the one percent, it is only 39 percent for the rest of the 99 percent of us. We are doing our part."

When it comes to transparency, Mr. Mishibinjima notes that many of the negotiations that take place have to be confidential if they are going to make any progress. When it comes to land claim issues, they are a long process. "Look at the French River negotiations," he said. "They date back to 1980 when they were first brought up. Here it is 2023 and they are still not done—but we are working on it."

Let's Talk



Gerlinde Goodwin B.A. R.S.W.

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...continued from page 3

of the past couple of years he said he has been heavily engaged in setting up the policies and procedures that underpin financial stability.

"We need to create the capacity to get people the help they need," he said. That capacity-building must start in the band offices, getting qualified people in place who have the skills and knowledge to

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November 30 marked last day for most Espanola Domtar Mill employees

by Tom Sasvari

ESPANOLA—While the first round of layoffs of employees from the Domtar Pulp and Paper Mill in Espanola came down as of November 30 on the pulp side, town officials, union representatives and current employees are indicating that it is not all doom and gloom, as many employees have already found other employment, and the majority are not moving out of the community.

“Yes, as of Thursday (November 30) the pulp side (of the mill) will be shut down and layoffs will begin,” said Espanola Mayor Douglas Gervais. “The paper mill machines will be running until mid-January

at least. Those dates are just estimates depending on whether the company continues to get orders.”

Mayor Gervais said he and the members of council feel empathy for the Domtar employees (and their families) who are losing their jobs but feels it will not mean a huge exodus from the town. “Yes, it definitely has affects, and it is not good news in any way.”

However, “Most of the (former employees) have jobs already,” said Mayor Gervais. “And for those that live here it appears the majority are staying and commuting to other jobs. There are some employees who are looking for jobs and trying to sell their homes, but it is definitely

not the majority.”

“Obviously, the closure is devastating news to the community,” said Steve Boon, Northern Area director for Unifor. He said the union set up the labour adjustment centre in town to help employees find jobs. The union, “has also made sure good early retirement packages are in place for those close to retirement.”

Mr. Boon said the pulp mill ceased production in October and the work has focused on preparing for the idling phase of the pulp mill facility. This work has included erecting fencing, flushing lines and wrapping exhaust vents to prepare for the cold weather.

Layoffs will begin around mid-January for employees in the paper division and this will leave about two dozen employees in total at Domtar. “There will be a total of a little under 50 employees in place until January, and when the paper (division) layoffs take place, it will leave a couple of dozen employees until May. Then a skeleton crew of about 14 will remain in the long term to maintain the plant.”

Mr. Boon explained some

of the employees are working in other areas like Nairn Centre and Sudbury and commuting back and forth to work, while others are sharing apartments in another community where they work for about seven days and then get seven days off (and commute back to Espanola).

“Fortunately, there appears to be a lot of job opportunities,” said Mr. Boon. “And this is a good mill; it is an asset and has a good workforce, so if the company finds a resolution and reopens or sells to another company some of these employees may have the opportunity to come back.”

Leanne St. Pierre, who is originally from Little Current and now lives in Espanola and works in the paper mill told The Expositor she worked on November 30 when employees in the pulp side were working their last day at Domtar before being laid off. “I saw three people in total. When everyone is on hand there are between 20-40 employees on site. It was a very

quiet building.”

Ms. St. Pierre said, “a lot of the employees have found jobs already. It has been amazing in that sense. I know my son-in-law found a job in another mill and starts (this Wednesday). And there are some that have found work in Sudbury and other areas that are either commuting back and forth or sharing apartments.”

“No, I haven’t heard anyone say they had to move to another community for a new job,” said Ms. St. Pierre. “I find it amazing how many people have found work in other places in the area.” In her case, she will be retiring soon, having worked for Domtar 32 years. “I will be retiring on a full pension and benefits.”

“We will work with the government and the company,” said Mr. Boon. “Domtar has to make a decision at some point, one option being to sell the business. The hope is that there will be a potential buyer of the business,” he said noting that the cost of demolishing

the building would be in the millions of dollars. “A sale would be more lucrative for everyone, but this process would take time as well.”

“There have been different companies in looking at the mill,” said Mayor Gervais. “There are companies looking at it (as has been the case for the past couple of years), but whether they are going to buy the business is another thing. We all hope so.”

“It is never a good thing when a major business in a small town like Espanola ceases operation,” said Mayor Gervais. “The town has been working hard to establish itself as a tourist community, senior community and try to draw both seniors and young people to town and help to keep the businesses that are here viable.”

As for the effects to the town coffers with Domtar idling, Mayor Gervais said there is no immediate financial impact as the mill is being kept intact for a potential reopening.

...Northeast Town passes budget

...continued from page 8

new \$30,000 utility vehicle (\$15,000 from the Spider Bay Marina reserve, \$15,000 from the waterfront reserve).

During the public portion of the meeting, Little Current resident Zak Nicholls raised concerns with several of the uncontrollable costs, namely the OPP and PHSD. Mr. Nicholls called on the municipality to challenge the PHSD’s increase.

The mayor thanked Mr. Nicholls for his input.

Councillor Bill Koehler called for a recorded vote on the 2024 budget with all but Councillor Koehler voting in favour. The motion to pass the budget was carried.



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THANK YOU

to everyone who participated in the Santa Claus Parade!
Your community spirit makes this a great place to live.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Please be advised that the Council Meetings of
December 7 and 21 have been CANCELLED.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Under the Ontario Highway Traffic Act, it is illegal
to shovel, blow or plow snow out onto or across a roadway.
It's also very dangerous and can cause oncoming vehicles to lose control.
Please use caution when clearing your driveway.

Join us at the Recreation Centre for some of our upcoming sessions...
Contact : lhallaert@townofnemi.on.ca for more information

Sit Fit is back!
FREE sessions starting at 11:00 am on Thursday, November 30
Main Hall, NEMI Rec Centre

Winter Walking
Weekdays in the Main Hall, NEMI Rec Centre
12:30 pm to 2:00 pm

Festive Family Dance Party with Candice from Body Stories Dance
December 6 at 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm in the Main Hall
The evening will start with a gentle warm-up and some
dance games to get the party started.
Snacks and beverages will be provided.
All ages invited.

Seniors Christmas Get-Together in the Main Hall
Come socialize with your friends over coffee and snacks.
December 12 at 12:00 pm.
No cost.

After-School Youth Program Christmas Party
December 20 at 3:15 pm to 5:00 pm
Games, snacks and lots of fun!
Main Hall, Rec Centre



Someone's on the naughty list!

Santa Claus popped in to greet vendor Dave Patterson of We Have the Wood, other vendors and children in attendance at the annual Gordon/Barrie Island annual Advent Christmas market held Saturday.

Christmas

at the
Harbour Centre

40 Water Street Gore Bay

Saturday, December 9th, 2023

10am to 4pm

Join us for refreshments and
Christmas treats!

Browse our primary studios & galleries
and meet our resident artists. Also view
the works of guest artist, Perry Patterson,
whose "Sweet Pea" exhibit is in our museum
events room.

Joyous Christmas from all of us
at the Harbour Centre!

...Extending Niagara Escarpment to Island met with mixed reviews

...continued from page 1

1973, is an agency of the Ontario government. The NEC applied to UNESCO in 1990 for the Niagara Escarpment Biosphere Reserve designation and published the first Niagara Escarpment Plan in 1985. This plan is reviewed and updated every five years, with the most recent version of the plan published in 2017. UNESCO reviewed the designation under the NEC in 2019 and found that the participation of diverse sectors needed to be improved, so a group of volunteers was tasked with forming an NGO. This is the origin story of the Niagara Escarpment Biosphere Network, a grassroots, independent, volunteer-based non-profit

focused on building a network of First Nations, municipalities, non-profit organizations, scientists, academics and individuals seeking a more sustainable approach to caring for precious ecosystems.

The Niagara Escarpment Biosphere Reserve is overseen by the Niagara Escarpment Biosphere Network, which has collaboratively crafted an updated strategic management system in partnership with Plenty Canada. This network has formed a board of directors following a co-governance framework with Indigenous communities. Its diverse membership spans the length and breadth of the Niagara Escarpment, encompassing individuals from both its southern and northern regions. NEBN, established in 2022, marks a novel chapter in organizational history—a rejuvenation from a prior framework. Embracing co-governance, the principle of “two-eyed seeing,” and inclusive representation from both First Nations and non-native municipalities, its board is tasked with guiding the institution. This approach stands out; among the 19 biospheres, each with its distinct approach to collaborating with First Nations the Yukon biosphere notably operates under the sole leadership of First Nations.

“Those layers of authority, we are not a layer of authority; we seek new solutions from the collective. Extending the NEBN’s UNESCO designation to Manitoulin Island has the potential to help local municipalities, First Nations, non-profits, agricultural experts, and other organizations with a vested interest in preserving biodiversity and natural resources to foster lateral relationships with academics, scientists, and potential funding sources for applied research to build climate resilience and biodiversity protection,” CEO of NEBN Larry McDermott said. “Too often, it’s been the case, even in initiatives that appear to be well-intentioned, that Indigenous people are left by the wayside. Our board has five Indigenous

members. And all of us have experienced situations where expectations were not met. We don’t want to perpetuate that. Our framework for governance, if you want to call it that, or just getting things done, is to create ethical space based on ‘two-eyed seeing.’ We want to change how biospheres operate through accountability and holding ethical space.”

Larry McDermott, an Algonquin from Shabot Obaadjiwan First Nation, serves as the Executive Director of Plenty Canada. He’s actively engaged with various organizations, including the International Indigenous Forum for Biodiversity, Ontario Biodiversity Council, Ontario Professional Foresters Association, Healing Place Partnership, and Niagara Escarpment Biosphere Network. He co-chairs the Lanark County Safety and Well-Being Plan. Previously, he held roles as a three-time mayor and council member of Lanark Highlands chaired the Rural Forum of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, served as a Commissioner for the Ontario Human Rights Commission, contributed to species recovery teams, and represented Shabot Obaadjiwan First Nation in comprehensive claims. Larry, certified in tree marking and butternut assessment, holds multiple environmental certifications and was honored with an Honorary Doctorate of Laws from the University of Guelph. He studied under the late Algonquin Elder, Grandfather William Commanda, founder of the Circle of All Nations organization.

Biosphere reserves play a pivotal role in ensuring the region’s environmental, economic and social sustainability by promoting the responsible utilization of natural and human resources. These reserves are practical solutions for resolving land use conflicts and safeguarding biodiversity. By becoming part of national and international networks, a biosphere reserve gains access to vital information, expertise, support, and funding, fostering diverse local economies and revitalizing rural areas. They serve as frameworks guiding projects that enhance livelihoods and attract academic and government research, addressing local concerns. As learning sites, these reserves demonstrate conservation and sustainable development approaches, offering transferable lessons. Moreover, they accentuate the area’s uniqueness, nurturing a strong sense of place among residents and visitors. Biosphere reserve designation sparks awareness of environmental issues among locals and authorities, creating a focal point for stakeholder collaboration and volunteer engagement.

Charlene Winger-Jones and Norman Ragetlie co-chair NEBN as the first step in the “two-eyed seeing” framework. Ms. Winger-Jones is an elder, Hereditary Council member, Water Walker, and climate Reality Leader from Neyaashiinigiing. Mr. Ragetlie recently retired as executive director of the Rural Ontario Institute, where he had also served as director of Policy and Stakeholder Engagement. In previous decades, he led a Community Economic Development unit with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs. He was a practicing registered professional planner focused on natural heritage conservation and an award-winning participatory sustainable community development initiative in the Hamilton-Wentworth region. A lifelong volunteer, Norm served as chair of the Ontario Farmland Trust and was active in the local food cooperative movement; he is chair of the newly formed Intersections Wood Collaborative and a trail captain for the Bruce Trail Conservancy near his home in Owen Sound.

Mr. Ragetlie addressed the recent meeting, “I can understand that there might be a concern if there isn’t clarity about why we were there. This was an initial meeting with some of the contacts that Mr. Zelinksy had made while photographing for his new book. I foresee that we will be hosting more meetings with all interested parties, beginning with First Nations leadership. UCCMM has asked us to come out and speak with them; though there is no date yet, we are looking forward to that opportunity. We are just a small group of volunteers, but we are interested in meeting with anyone who wants to collaborate with us.”

While the EBC and NEBN are forging a relationship, the organization’s purposes are within grassroots governance and an interest in sharing information. EBC is a land trust, whereas NEBN is an information and resource-sharing network. Neither the ECB nor NEBN formally endorse the proposed UNESCO Georgian Bay Geopark.

The Niagara Escarpment, a prominent geological feature in southern Ontario, is the primary among several similar formations in the region’s bedrock. Extending from the Niagara River to northern Michigan, it is the backbone for the Bruce Peninsula, Manitoulin and other islands north of Lake Huron. Additionally, it spans into New York State and Wisconsin, creating a rough circle around the Michigan structural basin within the bedrock.

From approximately 445 million years ago in the upper Ordovician to around 420 million years ago in the lower Silurian era, the rock layers of the Niagara Escarpment represent a 25-million-year period. The rock compositions differ on either side of the Escarpment: the area below and east predominantly consists of Ordovician limestone, while the region on and west mainly comprises Silurian dolostone. Initially referred to as the Silurian Escarpment, this distinction arises due to the geological makeup of the rock formations. The Niagara Escarpment is not formed by faulting. There is no displacement of the rock layers at the Escarpment, as shown by study or rock exposures and drill holes.

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December 16th
7 p.m.

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NATIONAL DAY of REMEMBRANCE and ACTION on VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Sexual & Domestic Violence Services – Ka Naad Maa Go (We will Help you) in partnership with Manitoulin Family Resources

WHEN: Wednesday, December 6, 2023
6:00PM – 9:00PM

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Noojmowin Teg Health Centre
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...Mackinac Straits Enbridge Line 5 tunnel a step closer

...continued from page 1

approve the tunnel permit, with Commissioner Alessandra Carreon, the most recently appointed member, abstaining due to not having served long enough to have taken in all the evidence presented to the panel. Both commission members who voted in favour of approving the permit, Mr. Scripps and Commissioner Katherine Peretick, were appointed by Democratic Governor Gretchen Whitmer,

who has vowed to shut down the pipeline.

Governor Whitmer's office responded to the news by indicating that it was reviewing the decision of the independent commission and noted that there are still federal lawsuits over the pipeline in play and that Enbridge must still obtain federal approvals for the project.

Aside from those lawsuits, the permit approved on Friday clears one of the two remaining major regulatory hur-

dles that face the pipeline tunnel—the other being an assessment by the US Corps of Army Engineers.

The approval did not come with a cart blank for Enbridge, however. The commission imposed requirements for additional risk assessments and safety considerations. Those did nothing to appease Line 5 opponents, however.

...Hunger Report shows food bank use highest-ever

...continued from page 1

their car or eating."

Kathy Mutch, of the Lyons Memorial United Church Food Cupboard in Gore Bay, "we have definitely seen an increase in the demand and need from people using our food cupboard. We try to do one order of food each month and we have seen where there is hardly anything left on the shelves when a new order comes in; and we are trying to let people take a little more than they normally would when they do visit."

"We're barely getting by on one food order per month," said Ms. Mutch. "That little room (food cupboard) now takes about \$2,000 per month to fill with food and other items. The food cupboard is very well used, and people really appreciate that it is there for them to use."

Feed Ontario released its 2023 Hunger Report on November 27, revealing that over 800,000 people accessed emergency food support last year, visiting more than 5.9 million times. This is an increase of 38 per cent and 36 per cent respectively over the previous year, and the largest single-

year increase ever recorded by Ontario's food bank network. A major driver of this extraordinary growth came from people who never had to rely on a food bank before, with two in five people being first-time visitors, a 41 per cent increase over the previous year.

The report highlights that food bank use has been increasing for the last seven consecutive years and points to the progressive growth of precarious work, an erosion of our social support programs, and a failure to invest in affordable and supportive housing as the longstanding drivers. More recently, the spiraling cost of living crisis has made it even more difficult for people in Ontario to stretch their already stretched income any further to afford their basic necessities.

"Ontarians are struggling to get ahead," said Carolyn Stewart, chief executive officer (CEO) at Feed Ontario. "While we are seeing low unemployment rates across the province, working Ontarians are having trouble earning enough income to afford today's cost of living. As a result,

...continued on page 12

...St. Joseph's board blesses nursing home build

...continued from page 1

ty would then own the Manitoulin Lodge building and would decide at that time what the building will be used for in the future. It is not expected that the new nursing home will be ready by June 2025, so St. Joseph's will phase in after June 2025 (when the current licence for the Lodge, operated by Jarlette Health Services) will expire and the new operator will be St. Joseph's Health Centre. And by mid-2026 when the new long-term care nursing home is ready to open, the whole operation transitions to it. Then the Town of Gore Bay will be the owner of the existing Manitoulin Lodge building.

"I don't know what the response time will be from the ministry on the approved motion at this point," said Ms.

Gervais. "The way the approval process works is that there are three steps involved, and each step is a little more detailed." She pointed out at the meeting with Manitoulin Lodge stakeholders, employees, residents, families and town representatives in November, Louis Belanger of Belanger Salach Architecture Sudbury outlined the first draft of plans for the original build of 64 beds, which could be expanded to 96 beds as and when needed. "As part of the process this first draft needed to provide stakeholder feedback. And now a more detailed design will be undertaken based on the feedback that was provided by stakeholders."

"There is a lot of work ahead to be done, but we are really excited to be submitting an application for approval for the proposal-plan to the ministry (this week)," added Ms. Gervais.

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Government of Canada launches three-digit suicide crisis helpline

TORONTO—The Government of Canada is taking an important step to provide suicide prevention support for people who need it, when they need it most. 9-8-8, Canada's new three-digit suicide crisis helpline, is now available to call or text, in English and French, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, across Canada.

Suicide continues to be a serious public health issue impacting people of all ages and backgrounds, and more needs to be done to support those in crisis. This is why the government of Canada has provided \$156 million over three years to the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) to implement and operate the 9-8-8: Suicide Crisis Helpline. As of November 30, an experienced network of partners has

trained responders ready to answer 9-8-8 calls and texts. Responders will provide support and compassion without judgement. They are here to help callers and texters explore ways to keep themselves safe when things are overwhelming.

"Asking for help is a strength, not a weakness," said the Honourable Ya'ara Saks Minister of Mental Health and Addiction and Associate Minister of Health. "There is hope and resources available for people in need. Starting today (November 30), people across Canada have access to an important life-saving service no matter the time of day or where they live."

"While we celebrate the launch of 9-8-8, we must also acknowledge that this is just the beginning," said Minister Saks. "We

will continue to work closely with CAMH, provinces and territories and other important partners to ensure 9-8-8 continues to meet the every-changing needs of Canada's diverse populations. There is no health without mental health, and I look forward to the contribution this service will make."

Mark Holland, minister of health said, "The launch of 9-8-8 is an important step in making suicide prevention resources more readily available to everyone across Canada. 9-8-8 is easy to remember and will provide life-saving services to those who need it the most. Anytime and anywhere, 9-8-8 is always available to help."

Patty Hajdu, minister of Indigenous Services Canada said, "the launch of 9-8-8 is an important step towards providing the

support and resources needed for suicide prevention, including within Indigenous communities. The inclusion of the Hope for Wellness Helpline in the 9-8-8 network will provide a dedicated service to First Nations, Inuit and Metis. It will provide culturally appropriate support Indigenous peoples need when they need it."

"9-8-8: Suicide Crisis Helpline is the result of collaboration across geographies, industries and cultures," said Sarah Downey, president and CEO, CAMH. "With our unique expertise as Canada's largest mental health and addiction teaching hospital, CAMH is honoured to lead the implementation and operation of this life-saving

...continued on page 13

...Hunger Report shows Ontario food bank use highest-ever

...continued from page 11

more people than ever before are turning to food banks for help."

In 2022, the unemployment rate in Ontario returned to pre-pandemic levels, yet food bank use has continued to rise. As detailed in the report, workers are turning to food banks in ever greater numbers, with more than one in six visitors citing employment as their primary source of income. Precarious work is a major driver of this trend, as Ontario's labour market has shifted, with temporary and part-time jobs comprising a greater share of the labour force. As a result, earnings are not increasing as fast as expenses, making it difficult for Ontarians to make ends meet.

"It used to be that having a job meant that you would not need to access a food bank," said Ms. Stewart. "This is no longer the case. Working Ontarians are having trouble earning enough income to afford today's cost of living, even when working multiple jobs or trying to cut expenses."

Beyond the newer trends concerning working Ontarians, inadequate social assistance programs continue to be a longstanding driver of food bank use. As detailed in the report, monthly incomes for social assistance recipients remain more than \$1,300 below the poverty line. These low rates both put people in poverty and make it harder to move out of poverty.

Inadequate incomes are only one part of the story. The lack of affordable housing continues to be a significant

driver of food bank use as more Ontarians are faced with housing costs that require the majority of, or even exceed, their monthly income. As revealed in the report, two thirds of food bank visitors have less than \$100 left each month after paying for housing.

"As a fixed expense, unaffordable housing drives food insecurity and food bank use as it makes it difficult, if not impossible, to afford any other necessities," said Ms. Stewart. "Essential items like heat, hydro, medicine and food become unattainable when a person cannot keep a roof over their head."

In addition to the challenges being faced by Ontarians, the report discussed the challenges being faced by food banks as they struggle to meet this surge in demand. Primarily it notes that food banks were designed to respond in emergency situations, providing support for a short period of time to help get people back on their feet. They were never intended to be a long-term solution or to fill the gaps created by income security and decreased affordability.

"Food banks are continuing to work incredibly hard, but they are struggling to keep up," said Ms. Stewart. "We are hearing from food banks daily that they are concerned about keeping their doors open, let alone keeping supplies on their shelves."

Food banks are not immune to the financial challenges being faced by Ontarians. As the need in Ontario communities continues to grow it is outpacing the available food and financial resources that food banks rely on to provide service. As a result, more food banks are having to make

the difficult decision to reduce service, and some are even worried that they will have to shut down completely.

When it comes to addressing this crisis, the report is clear: food banks are not a solution to food insecurity or poverty: only good public policies that ensure adequate access to income and affordability are able to create meaningful change. The report calls on the government of Ontario to help Ontarians get ahead by improving Ontario's social assistance programs by increasing rates and reducing clawbacks, investing in affordable and supportive housing, and supporting working Ontarians through the development of quality jobs and improvements to labour laws.

"Poverty is a policy choice, and our government has the ability to make meaningful change," said Ms. Stewart. "We cannot let this record-high food bank use become the new normal and we cannot let hunger in Ontario become normal."

The report highlights that food bank use remains at an all-time high with this year marking the seventh consecutive year of food bank use increases. 800,822 adults and children accessed a food bank in Ontario between April 1, 2022-March 31, 2023, an increase of 38 percent over last year and 60 percent over pre-pandemic levels. Ontario's food banks were visited 5,888,685 times throughout the year, an increase of 36 percent over last year and 101 percent over pre-pandemic levels.



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Fine fowl fare

The annual Providence Bay Community Centre Board Fowl Supper was a huge success! The event was held November 21 at the Providence Bay community hall with volunteers serving more than 300 hundred meals, the most than the supper has seen in several years.

...Lions harvest Tim Horton smiles

...continued from page 12

"It's harder than you would think," laughed Lion President Bruce Burnett. "They kept them coming pretty steady."

Little Current Lions who assisted with this year's campaign included Lisa Moore, Margaret Bowerman, Alicia McCutcheon, Monique Lumley, Jocelinne Hillman, Beth Draper, Cheryl Draper, Lori Draper, Bruce Burnett and newest members, Abbie Drollet and Stacey Lewis. Also stepping up to

the cookie decorating table this year were volunteers Wendy Gauthier, Beth Bond, Dan McDonald, Gloria McCulligh, Kim Case, Chloe Bowerman, David Draper, Linda Bowerman and Jennifer Hooper.

Ms. Dubroy noted that 100 percent of the proceeds from the Smile Cookie campaign go toward local charities in the communities Tim Hortons serves. The Smile Cookie campaign has been in operation for 26 years.

...three-digit suicide crisis helpline

...continued from page 12

service that extends into every corner of our country. Today's launch is a crucial step in making sure that everyone in Canada has quick and easy access to suicide prevention support."

The government of Canada and CAMH have worked closely with partners from across many different sectors in the months leading up to the launch. Those partnerships are the foundation of the 9-8-8 network. This includes local partners such as Distress Centres of Greater Toronto and Gerstein Crisis Centre of Ottawa, Crisis Prevention, Intervention and Information Centre for Northern BC, Canadian Mental Health Association Edmonton and others across the country, as well as national partners such as Kids Help Phone and

Hope for Wellness, who will continue to provide dedicated service through 9-8-8 to youth and Indigenous communities. As the 9-8-8 system continues to mature and evolve, PHAC and CAMH will continue to explore ways to build the network and support current and future network partners.

An average of 4,500 people across Canada die by suicide each year—approximately 12 people per day. In August 2022, the government of Canada welcomed the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission's (CRTC) decision to adopt 9-8-8 as the three-digit number to call or text to access suicide prevention and crisis support.

If you or someone you know is thinking about suicide, call or text 9-8-8.

THE WEEKLY WORD SEARCH

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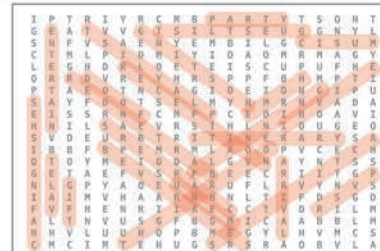
I P T R I Y R C M B P A R T Y T S O H T
G E A T V V G T S I L T S E U G G N Y L
S N F V S A E N Y E M B I L G C I S U M
C T M L P I D M I Y I O A O M R M A G Y
L E G H D R L O E T E I S C U P U F H E
O R R A D V R E Y H R S P P F B H M P T I
P T A E O T N C A G I O E I O N G I P U
S A Y F D O T S E L M Y H M R N V A D A
E I S S R N F C M P P C E D I N O A V I
H N I L S A E V R S T H L N I O U G E O
S V O E U R B T R I T I N E R A R Y S A
I B B F B P E M R M L A O O P V C E C H
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G E T A E F V S R P B E E C R I T G P
N L G Y A O E U A R U F L R V Y N V S
I A I M V H A A E R N H N L T I F D S G D
F V F H E N R I I A E C C T V D R I L M
A L T N V U S G F B G M I C A A B B L M
H H V L U U H O P B M E G Y L H V M C S
C M C I M T E H U G S R S R A O B V L A

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

- ACTIVITIES
- ARRIVAL
- BARTENDER
- BEVERAGES
- CHAFING DISHES
- CHARGERS
- ENTERTAIN
- FOOD
- GIFT
- GUEST LIST
- HOME
- HOSTING
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Visit the Country 103 station (1 Radio Road, Little Current), pick a gift tag from the tree, and get a gift off the resident's wish list!
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For more information please contact Julie Omnet at: (705) 368-2710 x 322 or jomnet@extendicare.com

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In the memo line, please provide the details "Be a Santa to a senior."

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Island vaccine clinics available now

SUDBURY—Public Health Sudbury and Districts (PHSD) continues to offer the updated XBB.1.5-containing COVID-19 vaccines throughout the month of December. The XBB-containing formulations better protect you against the Omicron XBB subvariant circulating across our communities. In the month of December, appointments and walk-in vaccination opportunities remain available.

"Please note that beginning in January, PHSD will no longer issue monthly COVID-19 vaccine clinic public service announcements but will continue to post and promote vaccination opportunities on our website and our social media," a press release reads. "Information on how to book a COVID-19 vaccine appointment will be shared in January. This approach is intended to align COVID-19 vaccination efforts with other routine vaccination programs, such as measles, rubella and tetanus."

The PHSD release explains that additional opportunities to receive a COVID-19 vaccine may also be available through select primary care providers and at participating pharmacies. Visit COVID-19.ontario.ca/vaccine-locations for pharmacy locations that offer the COVID-19 vaccine. "As we approach that time of year when we begin to see rising numbers of respiratory illnesses, PHSD continues to recommend that you stay up to date with your respiratory vaccines, including COVID-19 and influenza, to build long-term protection against severe disease and hospitalization."

PHSD provides information about local activity levels of respiratory illness, including COVID-19 influenza, and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV). Public health also reports data for active outbreaks in the Sudbury and Manitoulin district. This information is specific to hospitals, long-term care facilities, retirement homes, and congregate living settings.

"The seasonal flu vaccine is available at many locations throughout the community, including local pharmacies and health care providers offices. Those receiving a COVID-19 dose at public health clinics will be able to receive a flu shot at the same time until December 22," continues the release. "Visit us online for up-to-date clinic details, including the clinic times, locations, and eligible groups at phsd.ca/COVID-19/vaccine-clinics. Opportunities to access the seasonal flu vaccine may differ throughout our service area each week. If you do not find a clinic in your area, please contact Public Health for more information. High-dose flu vaccina-

tion is not available through local public health clinics."

"Getting a seasonal flu vaccine as soon as it becomes available is important, as it can take up to two weeks for your body to build immunity. Individuals aged six months and older can safely get the seasonal flu vaccine immediately before or after receiving a COVID-19 vaccine," the release notes.

As for vaccination opportunities in December, "Public Health may occasionally need to cancel clinics due to unforeseen circumstances, including inclement weather events that impact clinic operations. In the event a clinic is cancelled, all clients with a booked appointment will be contacted and will be offered an alternate opportunity. For regular updates, follow us on social media @PublicHealthSD on Facebook and X (formerly called Twitter) and visit us online at phsd.ca."

Wednesday, December 6 appointment and walk-in clinics at Whitefish River First Nation Community Centre, Birch Island. COVID-19 vaccine for those six months and older. Flu shots may be available for those six months and older (walk-in only).

Tuesday, December 12 appointment and walk-in clinic at NEMI Recreation Centre, Little Current, COVID-19 vaccine for those six months and older. Flu shots may be available for those six months and older (walk-in only).

Tuesday, December 19 PHSD Manitoulin Island office, Mindemoya. COVID-19 vaccine for those six months and older. Flu shots may be available for those six months and older who have a COVID-19 vaccine appointment.

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THURS 28	11 - 5
FRI 29	11 - 5
SAT 30	11 - 5

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JAN 1 to JAN 10 - CLOSED
STORE REOPENS THURS JAN 11

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WED	11 - 4
THURS	11 - 8
FRI	11 - 4
SAT	11 - 4
SUN	CLOSED

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Dear Santa: _____



Members of the Ontario provincial parliament and representatives of women's shelters across Ontario wore purple scarves on November 29 as part of the Wrapped in Courage event. Among those taking part was Colleen Hill, executive director of Manitoulin Family Resources and Algoma-Manitoulin MPP Michael Mantha.

Manitoulin Family Resources represented at Queen's Park at Wrapped in Courage event

by Tom Sasvari

TORONTO—Queen's Park was Wrapped in Courage on November 29. Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs) and representatives of Women's Shelters across Ontario stood together for a photograph, with everyone wearing purple scarves. The purple scarf is a symbol of the need for action to support survivors of gender-based violence, their children and the services that provide them with vital support across the province. The purple scarves are also a sign of your support for survivors of violence across Ontario. It's a signal of your commitment to turn awareness into action during and beyond Woman Abuse Prevention month (November) and the 16 days of activism.

"Everyone in the legislature had a purple scarf on along with representatives of shelters from across Ontario who had the opportunity to meet their MPPs," said

Colleen Hill, executive director of Manitoulin Family Resources (MFR).

Ms. Hill pointed out at the ceremony, "they acknowledged the list of the 62 women and children who died from gender violence in Ontario this year. This is an increase of 10 over last year, which is awful."

November marks both Woman Abuse Prevention Month and the 11th anniversary of Ontario's Wrapped in Courage Campaign.

"Today, on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, we have released the 2022-2023 Annual Femicide List, illustrating a year of system failure in Ontario. Over the last 52 weeks, there have been 62 women and children killed. There have been 93 charges reported by media, laid against 57 men accused in relation to these femicides, while another

...continued on page 20

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Travellers meet unanticipated wait at swing bridge

by Michael Erskine

LITTLE CURRENT—The last swing of the season went slightly awry last week as the Manitoulin swing bridge failed to completely close Tuesday, November 28 after opening to allow for the annual silica barge passage.

“When the bridge opened at 9 am to let a ship go through there was a bearing issue,” said Ministry of Transportation area manager Pierre Lalonde. He noted that crews immediately went to work and the issue was resolved within the hour.

“The bridge was not designed for colder weather,” noted Mr. Lalonde. “We have on occasion swung it in January, but that was in very mild weather. We have requested that the barge make its deliveries earlier in the season.”

Mr. Lalonde went on to add that the bridge is over 100 years old (in fact, the oldest structure on the provincial highway system) and although designed to take the heavy load of a freight and passenger trains, it was never intended to swing more than a couple of times a week at most. “Now it is swinging every hour on the hour in the summer,” he said.

The final environmental assessments have been completed on the plans for a new bridge and detailed engineering plans are currently underway.

...Wrapped in Courage

...continued from page 18

14 cases were deemed a femicide suicide,” an Ontario Association of Interval and Transition Houses (OAITH) release explains.

“If you notice that you are reading more often about women and children being killed, it’s because you are,” said Marlene Ham, executive director OAITH. “This past year alone, femicides have occurred more than once a week in Ontario. Thirty unique communities have been affected by femicides this year. As numbers of femicides continue to climb year after year we must come together to address the root causes of men’s violence, to ensure we can change these abhorrent conditions.”

“Each name is more than a headline, it’s a family member, a friend, a worker, a neighbour. Every life lost to gender-based violence is one too many. Recommendations from the recent inquests into the deaths of Gladys Helen Ryan, Carol Culleton, Anastasia Kuzyk and Nathalie Warmerdam identify the actions that can be taken. Professionals, community members, government ministries, support services and legislated systems can learn, be accountable and take action through these recommendations to make a difference and prevent further femicides.”

The OAITH reports that, “Since 1990, we are aware of over 1,020 femicide victims who have lost their lives to men’s violence. Every year we release our annual Femicide List based on media reporting of women and children killed by men in Ontario. We work to ensure that we remember the lives lost, bring attention to the violence women experience and take action to move our list to zero.”

When it comes to addressing gender-based violence everyone has a role in taking action.

“One of the key messages that was raised is the need for affordable, accessible housing and food for those that are victims,” said Ms. Hill. “There are victims of violence who can’t afford to move out of a home in a violent situation because they can’t afford housing or food.”

“I had a very good meeting with MPP Mantha,” said Ms. Hill. “He said he would be bringing up these issues and other concerns raised in budgetary discussions.”

During the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-based Violence campaign, you can learn about 16 ways you can help end gender-based violence.

Access the 2022-2023 Annual Femicide List at bit.ly/2022-2023FemicideList.

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Hardwood firewood for sale. Asking \$130 per cord. Call 249-497-4000 ext. 172. Can be picked up at 249 Noble Side Road, Gore Bay. **27-29p**

Mini shed for sale, 8' by 8' with 4' porch, board and batten steel roof. Asking \$3,800. To leave a message call 249-497-4000, ext. 172. Available at 249 Noble Side Road, Gore Bay. Also taking orders for mini sheds, pick your style and colour. **27-29p**

Handicap outside elevator, good shape, \$500 or reasonable offer; electric wheelchair, very good condition, way too big for our house, \$500; Poulin gas leaf blower, very good condition, \$100, paid \$329. Call 705-368-2523. **28-29c**

! notice

Gore Bay United Church Food Cupboard is open every Thursday from 12 noon to 3 pm. Come to the church side door (facing McQuarrie Motors). You will be invited into the Food Cupboard to choose your food items. If you don't have a bag, there are some available. If you have any questions, please call 705-282-2011. Messages are checked daily. Everyone is welcome. **Tfn**

i wanted

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**

Hunting property wanted. Looking to rent or lease hunting property for archery only (not rifle). Looking forward to hearing from you. Call or text 705-920-2440. **29 tfn**

real estate

House for sale, duplex with bonus self-contained granny flat. All suites with private decks, well maintained and clean. Upper suite is 1,700 square feet with three large bedrooms, lower suite has one bedroom with a one bedroom self-contained granny flat, complete with bathrooms and kitchens, three fridges, stoves, washer and dryer. Beautiful yard with fire pit. Minutes away from beach, excellent fishing, horseback riding, ferry and golf. Let tenants pay your mortgage or housing solution for extended family needing housing. Call 705-210-0233, will text pictures to you, located on Manitoulin Island. **29-31p**

coming events

MHC Hospital Auxiliary, Little Current Cookie Walk, Saturday, December 9, 10 am to 2 pm at the Little Current United Church, 5 Robinson Street. All proceeds go to Patient Services. Walk from table to table gathering delicious Christmas cookies! \$25 for a large container; \$15 for a small container. **28-29p**

The Little Shoppe Around the Corner at Knox Church in Manitoulin will be closing for the season on Saturday, December 9 at 3 pm. Open Friday and Saturday from 10 am to 3 pm with 50 percent off everything! **29p**

rental

Gorgeous one bedroom on second floor of quiet, professional triplex. Great location with a five minute walk to downtown Little Current and Low Island Park. High speed Internet, snow removal, grass cutting, washer/dryer, fridge/stove included. Call 705-368-6240 or visit WhatsApp or manitoulinrental@gmail.com for more information and viewing appointment. **22tfn**

One bedroom smoke-free home near Mindemoya with waterfront on Big Lake. Perfect for a single adult. One year lease (min.), first and last months rent, references required. Available immediately. \$840 plus hydro. Call 705-971-4109. **29-31p**

Legion events

Legion Operation Christmas Card. Branch 177 Little Current is taking part in this contest. Let us see how many smiles we can get by sending our Troops a Christmas card. Postage is not required. Address to Any Canadian Armed Forces Member, All PO Box Number Station Forces, Belleville, Ontario K8N 5W6. Deadline is December 12. If you are interested in supporting the Branch, please call Linda, 705-368-2465 with number of cards you sent. **29p**

personal

Senior lady, yoga teacher, vegetarian, herbalist, naturalist, hoping to make acquaintance with others of similar interests. Phone 708-859-2676. **29-31c**

services

Questions or concerns about diabetes? We can help. Please contact the MHC Diabetes Training and Care Centre. Individual and group appointments available with a registered nurse or dietitian certified in diabetes education. Clinics in Little Current, Mindemoya, Silver Water, Gore Bay and Manitoulin. Please call 705-368-2300 ext. 2415 for more information. Self-referrals accepted. **Tfn**

thank you

The residents of the Millsite thank everyone who brought vegetables, fruit and other items for us to enjoy. Your thoughtfulness and generosity were greatly appreciated. **29p**

church services

King James Bible Church, Providence Bay worships every Saturday Sabbath, 10 am to 12 noon. For more information call 705-348-2229. **30tfn**

services

Is alcohol a problem? AA may be able to help. Meetings 7 days a week - visit www.area84aa.org or call 705-210-2135 for more info. **Tfn**

Manitoulin Family Resources offers programs to support and promote positive family relationships on Manitoulin and the North Shore. Violence against Women Prevention Services: Haven House Shelter, Outreach Counseling Crisis Line 705-377-5160; Toll Free Crisis Line 800-465-6788; Children's Services: Early ON Child and Family Centre, Little Current Child Care, Mindemoya Child Care 705-368-3400; Help Centre: Thrift Shop & Food Bank 705-368-3400; Administration 705-368-3400. **Tfn**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 28, 2023

The Town of Gore Bay Announces the Decommissioning of the Old Water Street Playground

GORE BAY, ON – The Old Water Street Playground is set to be decommissioned by the end of January 2024. This playground has been enjoyed by many generations of Western Manitoulin residents, but due to changing safety standards it is time for something new.

The Lions Club of Western Manitoulin and other community members and organizations graciously donated to help build the playground. The Lions were consulted regarding the decommissioning of the playground. They are happy with future planning of a green space and to see the town continuing to provide this space for the enjoyment of the entire community.

The Town intends to transform this area into a landscaped green space with trees and grass for future enjoyment. Plans also include additional off-street parking.

The decommissioned pieces have been offered to the Gore Bay Day Care for their outdoor play area, unfortunately, they do not have the space for any additional equipment. The pieces will be for sale by public notice at a later date. The proceeds from the sale of the equipment will be used for other recreational activities in Gore Bay.

spirituality

Body, Soul and Spirit. "God formed man (his body) from the dust of the ground." GEN. 2:7. Then God breathed into it the spirit of life and man became a living soul. In Greek the word for body is soma. The word for soul is psuche (from which we get the word psychiatry), and the Greek for spirit pneuma. The word psuche is also translated as mind. The word pneuma is also translated as air and breath. All living humans are made up of these three parts. JAMES 2:26 says "for as the body without the spirit is dead." This is a medical fact for when a person does not breathe anymore, a doctor will pronounce him dead. GEN. 35:18 says "and it came to pass, as her (Rachel's) soul was in departing, for she died." When there is separation, a death takes place. This is not only the case when the soul and spirit depart from the body, but also in many other areas of life. In MAT. 10:28 Jesus says "fear not them (humans) that kill the body but are not able to kill the soul; but rather fear Him (God) who is able to kill both soul and body." Basically, Jesus is saying that when somebody kills a person, he only kills his body, but his soul is still alive. REV. 6:9-11 says "when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them who were slain for the word of God and the testimony which they held to and they cried with a loud voice, saying, 'how long, Lord, Holy and true do you not judge and avenge our blood on them who dwell on the earth'." Now remember the book of Revelations reveals in these verses that the soul of people whose bodies are dead can communicate. The same is true in the story of the rich man and Lazarus in LUKE 16 19-31. Jesus is not trying to deceive people into believing that after physical death the soul of that person might suffer in Hell. HEBR. 9:27 says, "it is appointed unto man once to die." We all have an appointment with death. "And after that the judgement; HER. 9:27, we must all appear before the judgement seat, 2 COR. 5:10. You can, like an ostrich, put your head in the sand. You can ignore the fact that you are going to die. Now if you were to die tonight, where would your soul go? Would you find yourself in Hell like the rich man, or like Lazarus in Abraham's bosom? Jesus preached the gospel of the Kingdom. He does not want you to be cast in Hell, but he wants you to enter the Kingdom of God. I have written a book titled 'The Keys of the Kingdom.' I deal with four specific keys, conditions for entering the Kingdom. I am offering it free of charge for all who want to seriously investigate the steps they need to take to enter the Kingdom. Salvation takes place at the beginning of the Christian life, but the Kingdom of God is the destiny of the Christian life. Over 600,000 Israelites who were saved from Egypt did not reach the destination. Most denominations do not preach these conditions for entering the Kingdom. The people in them may be saved, but unless they live those four keys, they will not enter the Kingdom of God. Make it your priority to seek that Kingdom, MAT. 6:33. You may always write me with questions about my articles, the Bible and Christianity. Hank Reckman Prophet of Manitoulin Search for Truth Biblical Ministries Box 210 M'Chigeeng, ON POP 1G0

services

Are you a cancer survivor and need someone to talk to on Manitoulin? Meetings are held monthly on a rotating basis around the Island. The next meeting December 13 meeting at the Mindemoya Town Council Chambers from 2 to 4 pm, but support can be given over the phone. Please feel free to reach out to anyone listed for support. Cancer support group contacts: Bonnie Young, 705-377-4998; Terry MacKenzie, RN (oncology nurse), 705-507-0433 or tandjmackenzie@hotmail.com or Ann Cranstoun, 705-272-7531, bnannc@gmail.com. Ask us your questions, tell us your concerns. **Tfn**

Christian Counselling: Alcohol, addiction, anxiety, children, depression, drugs, faith, grief, illness, marriage, PTSD, salvation, sin, etc. Free and confidential. King James Bible Church, 705-885-8951, cc.manitoulin@gmail.com. **Tfn**

Are you concerned about someone's drinking? Al-Anon has one purpose: Welcoming, giving hope and comfort to help family and friends of alcoholics. Changed attitudes can aid recovery. Stepping Stones Al-Alon Group: Espanola Al-Anon, Tuesdays at 7 pm, Anglican Church, 213 Tudhope Street, Espanola, 705-869-6595. For more information call 1-888-4Al-Anon (1-888-425-2666, M-F, 8 am - 6 pm ET) <http://www.al-anon.org>. For meetings including electronic in Northern Ontario go to OntarioNorthAl-Anon.com. Please note the only Alateen meetings available in Northern Ontario are on a mobile app. Look for the app under Al-Anon Family Groups. **Tfn**

...Ministry of Natural Resources lays 53 charges in 2023 Manitoulin rifle hunt

...continued from page 3
 or for the wrong tag being attached to the deer. During the week, we had seven seized deer that were donated to Gwekwaadziwin Miiikan, which is a youth treatment centre out of Aundeck Omni Kaning. We had two deer donated to the United Chiefs and Councils of Mnidoo Mnising out of M'Chigeeng, eight deer donated to the band office of Wiikwemkoong and three deer to Shkagamik-Kwe Health Centre in Sudbury.

Mr. Chambers said, "Overall, the hunt went well. We were able to speak to a lot of hunters on the Island and answer any questions they had for us. Since the number of tags that were allocated for antlerless deer went up this year, there were more successful hunters, therefore more people were out this year. With more staff, we were able to contact more people throughout the week, which helped us learn more about how the hunt went. As we checked hunters in the field and



On November 24, members of the Manitoulin detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), North East Region OPP traffic incident management and enforcement team (SAVE) in conjunction with the Ministry of Transportation and conservation officers from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry conducted a five-hour Reduce Impaired Driving Everywhere program on Highway 6.

leaving the Island, it seemed that some locations were reporting seeing lots of deer, and some locations having seen not a single deer in their entire week at

camp. This seems to be a recurring event over the years."

"Compared to last year, it appears from our contacts that more does were har-

vested than bucks, and the bucks that were harvested during the rifle season were smaller in comparison to previous years," said Mr. Chambers.

"This year we heard of more of a consistency in deer sightings and harvesting around the Island," continued Mr. Chambers. "There was no real trend for where the deer liked to be. Some hunters were filling their tags in the first few days, and then those from across the street had not seen a single deer all week. It did seem, however, that everywhere we went there were many deer that were harvested in each area, and less concentrated in one."

"The number of conservation officers changes every year and sometimes changes throughout the week of the hunt. In total we had 21 officers on hand throughout the week," said Mr. Chambers. "Some officers stayed for a few days, some officers stayed for the entire week and some worked solely on the water in order to patrol the other islands in the area that are in wildlife management unit 43A or 43B but are not connected to the mainland of Manitoulin."

The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) organized a

four-and-a-half-hour check station which included the OPP Snow-Vehicle, All-Terrain Vehicle and Vessel Enforcement Team, the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario (MTO) and the MNRF. The check station took place on the north end of the swing bridge on Highway 6 on Thursday, November 24. There were 750 vehicles that drove through the check station. Two hundred vehicles were inspected by the MNRF for participating in a regulated activity, where eight deer were seized, one rifle and related ammunition was seized, six deer tags were seized. There were five Part III investigations, and four provincial offence notices were issued. The OPP/MTO issued three Highway Traffic Act Provincial Offences Notices, gave one warning and conducted 31 mandatory alcohol screening tests.

"Thankfully, no injuries were reported to the conservation officers for hunting-related accidents during the hunt," added Mr. Chambers.

Death Notices

ANGELICA EVA JONI BURKE

December 18, 1987 - November 27, 2023



In loving memory of Angelica Eva Joni Burke, December 18, 1987 to November 27, 2023. Survived by her parents Adrian Biron and Tammy Burke and the late Frank Jr. Eshkakogan. Survived by her grandmother Elizabeth Eshkakogan (Frank Sr. baa). Beloved sister to Lyle. Beloved mother to Drew,

Serenity and Vanessa. Survived by her godparents Ben and Darlene Kanasawe. Will be missed by her special friend Christy Bennett, many aunts, great-uncles, great-aunties, cousins and friends. Angelica enjoyed her special moments with her children. She enjoyed creating crafts, making her own things and giving gifts. She had a big heart and enjoyed meeting new people and had an infectious, big smile. Rested at New Community Hall, 5507 Star Road at Sagamok Anishnawbek on Saturday, December 2, 2023 after 4 pm and Funeral Mass was Monday, December 4, 2023 at 11 am. Cremation followed. A Celebration of Life to be held in the spring of 2024. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Canadian Diabetes Association or the family would be appreciated. Arrangements by Bourcier Funeral Home Ltd, Espanola.

JOHN FREDERICK COLWELL

(JACK)



In loving memory of John "Jack" Frederick Colwell who passed away peacefully at Health Sciences North in Sudbury on November 20, 2023, at the age of 85. Jack was the best friend and soulmate of Patricia (Pat) (nee Campbell) for 63 years of wonderful marriage, who he met at his parents' tourist camp

(Fred's Camp) on Lake Kagawong. Much loved father of Robert (Stacey), Randy (Sharon) and Jodilynn. Cherished grandfather of Heather (Thomas), John and Jazmin and great-grandfather to Mason, Max and Jillian. Survived by sisters Shirley Cranston (late John) and Pat Smith (Mel). Brother-in-law to the late Elwood Campbell and uncle to many nieces and nephews. In his early years, Jack worked on building the road to Killarney and was among the first drivers for Manitoulin Transport. In 1966 he was hired as the foreman for the Town of Gore Bay, where he served many roles until retirement in 1996. After retirement, he frequented the Gore Bay-Manitoulin Airport, where he assisted with aircraft maintenance and snow removal. In 2023 Jack was recognized for his devotion to the town and many volunteer organizations as recipient of Gore Bay's Lifetime Achievement Award. Jack was a true outdoorsman and enjoyed camping, canoeing, hunting, fishing and trapping. He was raised with an outboard motor in his hand and developed a natural love for the water. For years, together with Pat, he spent many summers at Sables Lake, enjoying the outdoors with friends and fellow campers. He was a passionate boater and enjoyed countless cruises on both his own vessels as well as those of his sons. He was a private pilot and experienced the beauty of flight in his Cessna 140 aircraft. He possessed a natural mechanical ability to build, invent and create. He and Pat also enjoyed many years of square dancing. Jack was a kind person and was always willing to help those in need. He loved to share his stories with family and friends and will be missed by all who knew him. Family and friends will gather at Simpson Funeral Home on Saturday, December 9, 2023 from 10:15 am until the service at 12 pm with Rev. Janice Frame officiating. Burial will follow in Gordon Cemetery in the spring. Donations may be made to the Mindemoya Hospital Auxiliary. Please share your thoughts, memories and photos at www.simpsonfuneralhome.ca.

SCOTT WILLIAM ORR

October 25, 1966 - November 29, 2023

(age 57)



In loving memory of a wonderful son, father, brother and uncle. It is with heavy hearts we announce the passing of Scott Orr on November 29, 2023 at Manitoulin Health Centre in Little Current. Scott was the son of William and Ella Orr and much-loved father of Jonathan and Jessica. Dear brother of Mandy (Terry) and Tammie (Miles). He will be fondly remembered by cousins, nieces, nephews and dear friends.

His door was always open for anyone to stop by to visit. He had a warm and welcoming personality with a great sense of humour. Enjoyed his coffee, listening to Q92 and admired God's flower. Despite his health complications, he was always optimistic, pushed through and fought so hard. He will never be replaced or forgotten. As per Scott's wishes, cremation has taken place and a celebration to honour his walk on earth will be arranged. We would like to extend a sincere thanks to the hard working staff who were very caring and compassionate during his time at HSN and Manitoulin Health Centre. Scotty could not say enough about the genuine staff. Please share your thoughts, memories and photos at www.islandfuneralhome.ca.

Island

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CHRISTINE MCKINNON HUNTER

January 24, 1958 - October 31, 2023



It is with deep sorrow and much love that we mourn the passing of Christine McGillis McKinnon Hunter of Assiginack Township on October 31, 2023, at the age of 65 years. She was an amazing mother, aunt, sister and friend who was always there when we needed her. Loving mother of Jason. Beloved daughter to Christina and James Hunter. Sister of James and John. Aunt to Neil and Andrew. Christine was a beautiful, strong, kind-hearted, loving woman who always found joy in life, regardless of her circumstances. She loved the simple things in life and enjoyed the peacefulness of the Island. She loved reading, animals, coffee, watching wrestling and going on adventures with her sisters. Christine's pride and joy was her son Jason Talbot; she was so proud of his accomplishments and the man that he had become. Her beautiful smile and bold personality will be greatly missed amongst her friends, family and community. Please share your thoughts, memories and photos at www.islandfuneralhome.ca

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Island

FUNERAL HOME LIMITED

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, P0P 1H0 and the Manitoulin Centennial Manor Fundraising or Manor Auxiliary, Postal Bag 460, 10 Robinson Street, Little Current, Ontario, P0P 1K0. Donations can also be made to the Manitoulin District Cenotaph Fund, Box 656, Little Current, Ontario P0P 1K0 or Pet Save Manitoulin, Box 393, Gore Bay, Ontario P0P 1H0.

Santa came...he saw...he conquered Island streets!



The Polar Express visited the Gore Bay Santa Claus parade on Saturday.



Beck, Ivy, Suri and Rosie wait with anticipation for the Mindemoya parade to begin.

RIGHT: This Super Mario Kart Christmas float, of Island Promotional Products took third place in the Gore Bay Santa Claus parade.



LEFT: Santa and Mrs. Claus visited with children at the Little Current bandstand following the parade.

TOP CENTRE: The Expositor float was all smiles as they made their way through Little Current.



And with a twinkle in his eye, Santa, ably helped by Mrs. Claus, lights the Mindemoya community tree on Saturday night.



The Rob Dearing and Sons 'Gnome for Christmas' float took second place in the Gore Bay Santa Claus parade.



The Manitoulin Snowdusters float won best service category in the Little Current parade.

CHRISTMAS DRAW



From now until 3:00 pm on December 23, every \$50 spent in-store is equal to one (1) ballot/entry into our Christmas Draw for a **FULL BODY MASSAGE CHAIR.**

On December 23 at 3:00 pm, we will draw one (1) name as the winner of our prize. Good luck to all!

1 Vankoughnet Street
Little Current

THIS WEEK ONLY

Family's Best potato chips are **ONLY \$2 a bag!**



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Expositor readers warned of potential fraudulent ad in Nov. 22 edition

by Expositor staff
 MANITOULIN—A quarter-page ad that ran in the November 22, 2023 edition of The Expositor, on page 10, has been identified as a scam and readers are asked to be wary of responding.

“An email came in from a man asking to place a personal ad in the paper,” Expositor publisher Alicia McCutcheon explained. “There was a great deal of discussion about the ad and whether it was legitimate. Our sales manager, Robyn

McGauley, responded to the email and even chatted with the person over the phone. He wanted a proof, made some little changes, the usual things, then signed off that it was okay to run. He gave us his credit card number, which is usual with one-time customers, so we felt the ad was a legitimate request.”

“Personal ads, while not frequent in this newspaper, are not uncommon,” the publisher explained.

The ad was published in

the November 22 edition and sought women between the ages of 59 and 75 to respond to an email. A few days later, once the credit card had been processed, the man claimed the charge was fraudulent with the credit card company. “Our suspicions were once again raised,” Ms. McCutcheon said.

Last week, the Ontario Community Newspapers Association, of which The Expositor is a member, issued a warning about oth-

er newspapers and their readers that had been targeted by this same individual, both in Ontario and Alberta. The ads were nearly identical.

“The safety of our readers is obviously of the utmost importance,” Ms. McCutcheon said. “We’re a newspaper—we fact check all that we do to the best of our ability. Unfortunately, there are things that manage to get by us.”

Ms. McCutcheon urges anyone who might have



responded to the ad to cease all communications with this person immediately. “Clearly, they are not who they claim to be,” she said. “We apologize for any distress this may have caused.”

The email addresses used by this individual are: wade152@hotmail.com and ocean-deep152@gmail.com.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email editor@manitoulin.com or call Ms. McCutcheon at 705-368-2744.

Expositor readers are warned to not reply to this ad that appeared in the November 22 edition.

Two Sea Cadets fare well at Borden biathlon

by Tom Sasvari

MANITOULIN—Two members of the Manitoulin Sea Cadets RCSCC 348 Manitoulin fared very well at the NOA Stage 3a Regional Run and Shoot Biathlon championship held at CFB Borden November 24-26.

Master Cadet Austin Flikweert and Ordinary Cadet Sean Simon took part in the Ontario championship. Denis Blake explained, “There were 16 teams in the junior male category, and our cadets were on one of the teams, which finished 10th overall. Absolutely this is a very good result, we are talking about an Ontario wide competition.”

“I’m sure they learned a lot at the competition,” said Mr. Blake. The cadets had to take part in a one kilometre run

on the course, followed by shooting five pellets at the biathlon target (with a thirty second penalty for each miss) again running one kilometre, shooting and running one more kilometre to the finish line.

“In the winter they would be using .22 calibre rifles while in the run and shoot competition, they use air rifles,” said Mr. Blake.

To qualify for the provincials, the two local sea cadets had qualified through a competition held in Kivi Park in Sudbury in November. Ten cadet corps competed from the Sudbury area, including 348 Manitoulin Sea Cadets. In the junior male category, Master Cadet Flikweert finished third and Ordinary Cadet Simon placed sixth.



Master Cadet Austin Flikweert and Ordinary Cadet Sean Simon are shown getting ready to board the team bus to take part in the provincial Run and Shoot Biathlon championship held at CFB Borden November 24-26.

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28 Michael's Bay Road, Manitowaning
3 Bedroom Home, Beautiful oversized lot in need of some love.
MLS #2113979, \$135,000




NEW LISTING

322 Cosby Subdivision, Lake Manitou
Lakeside luxury living
MLS #2114294, \$1,795,000




NEW PRICE


149 Yonge Street, Kagawong
Riverfront Century Home
MLS #2112936, \$429,000



102 C & D Water Street, South Baymouth
MLS #2105001, \$549,000

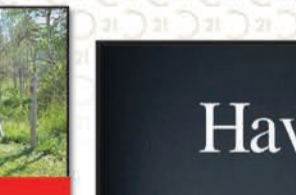


65 Queen Street, Manitowaning
Charming recently renovated century home
MLS #2112877



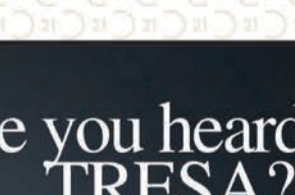
NEW PRICE

130 Laclache Lake Road, Massey
MLS #2111994, \$115,000



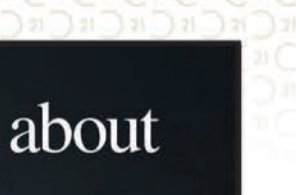
NEW PRICE

36 Hardbargain Road, Little Current
Fantastic Family Home
MLS #2112924, \$499,900




NEW PRICE

327 Hwy 540, Little Current
MLS #2112486, \$648,500




PRICE IMPROVEMENT

N/A South Bay Drive, Manitowaning
MLS #2112756, \$99,000




PRICE IMPROVEMENT

18297 Highway 540, Evansville
Country Home Nestled on 4 Acres
MLS #2113893, \$269,900



PRICE IMPROVEMENT

2128 Highway 542, Lake Manitou
MLS #2112825, \$1,299,000



PRICE IMPROVEMENT

222 Goose Cap Crescent, Barrie Island
MLS #2111281, \$189,900


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MLS®#: 2109612,
\$279,000

LOT 20 Thorne St., Mindemoya
MLS®#: 2112789,
\$57,500

LOT 20B Thorne St., Mindemoya
MLS®#: 2112818,
\$59,900

LOT 23, 2nd Con., Tehkummah
MLS®#: 2112823,
\$235,000

13476 Hwy 542, Gore Bay
MLS®#: 2112862,
\$205,000

12 Cockburn St., Little Current
MLS®#: 2112049,
\$48,000

N/A Cranston Rd, Mindemoya
MLS®#: 2113256
\$85,000

PT1 Hwy 540 Gore Bay
MLS®#: 2113047
\$90,000

PT2 Hwy 540 Gore Bay
MLS®#: 2113046
\$90,000

N/A Walnut Street, Mindemoya
MLS®#: 2113376
\$124,900

190 Old Highway 6
MLS®#: 2109173,
\$129,900

LOT 28, Con 10, Hwy 540,
Little Current
MLS®#: 2114168,
\$59,000

N/A Sucker Lake, Manitowaning
MLS®#: 2113927,
\$99,900

COMMERCIAL VACANT LAND

N/A Highway 540B, Gore Bay
MLS®#: 2113351
\$130,00

WATERFRONT/VACANT

Lot 20 Steven St., Gore Bay
MLS®#: 2109184,
\$350,000

14970 Highway 540, Evansville
MLS®#: 2114076,
\$179,000



71 Corbiere Road,
Spring Bay
MLS®#: 2113707,
\$295,000



2983 White Church Road,
Spring Bay
MLS®#: 2113525,
\$359,000



21690 Highway 540,
Silver Water
MLS®#: 2114024,
\$599,000



29 Phipps Street,
Gore Bay
MLS®#: 2113496,
\$595,900



454 Mordan Noakes Road,
Evansville
MLS®#: 2113498,
\$259,500



FARM
20257 Highway 540, Silver Water
MLS®#: 2112496 & 2112497, \$790,000



20489 Highway 540, Silver Water
MLS®#: 2114389,
\$182,500



NEW LISTING
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MLS®#: 2114394,
\$355,000



FARM
8711 Highway 542, Spring Bay
MLS®#: 2114169 & 2114170,
\$1,300,000



WATERFRONT
PRICE IMPROVEMENT
1368 Bay of Islands, Whitefish Falls
MLS®#: 2113143, \$1,195,000



WATERFRONT
507 Lakeshore Road, Mindemoya
MLS®#: 2110527, \$695,500



WATERFRONT
10 McQuarrie Road, Kagawong
MLS®#: 2113832, \$725,000



WATERFRONT
720B Perivale Road West,
Spring Bay
MLS®#: 2113142, \$339,000



COMMERCIAL BUSINESS
10955 Highway 6,
Sheguiandah
MLS®#: 2111251, \$95,000



COMMERCIAL BUILDING
33 Vankoughnet Street,
Little Current
MLS®#: 2110672, \$529,000



COMMERCIAL BUILDING & BUSINESS
35 Meredith Street,
Manitowaning
MLS®#: 2111178, \$3,000,000



COMMERCIAL PROPERTY
760 & 770 Centre Street, Espanola
MLS®#: 2112574, \$799,900



WATERFRONT
105 Big Lake Dam Road, Mindemoya
MLS®#: 2113937,
\$750,000



WATERFRONT
14399 Hwy 540,
Evansville
MLS®#: 2113097, \$399,000



PRICE REDUCTION
41 Main Street,
Kagawong
MLS®#: 2112479, \$300,000



PRICE REDUCTION
33 Bay Street,
Mindemoya
MLS®#: 2112654, \$799,000



9400 Highway 542,
Spring Bay
MLS®#: 2112319, \$229,900



7153 Highway 542,
Mindemoya
MLS®#: 2112861, \$390,000



195 Limberlost Lane,
Mindemoya
MLS®#: 2111233, \$649,500



3 Campbell Street East,
Little Current
MLS®#: 2111901, \$375,000



Leanne Lewis
705-626-5723



Andrew Rocha
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Windfred Pasveer
289-213-4503



Mitch Paquette
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Adam Rocha
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Northwest facing 1.5 storey cottage with wonderful views to enjoy those spectacular sunsets. The main open concept dining/living room area with cathedral ceiling has access via sliding doors to an expansive deck that overlooks the waterfront and provides new stairs down to the Lake. The living room area has a WETT certified woodstove fireplace with stone hearth to keep you warm on chilly nights. In addition, the cottage features a main floor kitchen, large 5pc bathroom, the primary bedroom and a 2nd bedroom. The large open concept loft area has plenty of room and is presently providing 4 beds for the grand kids but this space has the potential for other uses. As well, the loft has an office space/nook area with a sliding door to an adorable balcony. The detached garage is 20' X 24' and has concrete floors, exposed stud walls and exposed floor joist/plywood ceilings. The garage has a second floor/loft area for additional storage. The crawlspace houses the utilities and additional storage. The crawlspace has concrete block walls. The site is landscaped with grass, flower gardens and mature trees.

A must see! Call now to book your showing!

MLS #2111109
\$550,000

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VACANT LOT ON QUIET STREET IN LITTLE CURRENT
MLS #2113839 - Little Current
\$49,000



666 FEET OF WATERFRONT ON SOUTH SHORE OF LAKE HURON, 19+ ACRES
MLS#2113124 - \$269,000



EXCEPTIONAL PRIVATE BUILDING LOT WITH 159 FEET WATERFRONT LAKE MANITOU
MLS#2112195 - Central Manitoulin, \$259,000



3.42 ACRE WATERVIEW BUILDING SITE ACROSS FROM MANITOWANING BAY
MLS#2112901 - Manitowaning \$149,900



TWO WATERFRONT LOTS 150 FEET WATERFRONT AND APPROX 2 ACRES EACH!
MLS# 2113423, \$85,000
MLS#2113397, \$95,000

NEW CONSTRUCTION



NEW BUILD 4 SEASON HOME 9.3 ACRES
MLS#2114258 - Tehkummah \$499,900



ADORABLE PRIVATE LAKEFRONT COTTAGE IN MANITOWANING
MLS#2112174 - Manitowaning, \$499,000

3-SEASON COTTAGES



SHOP & COMPARE! 100 ACRES WITH HUNT CAMP IN CENTRAL MANITOULIN
MLS#2110511 - Central Manitoulin, \$239,900



SPRAWLING 5 BED, 2 BATH RAISED RANCH WITH 3-CAR GARAGE & 566 FEET OF NORTH CHANNEL WATERFRONT
MLS#2111420 - Little Current, \$600,000



SOUTH BAY ACCESS BUILDING LOT
MLS#2113802 - Manitowaning, \$79,900

INCOME PROPERTIES



DOWNTOWN MINDEMOYA 2 APARTMENT UNITS WITH 90+ ACRES
MLS#2113910 - Mindemoya \$729,000



LITTLE CURRENT INCOME PROPERTY 3 BED, 1 BATH, FURNISHED
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Lori Edwards
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FEATURE LISTING

1161 BAY ESTATES S



MLS 2113220 | \$165,000 | Cottage



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705-348-0067



Rebecca Deeg
Salesperson
705-348-0237



Jack Bould
Salesperson
705-282-8441



Mathieu Page
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705-207-1282

Brokerage Listings

52 Thorne St, Mindemoya
MLS 2111339 | \$549,000

88 Moggy Pkwy, Assiginack
MLS 2114179 | \$89,000

WATERFRONT LOT

6 Sandy Point, Manitowaning
MLS 2112427 | \$244,900

37 Indian Point, Evansville
MLS 2112363 | \$799,000

COMMERCIAL

4 Eleanor St, Gore Bay
MLS 2112816 | \$549,000

PRICE IMPROVEMENT

Bass Lake Waterfront Lot
MLS 2109615 | \$169,000

WATERFRONT LOT

PT LT 16 CON 3, PERCH LAKE
MLS 2114428 | \$48,000

502 Dial Rd, Tehkummah
MLS 2112931 | \$499,000

63 Rainbow Tr, Mindemoya
MLS 2113393 | \$659,000

NEW LISTING

CON A Smeltzer Rd, Tehkummah
MLS 2114399 | \$39,000

0 Doc Strain Dr, Gore Bay
MLS 2109586 | \$89,000

HUNT PROPERTY

79 Sheshegwaning Rd
MLS 2114067 | \$324,900

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LIFE

Styles

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Little Current, Manitoulin Island

Wednesday, December 6, 2023

Gratitude from a Frosty Cup family

by Stephanie Hillyard
with files from
Tom Sasvari

GORE BAY—While the organizers of the annual Frosty Cup Benefit Hockey Tournament are gearing up for the event, coming up with a list of names of those who will benefit from proceeds raised this year, a Kagawong family has expressed how grateful they are for the support they were provided by the Frosty Cup proceeds, as well as the community, to help the family through the first year of their son's battle with Childhood Nephrotic Syndrome.

"In the first year of his (Gabe) diagnosis we were blessed with monetary help from the community, including the Frosty Cup, to help pay some of the expenses. I cannot express how incredibly grateful we were, and still are, to have received that support," wrote Stephanie Burt Hillyard.

"November 2023 marks the fifth-year anniversary of Gabe's diagnosis," wrote Ms. Hillyard. She said she and her husband Dave, "thought it would be a small, short blip in our lives has been something that affects our every day." She explained that in November 2018, Gabe was diagnosed with Childhood Nephrotic Syndrome, a rare and incurable kidney disease. He was two at the time, his little brother Gil four months.

"In 2019, Dave, Gabe, Gil and I spent two weeks living in hospitals, being transferred from our local emergency room to Health Sciences North Sudbury to Sick Kids Toronto," said Ms. Hillyard. "It was at that time that Gabe received a kidney biopsy."

"The pandemic was really hard. With his weakened immune system Gabe's team wanted him away from the public. This meant I (Stephanie) had to take a leave from work to care for him, since daycare and school were out of the question. We had a very small group of people we interacted with and took extra precautions when we had to be out in public. I was off work from March 2020 until September 2021, working only part-time when Dave was able to stay home with the kids. With Gabe's weak-



The Hillyard family is grateful for the community support they have received from the annual Frosty Cup Benefit Hockey Tournament and the community over the years to help the family through their son's battle with Childhood Nephrotic Syndrome. Posing for a family photo are Dave and Stephanie Burt Hillyard and their sons Gabe and Gil.

ened immune system, no one knew what kind of reaction he would have if he caught COVID. We stopped going to playgroup, daycare and church because we just couldn't risk his health. Gabe was registered to start Junior Kindergarten in the fall, but on the advice of our doctors we switched to a home school curriculum for his first year."

"Although we were socially isolated, the silver lining was the ability to spend lots of time in the backyard and frequent video calls with friends and family," wrote Ms. Hillyard.

"In 2021 we spent two weeks in the peds wing at HSN-one in August and another in December. Both times it was just Gabe and I," continued Ms. Hillyard. "With all the increases in pandemic rules Dave and Gil weren't allowed to stay in the hospital with us. We spent a bit of Christmas Day on the phone with Sick Kids making a plan for Gabe. They let us have the day at home with family, but first thing Boxing Day Gabe and I moved back into a room in HSN. I have to hand it to the staff, there are few things worse than being in the hospital over the holidays, but they made sure we are always taken care of."

"After trying two different medications, his team decided the next step was

chemotherapy," said Ms. Hillyard. "Gabe and I travelled to Sudbury twice for two separate rounds of chemotherapy in 2022. Of all the treatments we had tried, this was the one that terrified us the most. What kind of lasting effects would it have? Would it even work? Would he lose all his beautiful hair? We spent the night in the hospital as they wanted to monitor Gabe overnight. The next morning they thankfully gave us the all clear to go home. Other than being exhausted, he was in good spirits and his team was happy with his progress."

"The advancements in medicine and technology have been a huge benefit to Gabe. We trust our team of doctors and nurses and the medications he's been able to receive. There is something special about doctors and nurses who work with kids, I cannot say enough about their kindness and compassion while we've been in some of the darkest and hardest moments of our lives," said Ms. Hillyard.

Scott McDougall, one of the members of the organizing committee for the Frosty Cup told The Expositor, "I think we decided potentially we came up with some names that will receive support through this year's tournament.

...continued on page 3A

Manitoulin Sporting Life

Ice Chips to Canoe Quips by Larry and André Leblanc



Missing OFSAA'er!

In all my talk of OFSAA results, I missed **Brooke Gibeault!** She plays with the Lo Ellen Knights basketball team, and Brooke and the Knights had a super tournament, finishing fourth! They showed real grit in the bronze medal game, coming from behind over and over to finally forcing overtime. What a game to end your high school basketball, Brooke!

Off the Rock, Hockey!

Carter George, coming down after his golden World Junior experience, has continued to stand out in the OHL! Carter is having quite a season, and after playing 21 games already (all but three), he is one of the top contenders by any metric. The league has him at 6th overall, taking into account goals against average and save percentage, etc.

What is even more impressive is that he has managed to attain these great stats despite playing for the Owen Sound Attack! No offense to the Attack, however, the team in front of you has a lot to do with some stats! Owen Sound is 13 and 11 in a tough Midwest division that includes the Kitchener Rangers, London Knights and the Guelph Storm. Congratulations, Carter!

Several former Panther and Island hockey grads were busy at the Silver Stick in Sudbury this past weekend, with some making the finals. Former Panther and Espanola resident, **Jackson Noble** scored in double overtime of the semis to get the U16AA Sudbury Wolves and teammate

Greyson Brewer-Case of Little Current into the finals against Halton Hills, earning him the Player of the Game! A finalist medal was their reward when they fell 4 - 1 to Halton.

Jack Bridgeman and his U15AA Nickel City Sons prevailed in their final, winning it in double overtime 2 - 1 over the Cumberland Jr. Grads. Jack notched the 1 - 1 goal in the second to get them to OT, and the team was well-deserving of the win, outshooting the over-matched Cumberland side 42 - 14. As winners of the regionals, Jack and teammates are off to Port Huron for the International finals in January. Go Jack, go!

An update on **Kohyn Eshkawkogan** and his league-leading North York Rangers. Since I wrote last, he played in the Silver Stick (missed finals) two weekends ago and then this weekend was in the big USHL American Cup.

Kohyn and the U16 AAA North York Rangers went undefeated on the weekend and they brought home the banner after defeating the 2022/23 US National Champions, Bishop Kearney Selects in their home rink!

Kohyn's outstanding 5 on 5 defensive play had him finish the weekend at a +11 in five games! By the way, his team has an active Instagram account at [instagram.com/nyr08aaa/](https://www.instagram.com/nyr08aaa/)

Stay Warm with Dance this Winter

Body Stories Dance Instruction's fall session is coming to an end, but dance isn't over. They have many holiday events to celebrate the end of the year and winter registration is now open!

First they will be at the NEMI Santa Claus Parade on Saturday, Dec. 2 at 6 pm where their Creation and Performance students will be dancing their way along the Little Current parade route.

Next up is the Festive Family Dance Party on Wednesday, Dec. 6 from 5:30-8:30 pm at the NEMI Rec Centre. You can join Candice and the town of NEMI for a FREE night of music, snacks, dancing and fun. The evening will start with a gentle warmup and some dance games to get the party started. They will then have props and follow-along dances and great tunes to help you have a "rocking good time!"

At the LCPS Open House on Thursday, Dec. 14 from 5:30-7:30 pm, some of their senior dancers are looking forward to sharing their fall dances as part of Little Current Public School's holiday celebrations.

Instructor **Candice Irwin** can be reached at bodystoriesdance@gmail.com.



Greyson Brewer-Case earned Player of the Game during the finals against Halton Hills!

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

Looking for a new career?
Check out pages 2A-4A!

Hawewater three-time winner of Muscular Dystrophy Canada Firefighter of the Year award

by Tom Sasvari

NAIRN-HYMAN—While he deflects credit for the work he has done and says it is the great team around him that makes his work easy, no one can dispute that Trevor McVey is a remarkable firefighter and volunteer for Muscular Dystrophy Canada. Mr. McVey, who is originally from Little Current and was born and raised in Espanola, was awarded with the Muscular Dystrophy Canada Firefighter of the Year award recently.

“It is easy to get awards when you have great fire departments and firefighters working with you,” stated Mr. McVey on receiving his award recently in Calgary, Alberta. “All I have to do is nudge and encourage the firefighters and everyone gets involved and works

to support MD.”

This year marked the third time Mr. McVey has been named the Muscular Dystrophy of Canada Firefighter of the Year, having won the award in 2009 and 2017.

“It was an amazing night,” stated Mr. McVey of the award presentations. “The banquet and the entire evening were unbelievable. There was certainly a lot of firefighters in attendance, people who are researchers, politicians and big advocates for MD Canada.”

“The MDC Dr. David Green Firefighter of the Year Award” is presented to a remarkable firefighter who has demonstrated overall excellence through the past year in the areas of advocacy, services, fund development and volunteer

engagement. Trevor has been, and continues to be, a champion for MDC and those affected by neuromuscular disorders. He is a committed volunteer who goes above and beyond in attending required meetings, responding to staff in a timely manner, completing tasks or outreach when requested and includes clients in meetings, presentations and events where appropriate,” stated MDC.

“In addition to Trevor’s previous contributions with the Espanola Fire Department, he led a successful ATV drive fundraiser (in Espanola) that raised \$15,900, an astonishing 34 percent increase. So far this year, seven departments in his area have hosted events or made donations totaling \$72,298,” continued MDC.

Mr. McVey is currently a member of MDC’s National Firefighter Relations Committee, Ontario Provincial Lead Chair and MD Chairperson for Nairn-Centre Fire Department.

Mr. McVey, a member of the Nairn-Hyman Volunteer Fire Department, has been “active with MDA for over 20 years, being named chair of MDC in Espanola in September 1999.”

“For me, all of this is a simple thing because I enjoy it,” said Mr. McVey. “I don’t

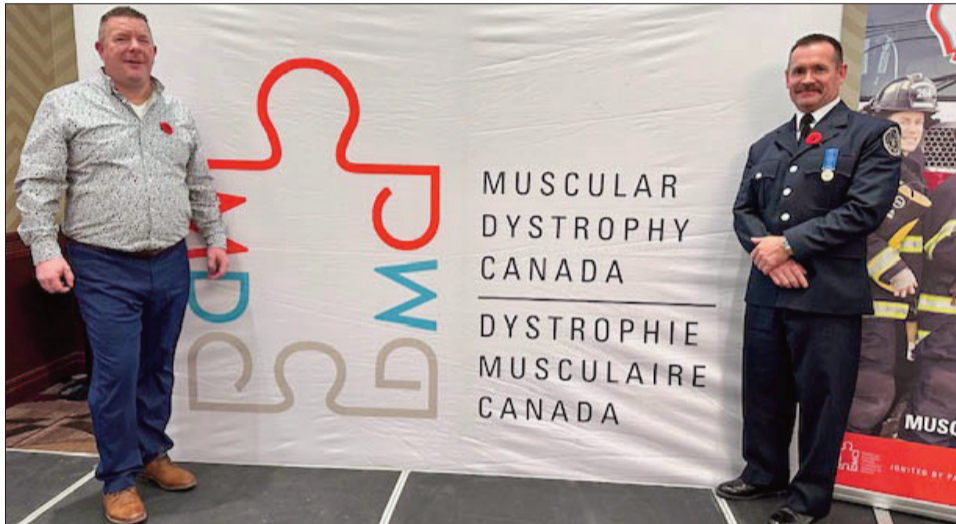
know anyone in my family or friends who have or have had MD. But for over 20 years I have had the pleasure and honour of getting to know people who do. Muscular Dystrophy is our (firefighters) charity of choice.”

Mr. McVey is also deputy mayor of Nairn-Hyman council and works full-time with Brokerlink Insurance.

“At the ATV ride in Espanola (held his fall), the Espanola Volunteer Fire Department raised roughly \$15,000,” he said, noting he

is one of a committee of three that organize the annual event. “About 17-18 (Espanola) firefighters showed up to help out which is a terrific turnout, and everything runs seamlessly. We also had 10 of us from the Nairn-Hyman fire department on hand.”

He works with 11 fire departments in the area encouraging them to host fundraising events. “Once they do, I help them with what is needed,” he said.



Hawewater Trevor McVey, left in photo, was recently awarded the Muscular Dystrophy Canada Firefighter of the year award. This is the third time he has been recognized with this award.

Manitoulin Ice Showdown is back for 2024

MANITOULIN—For the first time since 2020, the Manitoulin Ice Showdown is making a triumphant return to the ice through a partnership with Wikwemikong Tourism, Explore Manitoulin and the Wikwemkoong Anglers on February 17.

Manitoulin Island has some of the best fishing anywhere all year-round. Just ask Bob Izumi who was a special guest at the record-breaking Manitoulin Ice Showdown in February 2020! The showdown welcomed over 700 anglers in 2020, competing for over \$50,000 in cash and prizes on Manitowaning Bay and Lake Manitou.

The 2024 event will welcome back anglers in a one-day derby format on February 17 with a derby social and prize table to follow on the Saturday night. Organizers once again expect participants to come to Manitoulin Island from across the province to compete for huge cash and product prizes. Expect to see popular contests such as the Tagged Fish and Mystery Weight along with the top 10 prizes for each lake. Tickets will go on sale on December 8 along with the full derby prizes to be announced.

The Manitoulin Ice Showdown could not happen without the generous support of



Jason Manitowabi of Wikwemkoong Tourism, Alicia McCutcheon of Explore Manitoulin, Luke Wassegijig of Wikwemkoong Tourism and Ang Peltier of Wikwemkoong Anglers held an organizing meeting to set the hooks for this season’s event

our sponsors and volunteers. To learn more about sponsoring or volunteering for the event contact Jason Manitowabi at jason@wikytours.com

The Manitoulin Ice Showdown is back on two lakes February 17, 2024—don’t miss out!

Tickets will be available soon at selected outlets on Manitoulin and Sudbury just in time for Christmas. Makes a great gift! Stay tuned for more details for the Manitoulin Ice Showdown team as they become available.

Tight lines!

! help wanted

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JOB POSTING

**Student Support Teacher
for 2023-2024 school year**

Full-Time: Monday-Friday (40 hours/week)

JOB DESCRIPTION: The ideal candidate will be passionate for the job with an ability to reach out to each student and create a positive relationship of mutual respect, trust and honesty. We are seeking a teacher to assist students with class assignments, review subject material and prepare for tests and advocate on their behalf. This individual must possess a degree in education or equivalency. Experience working with elementary school children in a classroom environment. Knowledge and understanding of Google operating systems, iPads, Chromebooks, Smart Boards and educational applications is required for this position.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Assist students to learn and understand concepts, assist with completion of assignments.
- Work directly with students from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8 at Little Current Public School (LCPS).
- Work in collaboration with students, parents, teachers at L.C.P.S., AOKFN Education Counsellor, Band Manager, Chief and Council.
- Provide knowledge and instruction to students while helping develop positive educational skills.
- Provide individualized instruction to each student, advocating for the implementation of IEPs (if applicable).
- Working knowledge and understanding of technology and computer skills.
- Access and record students’ progress and provide monthly reports and feedback to Education Counsellor.
- Collaborate with teachers and principal from LCPS regarding AOKFN students needs, challenges and strengths.
- Participate in meetings as directed with teachers, parents, AOKFN Education, Band Manager, Chief and Council.
- Plan and execute educational daily in-class and outdoor activities and events.
- Create an orderly and pleasant learning environment for students.
- Observe and understand students’ psyche and report suspicions of child abuse and neglect, following AOKFN protocol.
- Understanding of First Nations’ history, culture and Ojibwe language skills is an asset.
- Must possess a valid ‘G’ licence and up-to-date first-aid and CPR training.

Interested applicants who meet the qualifications as listed above must submit a SIGNED cover letter, current resume, a photocopy of degree/diploma, credentials and three (3) references with phone numbers to:

Attention: AOKFN Teacher
13 Hill Street
LITTLE CURRENT, ON
POP 1K0

Only qualified applicants will be contacted for an interview.
The successful candidate will be asked to provide a current Vulnerable Sector Check.

DEADLINE DATE: December 15, 2023 @ 4:00 p.m.

Rainbow Schools

Reaching minds. Touching hearts.

Vice Principal, Little Current Public School

At Rainbow District School Board we are leaders in learning, inspiring success for all students by reaching minds and touching hearts. Together, we prepare students to become lifelong learners, achieving their full potential as confident, caring members of society.

Rainbow District School Board is now accepting applications for a **Vice Principal, Little Current Public School.**

For more information about this employment opportunity, please visit www.rainbowschools.ca/join-our-team.

Interested candidates should apply by **3 pm Monday December 11, 2023** and submit a cover letter, resume and names of three (3) references.

David Farrow
Board Chair

Bruce Bourget
Director of Education

rainbowschools.ca

Rainbow Schools

Reaching minds. Touching hearts.

Cleaner - Markstay Public School

At Rainbow District School Board, we are leaders in learning, inspiring success for all students by reaching minds and touching hearts. Together, we prepare students to become lifelong learners, achieving their full potential as confident, caring members of society.

Rainbow District School Board is now accepting applications for a Cleaner-Markstay Public School.

For more information about this employment opportunity, please visit: www.rainbowschools.ca/join-our-team

Interested candidates should apply by: **Noon on Friday, December 22, 2023** and submit a cover letter, resume and names of three (3) references.

David Farrow
Board Chair

Bruce Bourget
Director of Education

rainbowschools.ca

December is here! Though there may not be a lot of snow on the ground yet, MSS is beginning to look festive. With the hallways decorated, Christmas break feels like it is just around the corner. MSS students are getting out of school for their two-week holiday on Friday, December 22—just over two weeks away. In the meantime, there are lots of things to keep them busy. Along with their academics, there are school clubs, community events, and the upcoming 12 Days of Christmas at MSS.

In the spirit of giving, SHARE/Go Green collected \$500 to support victims of the Gaza crisis. From their Give Change to Make Change initiative, which



involved students collecting change from homeroom classes, to the funds raised from the silent auction at the AOK Christmas Craft Fair, students were able to make this sizable donation. SHARE/Go Green's next initiative is designed to raise awareness about world hunger. The 24-Hour-Famine is a challenge for students that allows them to stand in solidarity with those experiencing hunger. On Friday, December 8 students who signed up for the 24-Hour-Famine will begin to fast at 9 am. There will be a sleepover held at the

school for these students filled with activities and educational presentations. At 9 am on Saturday, December 9 the students will have breakfast together with a greater respect for the millions of people living in food scarcity and insecurity.

The MSS robotics team has been very busy these past few weeks. One project Manitoulin Metal has taken on includes volunteering at monthly Community Tech Training events at the Mindemoya Public Library. Here, the robotics team helps people of all ages nav-

igate their phones, tablets, computers, laptops and more. This ensures that everybody can keep in touch with their loved ones remotely. The robotics team is also volunteering at a FIRST Tech Challenge event hosted at Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School. A member of the robotics team, Nevaeh Harper, is emceeding the event, getting the opportunity to speak in front of hundreds of people

about robotics. Apart from their busy volunteering schedules, the robotics team takes time to have some fun. On Wednesday, November 29 members of the team got together for an evening of board games, video games, pizza and karaoke. This was a great time for Manitoulin Metal to bond before their upcoming competition season, starting on January 6.

Soup Day has taken MSS by storm. A long-time tradition at MSS has ballooned into a highly-anticipated get together. Initially started by Mr. Balfe, Soup Day was a way to bring students

across all demographics together to share a pot of soup. The initiative has recently gained attention from other groups in the school who are offering their help. Several parodies of popular songs have been written and sung during morning announcements as promotion for Soup Day, attracting even more students. Some of the parodies include: 'Sweet Potato Soup' (based on 'Sweet Caroline'), 'Hey Soup' (based on 'Hey Jude') and 'Soup' (based on 'Shoop').

That is all for this week! Until next time, go, Mustangs, go!

...Gratitude expressed by a Frosty Cup family

...continued from page 1A

And for the first time the recipients will not only be from the West End of the Island, but this has expanded to Central Manitoulin west."

With the proceeds raised last year through the tournament, the organizing committee members and the Gore Bay Rotary Club and the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 514 in Gore Bay, "were in the enviable position (last year) of being able to give away \$20,000, so we provided four people with \$5,000 each," said Mr. McDougall. "We like the idea of providing support to four people, and we think that we will be able to achieve the \$20,000 figure again this year."

At the organizing committee meeting bringing forward names of potential recipients who could receive support from this year's tournament, everyone agreed with choosing the four people. "Two are from Central Manitoulin, one is off-Island and one is a local (Western Manitoulin) resident, but they all have strong roots to Manitoulin and have supported minor hockey," said Mr. McDougall.

The Legion will again be hosting a fundraising dance on December 16, and the Gore Bay Rotary Club will be manning the bar at the Gore Bay arena the entire weekend of the tournament, to be held December 15-17.

As for Gabe, Ms. Hillyard reported, "currently Gabe seems to be stable. He still has

almost no B cells and his immunity is low so something seemingly simple like a cold can knock him flat. He is on CellCept and iron supplements as well as a multi-vitamin. His medications alone costs between \$600-700 a month, with travel expenses. Work benefits cover a portion of medication costs and we always submit travel grants, but it's still a large extra cost we've learned to adapt to."

"It's still day to day," said Ms. Hillyard. "We visit Sick Kids quarterly, although since the pandemic they've allowed us to do some of our visits remotely. At least once a year we drive to Toronto for a yearly checkup by his team of nephrologists, the others are via a video call. We also have frequent correspondence with them via email and phone. Once a month Gabe goes for bloodwork at our local clinics, and roughly every six months to Sudbury for a full day of bloodwork, where they draw blood every hour or two for most of the day. It's a lot of waiting but we're used to it now. We bring books and Lego, cuddle up and watch movies and eat lots of snacks."

"Gabe is the absolute best," stated Ms. Hillyard. "He is a voracious reader, Lego builder extraordinaire, best big brother and the absolute sweetest kid. He's been dealt some pretty big concerns but he takes them all in stride. I have no idea what the future holds, but I'm hopeful for the future. We have an amazing community and an equally amazing kid."

The Gordon Barries reach Movember goal

GORDON/BARRIE ISLAND—After much patience and endurance, and in some cases much pain and suffering, the Gordon Barries achieved their goal and were able to pose for the end-of-month photo with their new moustaches.

Many were happy to have reached the goal of a full hairy upper lip, with a few rather keen to remove the newly grown 'stache. And in the spirit of inclusiveness, even the municipal staff women employees put in an admirable effort to sport a rather large and droopy number. A few have said they will perhaps keep the moustache and rock a full-time 'mo.' But most importantly, the Gordon Barries were able to raise money for the fight against testicular and prostate cancer, having exceeded their donation



The Movember team displays their 'stashes.

goal (raising a total of \$110).

But on a more serious note, the Gordon Barries are proud to have contributed to the donation drive of Movember. The Movember movement has grown exponentially since its inception in 2004 in Melbourne, Australia, with two chaps sitting at a pub lamenting on how the moustache had fallen out of

favour with the general public, and their aim was to reintroduce the moustache to the men of the world who had, for some reason, bought in the fashion trends of the day. Today, almost 20 years later, we are now seeing more men wearing their moustache with pride and men's health is benefiting from the Mo Movement.

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KINA Gbezhgomi Child and Family Services
Kina Gbezhgomi Child and Family Services (KGCFs) is a designated Child Welfare Service delivering Child Protection Services within seven member First Nations in the Districts of Sudbury and Manitoulin. KGCFs honours and supports our families' and community's inherent authority to care for their children based on unity, traditions, values, beliefs, and customs. **Preference will be given to Anishinaabe Candidates, please self-identify in your application.**

We are now seeking candidates for the following positions:

FULL-TIME positions:
Manitoulin Island or Sudbury:
Specialized Services Coordinator: Closes December 15, 2023

CONTRACT positions:
Manitoulin Island:
Youth in Transition Worker: Closes December 8, 2023
Jordan's Principle Service Coordinator: Closes December 8, 2023
Education Support Worker: Closes December 15, 2023

Sudbury:
Youth Outreach Worker: Closes December 8, 2023
Cultural Enaadaamaaget (Helper): Closes December 15, 2023
Youth Cultural Outreach Worker: Closes December 15, 2023

Apply to: Human Resources at hr@kgcfs.org and quote the position title in the subject line.
All postings close at 4 pm EST.

To view the postings and detailed job descriptions, visit our website at:
www.kgcfs.org/employment-opportunities

At KGCFs we are committed to providing a barrier-free work environment following the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act and the Ontario Human Rights Code. Accommodations are available upon request for candidates taking part in the recruitment process. Miigwetch for your application, however, only those candidates selected for an interview will be contacted. As a condition of employment, the successful candidate must submit the following: a Satisfactory Criminal Reference Check and/or Vulnerable Sector Check (current and within three months of application date), Driver's Abstract and Proof of Liability Insurance.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Noojmowin Teg Health Centre (NTHC) is comprised of a multi-team of health care professions providing community-based services through the use of a holistic approach that integrates both traditional and western healing methods. Our team includes: Traditional Healing & Cultural Services, Primary Care, Mental Health & Addictions and Health & Wellness Programs & Services.

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

Current available positions:

- Mobile Mental Health & Addictions Navigator (Full-time Contract March 31, 2025)
- Primary Health Care Nurse Practitioner (Full-time 1-year contract)
- Registered Practical Nurse (Full-time 1-year maternity leave)
- Traditional Care/Intake Coordinator (Full-time 4-month contract)
- Traditional Knowledge Keeper (Full-time)
- Aging at Home Van Coordinator (Part-time)
- Board Vacancy 1 Off-Reserve Representative

For job details please visit:
www.noojmowin-teg.ca/about-us/employment

Submission Pre-Requisites:
Please submit a cover letter, resume, a copy of registration and list three (3) work-related references


Applications: Can be sent by email at:
info@noojmowin-teg.ca

by facsimile:
(705) 368-3922

or by mail:
Attn: Human Resources
Noojmowin Teg Health Centre
Postal Bag 2002, Hwy. 540
Aundeck Omni Kaning First Nation
Little Current, ON P0P 1K0

To learn more about employment opportunities, call (705) 368-0083 ext. 248.
Miigwetch/Thank you for your interest in applying to Noojmowin Teg Health Centre.

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Position Title: Chief Executive Officer
Remuneration: Based on Education & Experience
Employment Status: Regular Full-Time
Closing Date: Friday, December 8, 2023 – 12 noon

Reporting Relationship
 The Chief Executive Officer will report to the United Chiefs and Councils of Mnidoo Mnising (UCCMM) Tribal Chair and Board of Directors.

Position Summary
 The Chief Executive Officer is ultimately responsible for the overall administration and operation of the UCCMM providing service to six member First Nation communities including Aundeck Omni Kaning, M'Chigeeng, Sheguiandah, Sheshegwaning, Whitefish River and Zhiibaahaasing. The Chief Executive Officer provides advice, recommendations and strategic initiatives to the Board of the Directors. The Chief Executive Officer directly supervises six (6) Senior Management Staff.

Key Areas of Responsibility

- To act as the administrative lead and link between senior managers and the UCCMM Board of Directors.
- Implement all decisions made by the Board of Directors.
- To ensure the UCCMM Tribal Council's Vision, Mission and Values are upheld.
- Support the Board of Directors by facilitating Strategic Planning Sessions and ensure that all strategic initiatives undertaken by the UCCMM Tribal Council benefit the six (6) member communities.
- Ensure clear communication to the Board of Directors including the provision of general updates in relation to the CEO as well as for all sectors within the UCCMM Tribal Council. Provide the Board of Directors with background material, research and information to support the Board of Directors in making sound decisions.
- Ensure that annual budgets are prepared for approval by the Board of Directors.
- Ensure that any budget amendments are approved by the Board of Directors.
- Provide the Board of Directors with quarterly financial reports.
- Ensure that all requirements for the annual audit are met.
- Ensure that meeting agendas, packages and minutes are prepared.
- Ensure that the By-Laws and policies including financial policies are up to date and approved by the Board of Directors.
- Recommend any key policy changes to the Board of Directors.
- Establish key long-term relationships with First Nations, affiliates and government partners that enhance the organization's representation for its members.
- Attend meetings as required – First Nations, affiliates, Indigenous organizations, partners and federal and provincial government.
- Promote the UCCMM Tribal Council Organization and First Nations through strategic public relations and government interactions.
- Ensure that the Board of Directors are supported by proper governance policies and leadership manuals.
- Inform the Board of Directors of emerging trends, threats and/or opportunities.
- Develop and enhance relationships between First Nations Organizations that the member First Nations are part of (ie. Castle Building Supply, Manitoulin Hotel and Conference Centre, McLeans Mountain Wind Farm, UCCM Anishinaabe Police Service, Kenjgewin Teg, Noojmowin Teg, Mnaamodzawin Health Services Inc., Kenjgewin Teg and Ojibwe Cultural Foundation).
- Ensure oversight and provide recommendations and advice to the Board of Directors in relation to all aspects of existing claims and future claims benefiting the member First Nations.
- Provide support in any and all negotiations.
- Ensure regular communication to the Tribal Chair.
- Liaise with the First Nation's Band Managers as mandated by the Board of Directors.

Administration

- Direct Supervision of six (6) Senior Management Staff and ensuring that regular performance appraisals are completed.
- Responsible for human resources, strategic planning and contributing to a positive work environment.
- Ensure that all policies and procedures are updated and compliant with applicable legislation.
- Ensure the management and delivery of all programs and services.
- Development of annual work plans to include professional development relating to position.
- Practice strict confidentiality, privacy, ethical and non-bias approaches.
- Oversee the administration of finances of the Tribal Council.
- Review and approve all contracts and tenders and ensure that any contracts or tenders beyond the CEO authority are presented to the Board of Directors.
- Maintain and review up to date knowledge of all additional funding opportunities to support the UCCMM Tribal Council and its initiatives and ensuring that proposals are approved by the Board of Directors and submitted to the funding source.
- Ensure that staff have the ability to develop their capacity with professional development training.
- Ensure that all personnel files are maintained in strict confidence.
- Ensure and oversee effective communication between sectors.
- Ensure up-to-date knowledge on legislative changes impacting the UCCMM Tribal Council.
- All other duties as directed by the Tribal Chair and/or Board of Directors.

Qualifications and Requirements

- Post-Secondary degree in public policy, public management or related field.
- Minimum 5 years' experience in senior management role, including program development responsibilities and successful legislative advocacy experience, preferably on Indigenous issues.
- Have working knowledge of the Member First Nations of the UCCMM Tribal Council.
- Seasoned, knowledgeable and culturally astute leader who is highly adaptable to change and able to navigate through multi-faceted and complex environments.
- Significant knowledge and understanding of the 1850 Treaty, 1836 Treaty, Articles of 1862, 1990 Land Claim, and Federal Claims that impact the member First Nations.
- Proven experience negotiating and working within strategic partnerships.
- Excellent organizational, strategic, planning and implementation skills.
- Demonstrated excellent organizational management and administrative skills including strategic and operational planning, supervision and performance management, budget management and policy implementation.
- Strong leadership abilities:
 - o Leads, develops, mentors and motivates staff teams;
 - o Leads with diplomacy, transparency, honesty and teamwork.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
- Superior interpersonal skills and able to build and maintain strong relationships; approaches members, stakeholders and all relationships with respect and instills trust.
- High level of integrity, confidentiality and accountability.
- Possesses knowledge and deep understanding of Indigenous traditions, Indigenous issues and challenges and the relevant history and political landscape.

OTHER

- Self-motivated, ability to work independently and is team oriented.
- Have excellent time management skills and ability to multitask and prioritize to meet deadlines.
- Strong interpersonal and decisions making skills, analytical and problem-solving skills for nature of the work Must have knowledge and understanding of Anishinaabe culture, traditions and customs.
- Understanding and fluency of the Ojibwe language is an asset.
- Must have a valid Class "G" Driver's Licence.

Mail/drop off (no fax or email submissions) 1) cover letter 2) resume 3) copy of valid Ontario driver's licence 4) three work-related letters of reference including at least one from a direct supervisor/manager 5) current (within the past 3 months) criminal record check. Thank you for applying but only those candidates who are selected for an interview will be contacted.

Mark "Confidential-CEO" to:
Tribal Chair Chief Patsy Corbiere
 United Chiefs and Councils of Mnidoo Mnising
 Box 275, M'Chigeeng, ON, P0P 1G0



Manitoulin Secondary School

PLAYER PROFILE

by Mackenzie Green




XAVIER MARA

Whether it be breaking personal bests on the field, conquering the court or making layups, Xavi is always looking for an opportunity to be involved! Being exposed to a variety of athletic activities over the years has helped Xavi to acquire a variety of skills and knowledge to be successful in the world of high school athletics. In his second year on the Mustang roster, Xavi has established himself as a versatile player, ready to jump on any team with an open mind. With his love of sports and commitment to fun, Xavi is set for an awesome second half of his athletic career at MSS!

Before becoming a Mustang, Xavi could be found styling the glamorous green of the Assinack All-Stars. Even in his elementary years, Xavi jumped on any opportunity to be active, participating in cross country, three pitch, soccer, flag football, hockey and track. Xavi notes that he loved playing each sport offered at his small school, but needed a little extra encouragement to join the cross country team until he reached Grade 6.

At this time, in-person school and sport was disrupted with the COVID-19 pandemic. Although the virus prevented Xavi from playing volleyball or basketball in his intermediate years at APS, he didn't let it stop him from staying active. Using the time at home to his advantage, Xavi began to take running more seriously, gearing up for his first rookie cross country season.

Without a doubt, his hard work paid off! Competing in the black and gold on the trails for the first time, Xavi captured a gold medal at NSSSA. In the Northern Ontario qualifier, he took eighth place, buying him a ticket to OFSAA cross country at Lakefield College. In the following track season, Xavi won both the 1500m and 3000m at NSSSA, allowing him to make a second NOSSA appearance where he came home with a bronze in the 3000m. Even with such outstanding results, Xavi just missed the mark in qualifying for OFSSA track and field. As many would feel discouraged, Xavi recognizes this as one of his most memorable moments in sport, using it as motivation to improve. Xavi did just that, taking home the title of NSSSA junior boys' cross country champ and making his way back to OFSSA cross country. As he waited to whip out his spikes again for track season, Xavi played on the basketball and snowboarding teams. Finally, he was able to hit the track again, competing in steeplechase, the 1500m and 3000m at NOSSA. This year, Xavi competed on the senior cross country team, helping them to make it back to OFSAA in Toronto.

Mustangs athletics is not the only time you will catch Xavi sporting the black and gold. Throughout the school year, he is also a member of the robotics team, exploring his interest in engineering. Xavi explains that he has a passion for building and designing things, making robotics a perfect match.

When not competing for MSS, Xavi uses his time to stay involved in the community. In previous years, Xavi could be spotted working at the Mindemoya Museum. However, after obtaining his National Lifeguard certification, he began teaching swimming lessons. Swimming is also an activity that Xavi enjoys on his own time, as well as working out and running. When the weather becomes too cold to participate in these summer activities, Xavi will dust off his snowboard, challenge others to a game of chess or sharpen his skills in one of his favourite video games, Minecraft.

Amid his busy schedule, Xavi finds time to stay on top of his school work, showing as much dedication to his academics as athletics. He is especially keen on mathematics, loving the challenge of problem solving. Treating each question as a puzzle is a strategy Xavi uses to allow him to thrive in the subjectively tough subject. His interest in math and robotics has led him to explore the option of pursuing a career in engineering following graduation.

With Xavi's ability to always show up with a smile on his face and hard work to pursue his passions, his current accomplishments as a Mustang are sure to only be the beginning of Xavi's success!

Proud Supporter of our
MSS Mustangs



368-3565
282-2496
Randy Noble

Proud support of our
MSS Mustangs

Helping you get in the game



breakaway

sports and cycle

your local destination for sports gear
and apparel.

A proud cheerleader for all island
athletes and their journey to the top!