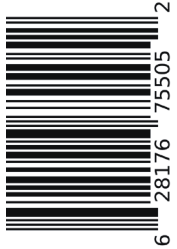


Spring/
Summer

HAWEATERS *Guide*

with this issue



The MANITOULIN EXPOSITOR



FISHING • YACHTING • CAMPING • HUNTING

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Little Current, Ontario

Wednesday, June 12, 2024

Linda Debassige elected first woman Grand Chief of Anishinabek Nation



Twenty-eight chiefs from across the Anishinabek Nation line up behind Linda Debassige, including, directly behind her, Wiikwemkoong Ogimaa Rachel Manitowabi, in Ms. Debassige's bid for Grand Council Chief of the Anishinabek Nation. Ms. Debassige was elected in a landslide win. **Ryan Peplinski**

SUDBURY—Linda Debassige of M'Chigeeng First Nation has become the first-ever Anishinabekwe Grand Council Chief for the Anishinabek Nation.

Candidates participated in the stand-up election June 5, with the vote results being 28-9 in favour of Ms. Debassige. She will serve as the grand council chief for the 2024-2027 term.

"I look forward to following in the footsteps of all the great leaders who have served the Anishinabek Nation before me, and letting the experience of our ancestors continue to guide me in my work every day," Grand Council Chief Debassige said in a release. "It's time for us to rise up and rise together. I look forward to rising up with Anishinabek Nation leadership and E'Dbendaagzjig. I am incredibly grateful and humbled to be here today."

Linda Debassige served on M'Chigeeng band council in 2013 and was chief of the First Nation from 2015-2023. She previously served as Political Advisor to former Grand Council Chief Patrick Madahbee. She has also served as a First Nation trustee on the Rainbow District School Board and is currently serving as vice-chair.

After the election, Assembly of First Nation Chief Cindy Woodhouse congratulated Grand Council Chief Debassige. "Her advocacy efforts, particularly in advancing priorities such as the right to safe drinking water, have been critically important to our nation. I look forward to her continuing leadership within the Anishinabek Nation."

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Big week for Canadian military, past and present, on Manitoulin

Roy Eaton represents Manitoulin at D-Day 80th event

by Michael Erskine

NORMANDY, FRANCE—With parachutists floating down from the heavens and military jets roaring overhead, crowds numbering in the tens of thousands gathered on the beaches of Normandy to commemorate the June 6, 1944 Allied landings that heralded the liberation of Europe from the grip of Nazi oppression. Manitoulin residents may have noticed the absence of our own Roy Eaton, a regular fixture at Legion events, from the Decoration Day observances this year—the reason is he and his wife Margaret were among those thousands standing sentinel at Juno Beach.

"We were in a very bad position," he noted. "We got there two hours ahead of everything and there were 10,000s of people. We found a little spot for our crew way over on the side and we were looking directly into the sun at a smaller screen. So, you know, the experience was not as great as it could be. Probably the best thing was the parachuters coming down. I took a video."

The trip was far from a disappointment, however. "What impressed me more, and it was not that segment, but what we've been through for the last five days."

"The last number of days that we've been here, as we go to each of the three beaches, we

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SPECIAL DELIVERY VIA CHINOOK—A Royal Canadian Armed Forces Chinook helicopter lands at the playground area at Charles C. McLean Public School.

photos by Tom Sasvari



RCAF HONOURS GORE BAY TEACHER—Lieutenant Colonel Richard Harris presents a Royal Canadian Armed Forces '100 Coins to 100 Canadians' coin to Charles C. McLean teacher Heather Jefkins at a special visit he and other members of the RCAF made to the school last Friday for the special presentation.

Chinook helicopter makes surprise Friday landing at Gore Bay schoolyard, teacher honoured for military support Heather Jefkins, armed forces advocate

by Tom Sasvari

GORE BAY—Charles C. McLean Public School teacher Heather Jefkins was in tears well before a Royal Canadian Armed Forces Chinook helicopter even landed at the school's playground last Friday, and this was before she was deservedly presented with a special RCAF Centennial Coin. She believed the helicopter's arrival was a surprise for her and her Grade 3-4 class as part of her 'Flat Stanley' penpal program.

A few minutes after landing, Lieutenant Colonel Richard Harris (Commanding Officer) of the 450 Tactical Helicopter Squadron made a special pre-

sentation to Ms. Jefkins for her numerous contributions to the Canadian Armed Forces, including the creation of Operation Flat Stanley, Operation Troop Support (Christmas care packages to members of the Canadian Forces serving in other parts of the world) and her designation 11 years ago as an Honorary United Nations Peacekeeper (exemplifying her dedication and service).

"Please come forward," Lieutenant Colonel Harris requested Ms. Jefkins, as troops from the RCAF helicopter and all C.C. McLean students and staff

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Justin Roy, now 99, landed at Juno on D-Day

by Expositor staff

ARIZONA—M'Chigeeng band member Justin Roy is Manitoulin Island's last known remaining Second World War veteran. Nearing the centenary mark, Mr. Roy now makes his home in Arizona, but in 1943, at age 19, he was a strikingly handsome young Anishnaabe with a hankering for adventure. Like many young men on M'Chigeeng he travelled south to Toronto to enlist in the Canadian Forces.

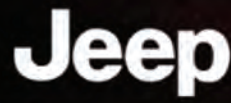
He originally wanted to join the paratroopers, like fellow M'Chigeeng band member Rene Cada baa would later do, or possibly the air force, but that dream was derailed by a lack of education. So, Mr. Roy settled on joining the regular army and was assigned to the 3rd division of the Canadian Expeditionary Force.

Following his initial training at the CNE grounds, Mr. Roy would eventually find his way to Britain for advanced training, where life was relatively quiet and uneventful—at least until June 6, 1944, D-Day. England was a bustling hive of activity in the weeks leading up to the first week of June as the western Allied nations prepared to assault Fortress Europe so everyone, including the Nazi defenders, knew an invasion was imminent.

"We were told the day before (that they were to be deployed)

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MANITOULIN CHRYSLER



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The Manitoulin *West* Recorder

Sheguiandah roundhouse destroyed in early morning fire



NEMI Fire Department responded to an early morning fire June 4 at the Sheguiandah roundhouse. The fire has been deemed suspicious in nature, the second such suspicious fire in the community since April 24.

photo by Michael Erskine

Second suspicious fire in the community since late April

by Michael Erskine

SHEGUIANDAH FN—A roundhouse that was the dream project of Sheguiandah Elder Gord Waindubence baa and the site of many important Anishinaabek Nation gatherings and ceremonies was destroyed in an early morning fire on Tuesday, June 4 that remains under investigation.

Firefighters from the NEMI Fire Department responded to the blaze around 5:30 am and, although the firefighters were quickly able to “knock the fire down” and completely cleared the scene after a three-hour battle, the structure was completely engulfed by the time the firefighters were on the scene.

“When we got here the propane tanks were already venting off,” said NEMI Fire Chief Duane Deschamps at the scene.

Given the extent of the damage, the fire likely started on the lake side of the building, out of sight of the main road and at the opposite side from the propane tanks.

This is the second fire with deep personal connections to

the Waindubence family to take place within the past few weeks, the first resulting in the destruction of a historic decommissioned Anglican Church whose reconstruction was the dream project of Clara Waindubence baa.

Luckily, no one was injured in either blaze.

UCCM Anishinaabe Police Service Staff Sergeant Brad Mack confirmed the police are investigating the fire with the assistance of the OPP, but no cause has yet been determined.

An emotion-charged pipe carrier gathering was held at the site in the following day, officiated by Chop Waindubence, son of respected elder Gord Waindubence.

Renovations and repair of the Roundhouse and Community Centre was the subject of heated debate at the Sheguiandah First Nation council table, with Councillors Orville and Jake Aguonie arguing the building would be too expensive to repair and should be torn down.

...continued on page 7

Long-awaited Gore Bay Airport terminal building set to open soon

by Tom Sasvari

GORDON/BARRIE ISLAND—While all the work taking place at the Gore Bay-Manitoulin Airport will not be entirely complete until this fall, the new terminal is expected to be open and operational by the end of this month or soon after.

“It will be a showpiece to welcome all aviators and visitors to Manitoulin Island,” stated

Lee Hayden, reeve of Gordon/Barrie, which, along with the Town of Gore Bay and Burpee and Mills Township, own and operate the airport.

“It’s very welcome news that the terminal and the entire project is nearing completion,” said Reeve Hayden. “I’ve been in the terminal building, and it is going to be very nice.”

Airport Manager Robbie Col-

well said, “Nearly five years have passed since approval for funding from the Rural and Northern stream of the Investing in Canada Program (ICIP) was received for improvements to the Gore Bay-Manitoulin Airport. The construction project included a new air terminal building, helipad and emergency stand-by generator.”

“Excitement is now brewing at the airport as the finish line for the new air terminal building is now in sight,” said Mr. Colwell. “The modern, bright and spacious new building will soon be the headquarters for airport operations as well as many other airport support services and client amenities.”

Mr. Colwell explained the

...continued on page 7

Manitoulin Centennial Manor tops in resident satisfaction

by Michael Erskine

LITTLE CURRENT—Manitoulin Centennial Manor Administrator Don Cook could not admit he was totally surprised when the Manor scored high on a resident’s satisfaction survey, noting that he, along with the rest of the management team, has great pride in the care and dedication of his frontline staff. But he was pleasantly surprised to learn that the Manor came in at the top of the ranks when the results were tallied. The Manor came in first among the 125 Extencicare-managed homes in Ontario.

“This is a very special award,” noted Mr. Cook. “It’s special because it reflects on the entire staff. This has come about because of the work of everyone on staff here at the Manor.”

Resident and family feedback is crucial to improving care, he noted, “that’s why each year Extencicare conducts experience surveys with residents and their families in every Extencicare

...continued on page 8



Manitoulin Centennial Manor staff gather with some residents to celebrate the news that the long-term care home had achieved the highest score in an experience survey conducted across the 125 nursing homes managed by Extencicare. Manor Administrator Don Cook holds the coveted trophy that will be displayed in a case in the nursing home lobby.

photo by Michael Erskine

Drug search warrant leads to arrest of wanted party Mitchell Gillingham

Accused wanted on previous incident April 19

M’CHIGEENG—Shortly before 7 pm on Monday, June 3, UCCM Anishnaabe Police Service, the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Emergency Response Team (ERT) and the OPP Tactical Rescue Unit (TRU) executed a search warrant at apartment 1-36 Tikmeg Road, M’Chigeeng First Nation. The female resident of that apartment, Sarah Migwans Bayer, 23, surrendered to police and was taken into custody.

During the search Mitchell Osama Gillingham, 33, of Windsor, was arrested following lengthy negotiations with police. Police located the male suspect in the attic with a handgun. Neighbours were evacuated for their safety and residents in homes in the surrounding block were asked to shelter in place. The subject attempted to evade police by breaking through the attics of neighbouring units. How-

...continued on page 7

New campground, RV site will open this summer near Gore Bay, Priddle Park

by Tom Sasvari

GORDON/BARRIE ISLAND—A portion of the first phase for a new trailer, recreational vehicle and tenting campground is going to be opened in mid-summer in a location just outside the town of Gore Bay and in Gordon and Barrie Island township.

“A campground is really needed in the Gore Bay area,” stated Cole McLaughlin one of the developer/proponents of the project along with his father Hugh, said after a Gordon/Barrie Island public and municipal council meeting last week. “We are hoping to begin to have the first phase of the plan done and open before the end of June.”

Lee Hayden, reeve of Gordon/Barrie Island township municipality told The Expositor, “Council passed a site-specific zoning amendment to allow the campground proponents to develop the plan.”

“The project will be phased

in,” said Reeve Hayden, who noted one of the requirements the proponents needed to have carried out by the MTO was a traffic impact study, which showed there will be no impacts on traffic.

“It is definitely development

that is welcomed,” said Reeve Hayden. “Council definitely recognizes the need for this type of campground in the township.”

The public meeting held as

...continued on page 8

Tehkummah ditches reeve title in favour of mayor

TEHKUMMAH—Tehkummah Township council has unanimously voted in favour of changing the name of reeve to mayor and deputy reeve to deputy mayor.

“A bylaw was passed by council to change the name of the title of heads of council from reeve to mayor and from deputy reeve to deputy mayor,” said Mayor John Deforge, after a council meeting last week.

Mayor Deforge said, “the name reeve is usually used in smaller townships and mayor is used in the larger municipalities. We are trying to move out of the dark ages by passing this bylaw to change the names.”

Mayor Deforge said, “the previous council had tried to make these changes.” However, the previous council “shot down the idea. The current council passed the bylaw unanimously.”

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opinion

editorial

D-Day 80th anniversary reminds us to 'Stand on Guard'

They grow old, those members of the 'Greatest Generation' who laid their lives on the line storming the beaches of Normandy 80 years ago June 6. (Editor's Note: For those too young to have heard the term before, 'The Greatest Generation' refers to those who preceded the Boomer gang. It was they who endured the hardships of the Great Depression, who defended democracy on distant shores with their life's blood).

Their ranks grow ever thinner and this year's commemoration of the D-Day landings on Juno Beach, where over 20,000 men of the Canadian 3rd and 2nd Divisions stormed ashore to liberate Europe and defend democracy, will likely be the last milestone event where veterans, each at least 90 and many over 100, will take part.

The term 'Lest We Forget' has been so oft repeated that we are in danger of forgetting just what those words mean.

Today we stand at the brink, just as those members of the Greatest Generation did in 1938.

Our Western populations have lived largely in peace and plenty (for those younger generations concerned about their future—look up just what the Great Depression entailed) since those thousands of sacrifices bled into the waters of the English Channel. It has been a hard-won peace and prosperity.

In the post-First World War years, Western democracies beat their swords into plowshares, quite literally—the West disarmed and butter concerns far outweighed any thoughts of guns. After all, it was "the war to end all wars." World peace would be assured by the League of Nations.

The strongmen of the world took note. Two names that will live forever in infamy, Germany's Hitler and the Soviet Union's Stalin, hatched a plan to carve up Poland between them, convinced the West would stand aside with its empty

hands, helpless to intervene. While the Russian Empire (let's face it, that is what it was and is, regardless of its current label) later became our allies against the Nazi regime after being betrayed and invaded by Germany, we tend to forget that salient fact.

The US has maintained a certain 'Pax America' under which our nation has sheltered since the end of hostilities circa 1945 and the threat of nuclear annihilation, appropriately labeled with the acronym MAD (Mutually Assured Destruction), led to a Cold War in which brinkmanship never really reached the fever pitch to make that cold war so hot (albeit close run with the Cuban Crisis).

In the meantime, it seems we have forgotten. Only a strong and determined alliance of democracies can rein in the dreams of world domination of strongmen and fascists.

For those wondering what the attraction of The Donald is for our neighbours to the South, the lessons of 1938-42 and US isolationism can prove enlightening. A good many "independent" voters believe the bone spur warrior will keep them out of "foreign" wars. US isolationism is far from dead. US isolationists should perhaps forget the Alamo and remember Pearl Harbour. Stand with your hands in your pocket long enough when a brawl is going on and someone is going to take a poke at you too. Together we stand.

As for our own politicians, it is long past time we reinvigorate our military. Although the Canadian Armed Forces are far from the paper tiger some social media warriors might suggest, our nation still needs to up its game considerably.

It may not be politically popular, but we need to invest a little less in butter and a bit more in guns—it's not pleasant or "sunny" but we neglect defence to our peril, literally. We need to do it today, not tomorrow.

letter

Cyclist praise for Manitoulin's paved shoulders

Now if we can just get Highway 542 paved on its entire length

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is an open letter to the Honourable Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, Ontario Minister of Transportation, and has been reprinted here at the author's request.

Re: Highway 542, Manitoulin Island
Manitoulin Island Cycling Advocates (MICA) would like to take this opportunity to thank MTO for granting Manitoulin Island road safety infrastructure in the form of paved shoulders on three of four provincial highways.

These paved shoulders receive praise from OPP, EMS, fire chiefs and school bus drivers, as they allow drivers to pull over safely for them. They help to keep our Amish population much safer and have helped MICA's work since 2010. Manitoulin Island is now known as one of Ontario's and Canada's best cycle destinations. Many of Manitoulin's accommodation providers report more than 20 percent of their annual income is due to cycle tourism.

We applaud your goal of getting people moving and connecting communities efficiently and safely for all modes of transportation. The province-wide cycling network plan shows Hwy 542 for most of its length as the planned cycle route.

Highway 542 has received work in 2023, and we believe is still under warranty. To everyone's consternation it was done in such a subpar standard, that in spring of 2024 we experience this road worse than it was before the work in 2023.

Lanark County studies have clearly shown that paved shoulders are cheaper when the cost is calculated over five years. Australian studies showed, that roads with paved shoulders are safer for all road users (41 percent less car accidents).

We are advocating for adding paved shoulders for the safety of all road users in Northern Ontario, where winters are harsh, and in spring the dirt shoulders become very soft and dangerous to pull over. We are happy to see cross ministerial input sought in your committees. Moving people is so very much interrelated with the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Tourism and the Ministry of Education.

MICA advocates for resurfacing Hwy 542 for its entire length with paved shoulders. Hwy 542 is heavily used by ferry departure anxiety driven traffic, by low speed farm traffic, by the Amish families travelling by horse and buggy. Hwy 542 is, in many portions, part of the 850km suggested cycle routes found on Manitoulin used by thousands of cyclists every year for three of the four seasons. Hwy 542 travels through 3 municipalities, it is in very rough condition, and very narrow for the safety of all vehicular traffic.

Sincerely grateful for your work and insight. Looking forward to your response,

Maja Mielonen
Manitoulin Island Cycling Advocates
Mimdemoya

MP Hughes flags start of Pride Month in House of Commons

OTTAWA—Algoma-Manitoulin-Kapuskasing MP Carol Hughes took the opportunity to highlight the start of Pride Month on the first sitting day of June and to flag some of the major events happening in Algoma-Manitoulin-Kapuskasing. "This past weekend, Elliot Lake Pride kicked off Pride

month with a rainbow flag raising, a karaoke night and a rainbow dinner," said MP Hughes, in a press release. "But that is just the beginning. Le Conseil des Arts de Hearts is hosing Cabaret Queer on June 7 with drag queen Mona de Grenoble. Pride Manitoulin kicks off on June 6 with a parade in Shesheganing

First Nation on June 8. Espanola pride's second Pride weekend is June 21 and the Pride Family Colour Run in Wawa is June 29." Additionally, MP Hughes took the opportunity to highlight the accomplishments of one constituent in particular. "I also want to take a moment to recognize my constituent

Douglas Elliott, who has dedicated his life to the LGBTQ+ community and was instrumental in winning a legal battle against the government for their role in the LGBTQ Purge. Douglas was on hand to break ground on the National LGBTQ+ "Thunderhead" Monument last month.

Shesheganing First Nation holds Pride Parade and dance



ABOVE and BELOW: Youth participate in Pride Parade Photo provided by Shesheganing Pride Committee.



Kiara Genereux left, and Caeley Genereux pose with their mother, Lesley McLean (centre)



Pride Committee is joined by Pharaoh Moans (far left) and Sapphire Flame second for right, along with costumed participants. photo by Jacqueline St. Pierre



Bluegrass in the Country draws large and happy crowds

by Tom Sasvari
 PROVIDENCE BAY—If it was great music you wanted, the annual Bluegrass in the Country event held in Providence Bay certainly filled the bill. The event is held annually to support our tremendous Manitoulin Special Olympics athletes.

Despite less-than-ideal weather conditions for the event held this past weekend, there was a good-sized crowd on hand on Friday evening, with the music taking place inside the Providence Bay arena.

“This event started in 2009 and we would have been celebrating our 15th anniversary this year if not for COVID,” said Ben Lentir, chair of the volun-



David Peterson and 1942 headlined the mainstage on Saturday. It was nip and tuck for the popular band to make it onstage as they had travelled all the way from Tennessee experiencing automobile trouble.

proud to be Manitoulin Islanders!”

Ms. Mercer introduced each of the performers Friday evening, which included 2nd Line Bluegrass, Ben Lentir and the Lentir Family, Gran-

just shows again that we have so much musical talent on the Island.”

Mr. Lentir said, “It is wonderful to see the love going on in the community, in support of our Special Olympic athletes.”



Ben Lentir, chair of the volunteer organizing committee for Bluegrass in the Country, Janet Anning, coordinator of Manitoulin Special Olympics, Special Olympics athlete Matthew Bedard and Carol Hughes, MP for Algoma-Manitoulin-Kapus-kasing pose for a photo at the music festival last Friday evening.

photo by Michael Erskine

photo by Tom Sasvari



Barrel Boys gathered at the merch table following their Saturday evening gig.

photo by Michael Erskine



Central Manitoulin Mayor Richard Stephens enjoyed a delicious sweet treat, purchased from one of the vendors at the Bluegrass in the Country.

photo by Tom Sasvari



Bluegrass volunteers Aiden McFarlane, Katelyn Lentir and Kaylee Lentir were working the Michael's Bay Society table.

photo by Michael Erskine

While the great music was being played, attendees had the opportunity to visit the many vendors selling their wares and food, inside and outside the arena.

While the weather didn't cooperate much better on Saturday, there was a great crowd on hand to see and hear the music of performers Avery Drive, Simply Blu, Granite Hill, 2nd Line Bluegrass during the day and in the evening the Canucky Bluegrass Boys, The Barrel Boys and the



Northern Opry inductees Robbie Shawana and George Williamson toast with some roast while hanging at the Redrum table.

photo by Tom Sasvari

metre events, winning a bronze medal in each event.”

Along with Mr. Bedard, Ms. Anning explained the MSO curling team won the gold medal at this year's Canada Winter Games. The team includes skip Tyler Madahbee, vice Dylan Danville, second William LeClair and leads Dayne Tipper and Austin Recollet. She said it is the



Simply Blu was the headline act on Friday evening.

photo by Tom Sasvari



The Saturday night crowd numbered well north of 400 music lovers.

photo by Michael Erskine

teer organizing committee. “So, this is our 13th year. All the proceeds raised from the weekend event will support our amazing Manitoulin Special Olympic athletes.”

On Friday evening, during a break in the music Janet Anning, co-

ordinator for Manitoulin Special Olympics (MSO) introduced snowshoeing athlete Matthew Bedard. “Matthew is an amazing athlete. At the Special Olympics Canada Winter Games held in Calgary earlier this year, Matthew competed in the five kilometre, 800 metre and 1,600



Manitoulin Special Olympians and coaches had a great time at Bluegrass in the Country.

photo by Alexia Hannigan

community support with those attending Bluegrass in the Country that goes a long way to providing the funds necessary for MSO athletes and teams to participate in events like Canada Special Olympics regional, provincial and national games.

“I would like to thank all of you here tonight for being here, to enjoy the great music and supporting MSO,” said Carol Hughes, MP for Algoma-Manitoulin-Kapus-kasing, a guest speaker at Bluegrass on Friday

evening. “It is all about all these special athletes and all of you who came out for the music and to help support the athletes.” She also praised the organizers of the event for all their efforts in putting on this type of event.

“We have a very good crowd here this evening which is fantastic,” said Bonita Mercer, master of ceremonies Friday evening. “We are very pleased to share our little paradise here with all those here tonight from off-Island. We are very



Author and journalist Mike Strobel, right, was on hand with copies of his latest book 'Viking Cat,' a fundraiser for Variety Village.

photo by Michael Erskine



Ben Lentir and the Lentir family band perform at the Bluegrass in the Country Friday evening.

photo by Tom Sasvari

ite Hill and Simply Blu. She said in introducing Mr. Lentir and his children Karlee, Katelyn and George Michael, along with Murray Pritchard and Bob Bartlett, “It is so great to see a local family band like this perform. It

featured band for the weekend, David Peterson and 1946.

On Sunday, a gospel show was held with music being provided by performers Ben Lentir, Robbie Shawana and The Barrel Boys.

Driver charged following call for service

One person has been arrested and charged with impaired driving.

On June 2, shortly after 12 pm, the Manitoulin Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) responded to a call of a suspicious vehicle parked on Highway 6 in Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands (NEMI).

Police located the vehicle parked and observed the driver to be unconscious. Police contacted the Manitoulin-Sudbury Paramedic Services as a precaution and the driver was transported to a local hospital.

As a result of the investigation, Anna Peltier, 29, from Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory (WUT) has been charged with operation while impaired-alcohol and drugs, and driving a vehicle with cannabis readily available.

The accused is scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Gore Bay on July 16.

Manitoulin OPP charge driver following traffic complaint

One person has been arrested and charged following a traffic complaint.

On June 4, shortly before 1 pm, the Manitoulin OPP responded to a traffic complaint of a possible impaired

**Law & Order**

driver on Highway 6. The vehicle was travelling southbound towards Little Current and unable to maintain its lane.

Police located the vehicle on Meredith Street and conducted a traffic stop. Upon speaking with the driver, police were able to determine the driver was impaired. The driver was subsequently arrested and transported to the OPP for further testing.

As a result of the investigation, Derek Lavigueur, 44, from Sudbury has been charged with operation while impaired by alcohol and drugs.

The accused is scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Gore Bay on July 2.

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

WTPS conducts RIDE checks

The Wikwemikong Tribal Police Service (WTPS) conducted reduce impaired driving everywhere (RIDE) checks over the weekend of June 1-2 with approximate-

ly 132 vehicles checked. There were no impaired drivers encountered and a few cautions were issued for Highway Traffic Act offences.

The WTPS would like to remind the public that police take a zero-tolerance policy to impaired driving and would like to remind the community to continue to drive responsibly. Do not drink and drive, call for a ride or spend the night.

Police investigate break and enter occurrences

The WTPS responded to a few break and enter and attempted to break and enter incidents over the last week, May 27-June 2.

On June 2, at approximately 9:30 am, police were called to an apartment in the main village of the Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory (WUT). The homeowner reported that it appeared that suspect(s) may have tried to break into the residence as the window screen was damaged and an air conditioning unit was tampered with.

It did not appear entry was gained but a tool that may have been used was also located at the scene by police.

On June 2 at approximately 8 am the WTPS received

...continued on page 20

Friends and Neighbours

**Providence Bay
Alexia Hannigan**

Hello everyone Alexia here with your Friendly Papa Fly!

Here we are in the beautiful throws of the countdown to summer solstice and we have the bites and bruises to show for it. Nothing says true grit and summer like swollen bites, blisters, shiners and sunburns! All in the name of showboating our best Bluegrass in the Country, guest-ready homes 'n gardens and best boats and bikes. Well done, everyone! June is a time when people gather to celebrate, remember and reunite. Where dads get to show, shine and show-off a little so this is an ode to all of our sons, brothers, uncles, nephews, best buds, fathers of brides to be, fathers, grandfathers and forefathers.

You are the rock-steady, remarkable rockets your mothers raised you to be and you're doing great! A toast and a tip of the hat to all you vaders, waders and men of men. It's certainly not an easy role to fulfill so take a minute to congratulate yourself for your physical prowess, mental fortitude and multi-tasking, even if it is just taking a nap while balancing a beer and a butter tart on your belly. We don't say it often enough: Dearest dads, this one's for you! We love you and we are grateful for you.

Here's what's happening:

Providence Bay Arena and Fairgrounds: youth soccer continues Saturdays from 10 to 11 am on noted dates: soccer on Saturday, June 15. Soccer is cancelled on Saturday, June 22.

Bluegrass in the Country rocked hard and was a huge success. Hats off to all the builders, organizers, stagehands and musicians!

Providence Bay Hall: exercise class continues on Friday mornings at 10:30 am; Lions Den meeting downstairs, 7 pm tonight, Wednesday, June 12.

Mindemoya: The Central Manitoulin Historical Society is having its annual general meeting on Wednesday, June 12 at 7 pm. The meeting will be held at the Pioneer Museum and refreshments will be served. New members welcome; Taekwon-do continues Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at Mindemoya Hall; 42nd Pearson Cup mixed softball tournament, Father's Day weekend, in Mindemoya, June 14, 15 and 16; 8 am to 10 pm at the Mindemoya ballfields.

M'Chigeeng: Kenjgewin Teg Open House, Thursday, June 13 from 4 to 7pm; babysitting course at Kenjgewin Teg on Saturday, June 15 from 9 am to 4 pm, prepaid pre-registered event.

Providence Bay beach and boardwalk: Providence Bay beach is an amazing 2 km sand beach on the Lake Huron coast that is open to the public. Grab some refreshments and snacks, enjoy some local art and fanfare and say hello to Lance and the crew at Huron Island Time, Bridget, Catherine, Obayaa, Lizze, Clau, Lex and also the crew at The Mutchmor Gallery and Peace Cafe, Matt and Ben and crew at Huron Fish and Chips Co. The Water is perfect now for swimming, so play safe and enjoy the beautiful beaches and views!

If you see any big branches or sticks, please gather them close to the docks and keep our water and beaches clean and safe.

Providence Bay Community of Christ Church 11 am Sunday, June 16. This Father's Day service is a musical ode to dads.

Toulin Turtles: Turtles are nesting and all over the roads right now so please watch closely and slow down while driving around lakes and wetlands. If you see an injured turtle, contact Turtle Pond at 705-691-0433 or visit Friends of Manitoulin Turtles online.

The Heavens: Rewards this month are numerous, with a beautiful crescent moon shining close to the stars of Gemini and Leo, a big moon close to the brightest star in Scorpius, and noctilucent clouds visible in the north-eastern night sky. After the summer solstice on Thursday, June 20, the first full moon of

summer occurs on June 21, with a big rocket launch from Kennedy Space Center scheduled for June 25. So, space fans and stargazers have plenty to get excited about in June.

A special toast and toe tap for the dads that are watching over us from up above, we love you, we miss you.

Happy Father's Day weekend to all. "Well, that's the thing about life, is the surprises, the little things that sneak up on you and grab hold of you."

George Banks, Father of the Bride (starring, in their various eras, Spencer Tracy (1920), Steve Martin (1991) and Andy Garcia (2022).

**Kagawong
Team Fergmeijer**

Took a quick flight down south and we are actually writing the column from the airport this week. It has been a bit of a crazy trip. We just got here and there's a woman completely passed out on the luggage carousel! She's slowly coming around now. We spent some time in South America on this trip. We Ecuadore it there! The next stop on the trip was Cuba and we are Havana great time! One half of Team Fergmeijer decided we should jump out of a perfectly good airplane while we are here. She is definitely the more adventurous of the two of us; she tends to chute first and ask questions later. The friend we were staying with loves to travel by Zeppelin (she hasn't figured out there are faster and easier ways to get around yet). She's happy though. It's true what they say: ignorance is blimps.

Thank you to Manitoulin Streams for orchestrating the planting of new native trees and shrubs along the Kagawong beach and waterfront area! These plants will provide shade to the playground area, prevent geese from coming into the playground, reduce runoff and provide food for small bird species and pollinators. Thank you also to all the volunteers who came out to help plant!

Body Stories Dance is hosting free adult and teen Mindful Movement workshops throughout June and July at the Kagawong Park Centre! Workshops are Mondays from June 3 until July 15 (but not July 1) from 7 to 8:30 pm. Teens are welcome with a participating adult. For more information or to register, email bodystoriesdance@gmail.com or call 647-213-1497.

Come on out for a delightful evening of music, hosted by the Island Singers and the Manitoulin Community Choir on Saturday, June 22 at 7 pm. Manitoulin choirs and musicians will be performing at Manitoulin Secondary School that evening for a pay-what-you-wish donation to Manitoulin Family Resources. It will be great music for a great cause!

Happy 29th birthday wishes go out to Trish T and Karlene S. We hope you both enjoy an all-nighter to celebrate (even if these days that just means sleeping through the night without getting up to pee).

It's just around the corner! Kagawong's summer markets run weekly on Wednesdays beginning on June 26. Be sure to stop in the village for some great finds and support local artisans and bakers.

Looking to spin a yarn? The Jabbawong Storytelling Festival is back, Friday, July 5 and Saturday, July 6 in Kagawong. Check out Jabbawong Storytelling Festival on Facebook for more details.

Start your engines! The Kagawong Show and Shine car show is back! Join classic car enthusiasts on Saturday, July 13 from 10 am to 3 pm at Dig and Doug's Cedar Furniture on Main Street (free parking available right next door in the township lot). There will be lots of great cars on display for all to admire. Sponsored by the Billings Parks, Recreation, and Wellness Committee.

The Billings Library keeps things going in the summer with the annual book sale and local author showcase on Saturday, July 20. Don't forget about the Manitoulin Art Tour that same weekend!

The Old Mill Heritage Centre is now open seven days a week! Don't miss the popular vintage camera and photographic exhibition (back by popular demand). There

is also a new exhibit featuring local representatives who have gone on to have storied political careers. Be sure to stop in! Also in museum news, mark Thursday, August 8 in your calendars: History Day in Kagawong is back with speakers Richard Thomas and Mike Strobel. Check out the Old Mill Heritage Centre Facebook page for more details.

Billings Library is planning another beach movie night and they are taking suggestions! Email billingsreads@gmail.com to give your suggestion of a movie title for a community movie night by the water.

Tennis, anyone? The Manitoulin Tennis Club is back to meeting Sunday mornings at 10 am at the Manitoulin Secondary School courts. Players of all abilities are welcome, with lessons available in the near future.

Do you know what is worse than raining cats and dogs on your holidays? Hailing a taxi. Have a great week!

**Barrie Island
Lillian Greenman**

Scott and Enid Runnalls had their daughter Katie from Toronto home last week for a visit.

Sandy and Jim Miller from Ottawa visited last week with Oliver and Barb Runnalls.

Bill and Gail Lewis from Espanola visited George and Carolyn Calback Tuesday afternoon.

Best wishes to Oliver Runnalls on his birthday on June 8.

**Silver Water
Karen Noble**

On Friday, May 31 Murray and Gladys Duncanson's family arrived for the weekend. They organized a 60th anniversary party on Saturday at the Silver Water Community Hall. There was a large crowd at the party who enjoyed the speeches, dancing and supper.

On Friday night, there were four tables of euchre players in Meldrum Bay.

Saturday evening, Keith and Iris Clarke invited Tom and Linda Rumley, Myra Duncanson and myself to their house for six handed euchre.

On Sunday, June 2 Myra Duncanson, Shawn Noble and I went to Tehkummah to play in their monthly euchre tournament. Natasha McVey and Harold Rogers brought home the prizes.

On Monday night, Murray Duncanson, Donna Kay McDonald, Myra Duncanson and I went to the Burpee and Mills Complex to play euchre. It was their final night until late September. There were 11 tables of players.

On Thursday afternoon, the UCW meeting was held at Sylvia Pfeifer's home in Evansville. There were 18 ladies. A huge number of events were discussed.

Thursday evening, there were eight tables of euchre players at the Silver Water hall.

Shawn Noble told me that he went for a walk through the bush on Wednesday. He happened upon two mother partridges who were very unhappy about him being there. He did get to see a bunch of baby partridge before he got out of the area.

On Saturday, June 15 there will be a vendor market in our yard. There will also be the UCW's annual yard sale in the basement of the community hall. Donations for it can be dropped off Thursday or Friday morning.

The annual picnic will be held on Saturday, June 29. The theme is "On the Farm". Everyone is encouraged to decorate their yards and get a float into the parade. Maybe we will have a lot of tractors entered. There will be lunch available and ball games to watch.

...Long-awaited Gore Bay Airport terminal set to open soon

...continued from page 3

building will house the region's Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) office, a pilot fatigue management/flight planning area and a food server. "The large centre core is the focal point of the building which connects to all components, presenting amazing views airside through the full-span glass wall. Sufficient washrooms, a small meeting/day rental office and space for the Gore Bay Flying Club complement the facility."

"The structure is built to post-disaster structural standards and can be used as an emergency/crisis management centre," said Mr. Colwell. "The terminal has adopted the latest in technology, energy efficiency and functionality that will better serve the aviation community."

"It's said that anything that is worthwhile takes time," said Reeve Hayden. "The biggest delay in this project has been COVID-related inflationary costs that prevented us to get construction



The new terminal building at the Gore Bay-Manitoulin Airport will be the headquarters for airport operations as well as many other airport support services and client amenities. The building will house the region's Canada Border Services Agency office, a pilot fatigue management/flight planning area and a food server area.

started earlier."

"Robby Colwell is expected to be moving over to the new airport terminal building in mid to late June," said Gore Bay Mayor Ron Lane. He noted the entire airport project will not officially be done until September with the demolition of the current

airport terminal, landscaping and fencing to take place.

"This is a \$4 million project and will not only benefit the aviation community, staff and visitors to the airport, but will provide a



helipad that will provide safety," said Mayor Lane.

"Our airport can handle just about anything in terms of aircraft, is a fully operational munic-

pal airport and provides weather service as well," said Mayor Lane.

As was reported previously, in early June 2023 a \$4.3 million contract was awarded by the owners of the airport, Gore Bay, Gordon/Barrie Island and Burpee and Mills township to Lignum Builders of Espanola for the construction. Funding for the projects is coming from FedNor, the owner municipalities, the Airport Commission and private donors.

"The future of the air-

port looks much brighter as we put our upgrades into action to infuse optimum customer experience, strengthen aviation safety and offer much improved service deliverables to our users," said Mr. Colwell. "The aviation community already loves our airport, and this relationship will intensify once people start flowing through this magnificent facility that will form a key role in expanding our airport as an aviation hub."

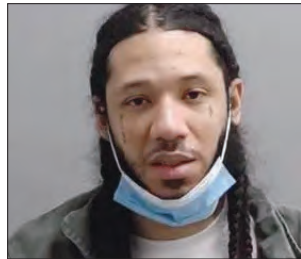
...Drug search warrant leads to arrest

...continued from page 3

ever, through negotiation, Mr. Gillingham was arrested without serious injuries to himself or police.

The housing complex at 36 Tikmeg Road had to be shut down and residents temporarily displaced from their homes. Subsequent search warrants executed on June 5 located a loaded handgun and what police believe to be over four ounces of fentanyl and over two ounces of cocaine, all in the attic area. Unfortunately, due to the actions of the accused parties, the entire housing complex sustained extensive damage while police tried to remove Mr. Gillingham from the attic area to affect a safe arrest.

"This event has caused concern, trauma and worry to the children and residents in the immediate neighbourhood as well as the community of M'Chigeeng at large," said James Killeen, Chief of Police for UCCM APS. "It is becoming increasingly frequent that investigations and situations such as this are occurring. We are challenging all community agencies and citizens to come together and develop a comprehensive commu-



Mitchell Osama Gillingham

nity action plan in combating the epidemic of illicit drug use and the violence that comes with it. We all play important roles in curbing the violence and social disparity of the illicit drug problem."

This operation followed a previous incident on April 19, 2024, when UCCM Police were called regarding an unwanted person at a residence in M'Chigeeng. During that incident, a firearm was pointed at the victim. The accused was initially believed to be in the residence. The UCCM crime unit and the OPP Community Street Crime Unit were activated at that time, and a comprehensive search was conducted with the assistance of the OPP ERT, critical incident command unit, crisis negotiators, TRU and K9 unit.

Mr. Gillingham was arrested on a previous arrest warrant with the following offences under the Canada Criminal Code stemming from the April 19 incident: pointing a firearm, assault with a weapon, careless use of a firearm, weapons, prohibited device, or ammunition, unauthorized possession of a firearm.

Following the June 3 incident, Mr. Gillingham was further charged with the following offences: careless use of firearm, carrying a firearm in a careless manner, pointing a firearm, weapons dangerous, unauthorized possession of a prohibited or restricted firearm, knowledge of unauthorized possession of a firearm, two counts of failure to comply with firearm prohibition order, common nuisance-endanger life, four counts of break and enter, mischief over \$5,000 to the entire apartment complex of 36 Tikmeg Road, M'Chigeeng, possession of cocaine for the purposes of trafficking, possession of fentanyl for the purposes of trafficking.

Ms. Migwans-Bayer has been charged with the following offences: obstruct justice, unauthorized possession of a firearm,

knowledge of unauthorized possession of a firearm, common nuisance-endanger life, possession of cocaine for the purposes of trafficking, possession of fentanyl for the purposes of trafficking.

Chief of Police Killeen said, "The OPP Anishnaabe Police would like to thank their OPP partners for their support over this entire operation. The OPP's commitment to assisting UCCM in serious incidents has been unwavering and truly appreciated by everyone involved. UCCM Police would also like to thank everyone that came forward with information regarding these individuals. It is unfortunate that some members of our community knowingly harbour dangerous armed individuals and mislead the police in their attempts to apprehend these individuals. Harboring wanted criminals in your residences allows criminal activity to continue while negatively impacting many community members suffering the residual crimes that are proliferated through drug trafficking and organized crime."

If anyone has further information regarding this incident, please contact either UCCM Police at 705-377-7135, or Sudbury Rainbow Crimestoppers at 1-800-222-8477 or submit an online tip at www.sudburycrimestoppers.com. Together we can make a difference.

...Sheguiandah roundhouse

...continued from page 3

"This devastating event has left us all in shock and mourning," said Ogimaa Jason Aguonie in a community notice. "The roundhouse was not just a building; it was a symbol of our community's strength, dedication and unity. We milled the lumber ourselves, creating a structure that embodied our collective spirit and hard work."

Ogimaa Aguonie assured the community that a thorough investigation would be conducted to determine what happened. "Rest assured, we are committed to uncovering the cause and ensuring the safety of our community. We understand that this loss impacts us all and we encourage anyone with information or concerns to come forward. Together we will support each other through this difficult time."



The Sheguiandah roundhouse fully engulfed, before fire crews arrived.

photo courtesy Duane Deschamps

Pet Save Manitoulin

Thank You!

We wish to thank erin-blythe reddie for her yearly (or should we say 'perennial'?) sale of her extra Providence Bay garden perennials. All fundraiser proceeds were donated to Pet Save Manitoulin to help us to care for our long-term feline residents.

valu-mart **Orr's** Freshmart

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 WEDNESDAY: 4 PM - 9 PM
 THURSDAY: 4 PM - WHEN TRIVIA ENDS
 FRIDAY & SATURDAY: 4 PM - 1 AM

...New campground will open

...continued from page 3

part of the council meeting drew several residents who provided input. "There were concerns raised, mainly with traffic and noise, and fire bans having to be adhered to. Council is satisfied with the plans put in place for all of these issues by the proponents." "It's been a long go getting everything approved and getting to this stage," said Cole McLaughlin. "Our plan is to try to open, starting with building a few campground sites as part of the first phase." He explained trailers, recreational vehicles and tenting sites will be put in place. We are looking at a total of 17 sites over a three-four stage plan. Initially we are looking at having 8-10 sites in place this summer." He said there are port-a-potties on the site, with town water at each site. There will also be fire pits at each site. "There is no hydro, but generators are welcome," he said.

"The new campground will be called 'Priddle Park,' in memory of my grandfather Frank Priddle who owned the Priddle Timber Company locally (which was sold to the Ontario Paper Company) and was mayor of Gore Bay at one time," said Cole McLaughlin.

There is plenty of room for development and expansion on the property, which is located off Highway 540 just outside of Gore Bay (the same property where the former driving range was

located).

"We have had nothing but support from the town of Gore Bay and township of Gordon/Barrie Island," said Cole McLaughlin.

Hugh McLaughlin said, "Yes, we think it is a good news story. There were some concerns raised by members of the public (at last week's meeting). But we have had all necessary studies carried out, like the MTO traffic impact study which indicated there will be no significant impact on traffic."

Hugh McLaughlin noted that when the entrance and exit to the property were put in place for the driving range, the MTO said the current commercial entrance and exits to the property are significantly bigger than norm. Campers coming off the highway to the campgrounds will continue straight to the back boundary of the property where the camp sites will be located, while to right off the entrance road the Western Manitoulin Community Garden will remain.

With the campground to be located on the back boundary of the property, and hundreds of trees having been planted on the property the past couple of years, "once the trees grow up to their maximum height, the day will come that you won't be able to see the campground from the highway because it will be behind the trees," added Hugh McLaughlin.

...Manor tops in resident satisfaction

...continued from page 3

long-term care home."

Residents and their families are asked for their input regarding their experiences with Extendicare, seeking "input on their journey with Extendicare across many areas, including quality of care and services being provided in their home, activity programming, cleanliness and maintenance and the food and meals."

Each year, the results help nursing homes assess those experiences, their performance, and especially to help identify opportunities for improvement. "The survey feedback we receive is critical to achieving that goal," he noted.

The 2023 survey was carried out at all long-term care homes and included responses from approximately 73.1 percent of the resident population and 29.5

percent of families across the Extendicare long-term care homes.

To give a sense of just how impressive the Manor's accomplishment recognized by this award is, the overall results of the resident and family survey found that, taken all together, Extendicare homes found some 80.7 percent of residents and families said they would recommend Extendicare homes to others—going on to praise four particular aspects of their experience: 83.2 percent had positive feedback on laundry, cleaning and maintenance; 83 percent expressed satisfaction with continence care products; 80.9 percent said they were happy with relationships with others; and 80 percent were pleased with care services.

Each long-term care home has shared their results with the residents, their families and team members.

GORE BAY MUSEUM



EXHIBIT OF PAINTINGS BY IVAN WHEALE

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...Linda Debassige Grand Council Chief

...continued from page 1

was held for deputy grand council chief. Candidates for this position included Chris Plain and Melvin Hardy, with the newly elected Deputy Grand Council Chief being Chris Plain after a 21-16 stand-up election. In the previous term, there were four regional deputy grand council chiefs; however, in this election and moving forward, there will be one deputy grand council chief.

Chris Plain is the current Aamjiwnaang First Nation Chief and also held the interim Southwest Regional Deputy Grand Council Chief position at the Anishinabek Nation.

"I'm grateful to the community of Aamjiwnaang First Nation for allowing me to stand for this position and I look forward to serving the Anishinabek Nation with the new grand council chief to the best of our abilities for all the nations," stated Deputy Grand Council Chief Plain.

The primary duty of the grand council chief and deputy grand council chief is to serve the collective will and protect the rights and interests of the Anishinabek Nation and E'Dbendaagzigig.

The grand council chief and deputy grand council chief will be supported by the four regional chiefs, including Chief Joe Miskokomon, southwest region, Marsha Smoke, southeast region, Mel Hardy, northern superior, Chief Scott McLeod, Lake Huron.



Grand Council Chief Linda Debassige addresses her chiefs in her first official duty as the region's top chief.



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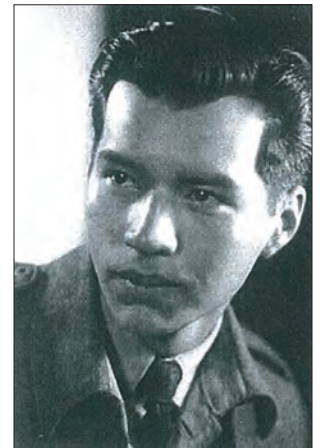
Sponsored by the Manitoulin Lodge
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...Justin Roy

...continued from page 1

and we knew that something big was going on," he explained to The Expositor's Alicia McCutcheon during a previous visit home.

In the early morning hours of Tuesday, June 6 Mr. Roy and his compatriots boarded the vessels that would take them into the maelstrom that was the largest amphibious invasion in history. Waiting for them were the sights of the German forces that had overrun Europe just a



Justin Roy, the young soldier.

few years before.

"When you got off that ship, down that rope ladder, your life expectancy was 15 minutes," Mr. Roy recalled. "The water was so rough, sometimes it was over our heads."

The objective set for the Second Division that day was a point of land some seven miles inland, and the Canadians were the most successful of the forces to land that day, but it came at a terrible cost. "There were 45 of us left out of 200," he said, adding that the paratroopers who landed ahead of his group were entirely wiped out.

The Canadian 3rd Division suffered the bulk of the 950 D-Day casualties endured by the 21,400 Canadian troops that landed on Juno Beach.

The fighting was intense and brutal. At one point, separated from his unit, Mr. Roy crawled under a destroyed tank and lay there for two days. He and his unit would go on to spearhead the assault seven times.

"I never thought I'd get

...continued on page 13

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...Roy Eaton represents Manitoulin at D-Day 80th event

...continued from page 1

have three superb historians," said Mr. Eaton. "One in particular is an actor, so when he talks, it just comes alive."

The beginning of the group tour that Mr. Eaton and his wife are on began with a showing of the first seven minutes of the acclaimed war film

'Saving Private Ryan.' "Opening with one of the landing craft letting down the opening door and every single person inside the landing shot being

killed—and then it goes on. It really brought it alive."

The tour then travelled to the different beaches—Sword, Utah and Juno. "That film was certainly in my mind, in everybody's mind, the reality of what we were there for," said Mr. Eaton. "My Uncle George, who lived in Whitefish Falls, was with the Queen's Own Rifles. The Queen's Own Rifles were part of the Canadian 3rd Division, the only Canadian division to land on the first day of the assault."

"At Juno Beach we were standing in front of Canada house (the first house liberated by the Canadians at Juno Beach)," he said. And we learned, if we had a family member, we could turn that information into the historians and they checked out some things. And then as they did different things at different beaches and different activities, they would call your name out and read about your relative. So, there we were in front of Canada house—the first liberated house by the Canadians with the beach right behind us and they were just talking about my Uncle George. You know, that was so powerful."

"One of the things that also really struck me in a very different way, is that we just happened to luck into having these 100-year-old veterans here at the hotel we are staying in," said Mr. Eaton. "We had a group of them and I had a chance to talk to these people. This morning, I go down and this young 99-year-old says 'you got to meet my friend. My friend is the oldest veteran in the world from World War II, as far as we know—107 years old.' I shook his hand and talked to him and his buddy."

Mr. Eaton discovered



Margaret Eaton at the gravesite of her great uncle Dominic Corbiere of Aundeck Omni Kaning. Mr. Corbiere baa fought with the Scottish Regiment.

photos courtesy of Roy Eaton

to his amazement that American Airlines chartered one of their planes and they put 200 people on it—veterans and their caretakers.

"They had a choir made up of veterans from five different services that tours America, and then, on top of it, they had a youth choir made up of cadets and midshipmen. They had their own medical staff traveling with these people and, oh man, is that something. And to actually have your picture taken with them—spend some time talking to them—well, it was you know really, really moving."

"The other thing that was really meaningful to us, was that as we were in Juno, we found the very first plaque that we ever

saw on monuments to Indigenous people," said Mr. Eaton. The moment was very special given that Margaret Eaton's grandmother's brother, from Aundeck Omni Kaning, was killed during the invasion."

One of the people on the tour is making a video about the experience and he ended up interviewing Margaret.

"In two days' time, we're going to be at the War Memorial graveyard and he's buried there," said Mr. Eaton. "So, Margaret's going to get a chance and as far as we know she might be the first person from Manitoulin Island to find his grave."

"On D-Day, we got up a little after 5 am and the roads were blocked," he said. "The bus driver had to turn around. We waited a long time and when we finally got there, it reminded me when Margaret and I were in England when the queen died, I mean immense, immense lines and we all had to go through security. Well anyway, while we're standing there, there's

...continued on page 11

NEMI
NORTHEASTERN MANITOULIN & THE ISLANDS

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

Mayor and Council would like to wish all fathers a very Happy Father's Day!

Notice of Meetings
The Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands is now offering hybrid meetings. Come and join us in the Council Chambers located at 14 Water Street or join us via Zoom by using the following:

Meeting # **489 313 1974** or call **1-587-328-1099**

Our Council meetings are held on the first and third Tuesday and Thursday of the month.

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

Property Standards

In order to keep our town beautiful, we are requesting that all property owners maintain their properties in a neighbour-friendly state. As per our by-law, all grass must be cut by June 15. If voluntary compliance is not achieved the Town will have the lot cut and all charges will be added to your tax roll.

McLean's Mountain Fund
Organizations within the Municipality are encouraged to submit a request for funding to the McLean's Mountain Fund for financial support to enhance your community group. Please submit your request by June 14, 2024 to:
Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands
Box 608, Little Current, ON POP 1K0

Did you know you can set up automatic monthly installments for your tax and water payments?
Contact **Melanie Aelick** at **705-368-3500 ext. 225** for more information.

Upcoming Events

JUNK IN THE TRUNK IS BACK!
Bring your treasures and come out to the NEMI Rec Centre on June 15 from 9:00am to 1:00 pm

Canadian PAL Course
June 15 and 16
9:00am - 5:00pm
at the NEMI Rec Centre
Cost \$210.
Register by emailing lhallaert@townofnemi.on.ca

Pleasure Craft Operator Course
Saturday, June 15 from 2:00pm - 4:00pm
NEMI Rec Centre
Cost is \$75 (only if you pass)
Email boatingal@gmail.com to register.

Nature-Themed Stained Glass Class
At the Centennial Museum
10862 HWY 6
June 16 from 10:00am - 4:00pm
Cost \$160.
To register email cindy_pearce2002@yahoo.com

Vendors sought for Canada Day Celebrations
Downtown Little Current on Water Street. No fees.
Email lhallaert@townofnemi.on.ca for information.

Don't forget about...

Home Cottage and Culinary Show
August 9th-11th at the NEMI Rec Centre
To register go to www.townofnemi.on.ca
Click HCC Show on the drop-down menu.

...ditches reeve title

...continued from page 3

"I know when we were at the FONOM (Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities) annual conference a couple of the exhibitors there were asking what a reeve is," said Mayor Deforge.

Along with the name change for Mayor (Mr. Deforge) Tehkummah Councillor Steve Wood has had his title changed from deputy reeve to deputy mayor.

The change in title does not bring with it any increased responsibility or stipend.

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...Roy Eaton represents Manitoulin

...continued from page 10

this group of young girls, teenagers with their chaperones, all wearing ribbon skirts."

Mr. Eaton, a retired school principal, talked to them and discovered the youths were from Manitoba, "mainly from Winnipeg but across Manitoba and they were with Educational Tours. Later on, I talked to one of the people who was with Educational Tours and asked how many children they looked after," he said. "They said, 'we have 800 students from across Canada.' Wow, I couldn't believe it."

The tour company had arranged for the group to purchase folding chairs for the D-Day commemorative event. The group of Canadians had planned to donate the chairs to the Juno Centre, but the museum could not accommodate them, so they donated them to their hotel. Being familiar with the Metis sash, Mr. Eaton noticed one group who were wearing the garment. "I went over and took pictures of some young girls and talked to them," he said. "The Metis Federation of Manitoba sponsored all these people, all these young people and, obviously their chaperones, to come and be part of the ceremony." And then, "hearing our governor general speak in Oji-Cree, it's pretty special for us," he said.

Another amazing op-



The Eatons were, briefly, up close and personal with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

portunity came when "Margaret and I had some private time with one of the guides because

people were doing other things," said Mr. Eaton. "He showed us where these gliders came down

'that glider landed here, this one, it went into the swamp and one man drowned, and then they got up they had to capture this bridge, and over here, see where the pill box was—and you can see it. Well, I mean the whole thing is alive to us now.'" Mr. Eaton said that one of the things that really struck him was the number of military personnel who are there from all of the Allied countries and the reenactors wandering about in full period kit. "This actor came around and he must have had 80 to 100 lbs of equip-

...continued on page 12



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...Roy Eaton represents Manitoulin

...continued from page 11

ment that he was carrying with his huge long antenna, batted down," said Mr. Eaton. "And that's what this guy had to do, to do his broadcast and I thought, carrying that, going through the surf. Coming in, bullets flying, like how do you do that?"

"This elderly man and woman were dressed very nicely, and I asked them 'Were you or your family involved in the French resistance?' and they were. They were young children at the time, but in halting French we talked about that. I thought that was neat."

The Eatons also met up with a group of Polish nurses.

"One woman I talked to was a captain," he said. "And they made kind of fun of her when she said, 'I was captain.'"

The tour also went to a German war cemetery.

"I guess what happened when the war ended, the Allied troops were buried there in this huge, huge field," he said. "And then the War Graves wanted to set up a special field, and do it the right way, so all of the graves, all of the bodies, were taken out and moved. So, now you got this empty field. Well, the equivalent grave commission in Germany approached the French government, or whoever, and they ended up burying around 22,000 or something German soldiers."

The German grave markers are quite different from those of the Canadian and other Allied dead, which are standing white tombstones.

"These are totally flat," he said. "Probably about a foot-by-a-foot. And there is this gigantic field filled with these small things. They had a museum there that we learned about the



'Canada House' was the first building liberated by Canadian troops in Normandy, France on D-Day.

Germans and how they got young people to volunteer during the summer to bury the dead."

The cemetery is filled with trees that were plant-

ed to symbolize peace.

"The war was a terrible thing," said Mr. Eaton, "but now we have to work together. They had a lot of symbolism for peace and

working together."

Ms. Eaton's great uncle was Dominic Corbiere. "As far as we know, he is the only person from Aundek Omni Kaning buried there," said Mr. Eaton. "He was with the Scottish Regiment."

"He was with the Scottish regiment," interjects Ms. Eaton. "My uncle was with the Queen's Own Rifles." Mr. Eaton is on a special mission while taking in the sights and sounds connected with the 80th anniversary of D-Day. "I've had a number of people who bought bricks in the Juno Center (commemorative wall) and they've asked me to try to find and take a picture of the brick. I'll do my best to do that."

Mr. Eaton and his wife still had several things remaining on their tour over the next few days, and most of their experiences are chronicled on Mr. Eaton's Facebook page.

Manitoulin Secondary School

PLAYER PROFILE

by Mackenzie Green




ANDREW COOPER

Proud Supporter of our MSS Mustangs

With skates laced, a helmet secured and stick in hand, Andrew can be found making the most of every second he spends on the ice! Off the ice, he can be found on the basketball courts or lacing up his spikes as he dominates track. No matter the sport, Andrew consistently brings an element of determination and a competitive drive to his game. Wrapping up his third year at MSS, Andrew has been greatly involved in Mustang athletics, allowing him to be recognized as a fantastic team player and role model for the next generation of Mustangs!

Prior to becoming a Mustang, Andrew was a student at Assiginack Public School in Manitowaning. Throughout his elementary school career, Andrew sported the green jersey for the All Stars in a variety of sports. He could be found on the trails, running cross country and on the field as a member of the soccer, flag football and three-pitch teams. He could also be found tearing up the track in the sprints. Andrew recalls his favourite memory from elementary school sports being at the Island Track and Field Championship, where he took gold in the 400m for two consecutive years in Grade 5 and 6. Andrew explains that track and field was his favourite sport in elementary school because he really enjoyed the Island-wide track meets. Outside of school sports, Andrew was committed to the Manitowaning Wolves where he grew up playing minor hockey.

Transitioning into high school sports, Andrew was eager to be involved. He kicked off his secondary school sports career as a member of the cross country team. He made his first NSSSA debut and punched his ticket to NOSSA. In the same season, Andrew played for the junior boys' volleyball team. The boys took silver at NSSSA and capped off their season with a matching NOSSA silver. By that time, it was basketball season. Ready for one last court sport of the year, Andrew played on the badminton team in the novice boys' singles category, finishing 3rd at NSSSA. In his Grade 10 year, Andrew continued to stay heavily involved in a variety of sports at MSS. This year, he has made a return to the basketball team, playing as a guard. Andrew explains that basketball is his favourite sport because it is a very big team game and fun to play with friends. Transitioning into the last sport of the year, Andrew was extremely dedicated to the track and field year. He ran the 200m and 400m events as a first year senior, as well as a quick leg on the 4x4 open men's relay team. He took gold in all three events at NSSSA, sending him to compete among the other top athletes in Northern Ontario at NOSSA. Here, all his hard work paid off. The highlight of the meet and Andrew's high school sports experience was his 4x4 team qualifying for the 2024 OFSAA track and field championships! The team is currently representing MSS on the provincial stage in London.

When the warm weather marks the end of track season and the school year, Andrew enjoys the summer by spending time outside with his dog, Todd, and watching Blue Jays games with his dad. Andrew also played in a few baseball tournaments over the summer months when he wasn't working at Brown's Trading Post in South Baymouth.

When Andrew is not on the go, he is likely in the classroom. Among the various courses he has taken over the years, Andrew likes math the best.

As Andrew reflects on the past three years of sport and studies at MSS, he credits some of his accomplishments to his dad. He explains that his dad always challenges him to be better in whatever sport he chooses and no matter what, always finds a way to drive Andrew to and from practices.

With only one more year left as a Mustang, Andrew is considering post secondary options of Sports Management or Sports Administration programs at university. He explains that he loves sports and would be happiest in a sports-related career. With his dedication and hard work, he is sure to excel just as he has at MSS!



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...Justin Roy, now 99, landed at Juno Beach on D-Day

...continued from page 9

out of there alive," he recalled. "Everyone was my age, 18 or 19, laying out there in the field. They were crying and yelling, but there was nothing you could do."

During the next 31 days, Mr. Roy said he saw and did things that have kept him busy for the last 70 years trying to forget. He recounted a time when his unit disabled a German tank by shooting out the engines. Three Germans escaped from the ensuing blaze, but the driver and co-driver were trapped inside, bleeding out and burning alive.

Only their screams ever left that tank. Mr. Roy and his fellow soldiers could not save the German tankers, so one of the men tossed two grenades inside and closed the hatch.

The soldiers considered it to be the most merciful thing that could be done.

"To me, that was murder, but what else are you going to do?" he asked.

After 31 days of pushing into France it was Mr. Roy's turn to join the ranks of the wounded, taking a shrapnel hit that pulled him out of the front lines.

"I wanted to go back to the front lines, to be with my buddies, but they wouldn't let me," Mr. Roy recalled. He would spend the remainder of the war assigned as a driver for se-

nior officers.

Mr. Roy stayed on with the Occupation Forces following the end of the hostilities. Eager to see the world, he took a leave of absence and spent a year working his way around Europe while riding an old Norton motorcycle through France, Germa-

ny, Holland, England and Scotland and finding work in restaurants, shipyards and hospitals to see him through.

When he finally headed for home, he sailed aboard the Queen Mary, arriving in New York City before the train to Toronto and then on to Sault Ste. Ma-

rie.

For many young men returning from service overseas, their job was waiting for them when they got home. That was not to be for Mr. Roy. After years of camaraderie in the ranks and the open acceptance he had experienced in Europe, the sting of racism

he found upon his return was especially harsh.

Mr. Roy recalled to The Expositor the moment, after donning new Levis and shirts instead of his familiar khaki, the still young Indigenous man joined some old comrades for a drink in a local bar. The barkeeper wouldn't serve

him, however, as he was "an Indian."

"I just broke down," he said.

Mr. Roy went on to try his hand at farming in M'Chigeeng, but micro-management by Indian Affairs doomed that ven-

...continued on page 15

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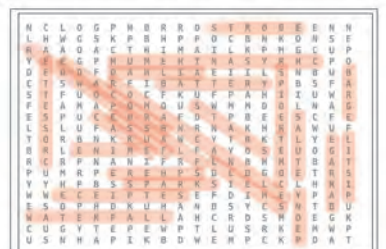
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...Chinook helicopter makes surprise landing at Gore Bay schoolyard

...continued from page 1

were on hand to watch the presentation. "There are plenty of people who help volunteer to help provide care packages for our Forces members. One of these people who is heavily involved in this is Ms. Jefkins. Heather is one of the biggest supporters of the Canadian Forces on Manitoulin Island, with (Christmas) care packages to our troops overseas, the Flat Stanley pen pal program, and allowing students to find out and understand what the Canadian Forces are all about. You have done all of this to

support people like us and all members of the Canadian Armed Forces."

"Heather has been recognized for the work that she does by the Commander of the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF), Lieutenant General Eric Kenny. He has offered an RCAF 100 coin for Heather. As part of the RCAF Centennial this year, the Commander came up with the idea of having 100 coins made to present to deserving persons like Heather. Only 100 coins like this are in existence," said Lt. Col. Harris. "It is an honour and a pleasure to have the responsibility to present one of

these coins to Heather."

"Thank you for everything you do for the CAF," stated Lt. Col. Harris, who had to almost immediately coax all the students, to "tell Ms. Jefkins to stop crying." He then asked the students if the C.C. McLean teacher is ever at a loss for words.

"I am today," stated Ms. Jefkins. "Thank you so much. I started working with Canadian Armed Forces in 2006 and have worked with so many great people over the years. I started when our Canadian troops were in Afghanistan, by having students write letters to



Major Dave White and former student and now Major Tim Armstrong surprised Heather Jefkins with a visit from a Chinook helicopter last week.

Major Dave White, who serves in the CAF with the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) at Canadian Forces Base Petawawa, as part of the 450 Tactical Helicopter Squadron. He has been involved in the Flat Stanley program since its inception in 2013, and that is how he met Ms. Jefkins. When he heard of the RCAF Centennial initiative to present 100 coins to 100 Canadians, he immediately thought of Ms. Jefkins and nominated her for this recognition. The initiative aims to recognize 100 Canadians who embody RCAF values, with each receiving a special edition RCAF Centennial coin.

"When a member of the military is deployed anywhere around the world and they receive these care packages or letters, it provides a phenomenal feeling," said Major White. "It means so much to each of them because it reminds them of home, and the support that they have."

Among several RCAF officers and crew on hand was Major Tim Armstrong, who grew up in Gordon/Barrie Island and was a former student of Ms. Jefkins.

"I was in Ms. Jefkins' Grade 5 class," Major Armstrong said. "She instilled in me a love of history and on the 100th anniversary of the RCAF and the 80th anniversary of the D-Day yesterday (June 6) it is fitting

...continued on page 15

our soldiers. I was at a loss as to how to help, and my students wrote letters and packed boxes."

Ms. Jefkins said that she started the Flat Stanley program after she and her Grade 4/5 class read the popular children's book, 'Flat Stanley.' The students then created their own unique Stanleys, dressed in the distinct camouflage of the CAF. Students then wrote letters and took photos with their Stanleys before "deploying" them to Canadian Armed Forces Bases across Canada.

It was through the participation of Major Dave White, who was one of the first Stanley volunteers, along with more than 30 others, that the program really took off. "He would

take his Flat Stanley everywhere he went, taking photos and sending them to our class, as well as encouraging other CAF Members at CFB Goose Bay to do the same," said Ms. Jefkins, who noted her daughter Bella was one of her first Flat Stanley students when she was in Grade 4 in 2013. "With the help of all the CAF members that participated, the students learned so much about the military and how important they are. I have met so many wonderful people through this program, some of whom I now call friends, like Dave."

"Heather cares so much for people. She continually tries to do more for people and doesn't ask for anything in return," said



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...Justin Roy, now 99, landed at Juno Beach on D-Day

...continued from page 13

ture. The racism he experienced in the country in whose defence he had laid his life on the line continued to dog him over the next seven years he was employed Falconbridge in Sudbury.

As the first First Nations man in his particular mine, Mr. Roy found himself assigned the dirtiest jobs, "but I didn't mind," he said. "I got a paycheque."

Still, the time came when he decided to try his hand south of the border and, together with his late wife Joyce, travelled to the US, where he continued to work in the mines, but he eventually had to give that up due to a shadow doctors

discovered on his lungs. Even there, throughout his time in the US, Mr. Roy continued to experience racism.

He eventually started a successful air conditioning and sheet metal business—an occupation he continued to practice for half a century, only giving it up when his memory began to become a challenge. "I had a pretty good life once I started contracting," he said.

Mr. Roy is a member of the local chapter of the VFW (Veterans of Foreign Wars) and until recent years, he would attend Veterans Day (Remembrance Day) services in Mesa.

Still, through it all, Mr. Roy has been dogged by



Justin Roy in a November 2023 visit to downtown Little Current. Expositor file photo

post-traumatic-stress disorder (PTSD).

"Sometimes your nerves just get the better of you," he said. He admits to having barbed wire all around his shop, a result of the PTSD. It was while receiving counselling for his PTSD that Mr. Roy met his second wife, Barb. He credits her with helping him deal with his stresses immensely.

Approaching 100, Mr. Roy was unable to join any of the many junkets to take part in the D-Day commemorations in Normandy this past week due to his health. He recently suffered a fall and broke his hip.

"I had hoped to go to Abilene (for the observances being held there),"

he said, but that was also not to be in the cards.

Instead, Mr. Roy, like many of those veterans remaining, watched the events unfold on television.

Mr. Roy said that he hoped to be able to return to Manitoulin to celebrate his 100th birthday this coming fall.

Until then, he likes to sit on his porch and get some fresh air in the evenings—not in the midday, however, as the temperatures in Arizona right now are north of 110 degrees Fahrenheit (43 degrees C).

We look forward to seeing Mr. Roy again.

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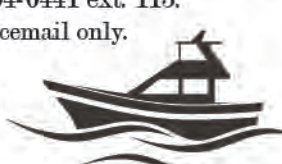
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4-5p

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4-5c

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4-5c

coming events

Final week to see, The Addams Family by Burns Wharf Theatre Players at Manitoulin Secondary School. Matinées: June 15, 16. Evenings: June 14, 15. Tickets \$25. For more information go to www.burnswharf.net.

51-4c

Knox United Church Rummage Sale in Manitowaning is open Wednesdays to Saturdays from 10 am to 3 pm. Spring and summer clothing, shoes, household items and miscellaneous. The Little Shoppe Around the Corner at Knox is open Fridays and Saturdays from 10 am to 3 pm. Nearly-new clothing, shoes and various treasures.

52-6p

Team Aelick fundraising barbecue at Orr's Valumart, Little Current Saturday, June 15 from 11 am to 2 pm. Proceeds to Canadian Liver Foundation's "Stroll for Liver".

4c

Pancake breakfast at the Tehkummah hall on Sunday, June 23 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Pancakes with real maple syrup, scrambled eggs, bacon and sausage, fruit cup, coffee, tea and juice. Adults, \$15; children under 12, \$7, children under 5, free. Sponsored by the Tehkummah Triangle Seniors.

4-5c

! 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

Central Manitoulin Historical Society
Annual General Meeting
(no elections this year)
Wednesday, June 19, 2024
7:00 pm
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Friends of Mindemoya Old School (FOMOS)
Annual General Meeting
Tuesday, June 12, 2024 at 7:00 PM.
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Email mindemoyoldschool@gmail.com for Zoom link.



yard sale

St. John's Gigantic yard sale, barbecue and bake sale on Saturday, June 29 from 10 am to 2 pm at The Kagawong Pavilion. All proceeds to St. John's Church, Kagawong.

3-6p

Yard sale, Saturday, June 15 from 9 am to 1 pm at 2016 Bay Estates Road, North. Quilt fabric, miscellaneous items and household items.

4c

services

Are you a cancer patient undergoing or recovering from treatment? Are you a cancer survivor, a family caregiver or supporting someone with cancer? The Manitoulin Cancer Support Group may provide you with resources and opportunities to share experiences as well as give or receive support with others who have travelled this similar cancer journey. This group is open to anyone with any type of cancer, is free to join and will be rotated to different parts of the Island. This group will alternate meetings on weekdays and weekends. The schedule is as follows: Sunday May 26 at the Gore Bay Legion, 2 to 4 pm; Wednesday, June 26 at the Mindemoya Council Chambers, 2 to 4 pm; No meeting in July; Sunday, August 25 at the Manitowaning Family Health Team 2 to 4 pm. For more information please contact: Terry Mackenzie, 705-507-0433, tandjmackenzie@hotmail.com; Bonnie Young, 705-377-4998; Ann Cranston, 705-282-7531, bnannc@gmail.com.

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6152, Hwy 542 Mindemoya

Guest Speaker
Steve Redmond
Cycling Ontario's Ice Roads
providing cycles to Northern First nations

Become a MICA member
Join us

Annual General Meeting
Friends of Misery Bay
Saturday, June 15th, 2024
10 am to 12 pm

Misery Bay Provincial Park Interpretive Centre
400 Misery Bay Park Road, Evansville
THIS WILL BE AN IN-PERSON MEETING

Guest Speaker: Dr. Joseph Shorthouse
'Northern Ontario's Lowbush Blueberry; Masters in the Art of Adaptation' (found in Misery Bay)

There will be an update on the Misery Bay Nature Reserve as well as a review of the financials.
Refreshments and socialization will follow.

All are welcome to join us; however, only members can vote. Memberships are available online at our website: www.miserybay.ca and at the AGM

Join us at one of the most special places in Ontario
For more information message us at: friendsofmiserybay@gmail.com

Township of BILLINGS Request for Quotation

The Township of Billings is requesting proposals from qualified individuals/firms to provide for the supply and installation of security monitoring cameras (10 total) at defined locations in Billings Township.
Quotes must be submitted by:
July 5, 2024 @ 12:00 pm to finance@billingstwp.ca
For more details, please visit:
<https://billingstwp.ca/administration/requests-for-proposals/>

MUNICIPALITY OF ASSIGNACK

Notice of a Public Meeting Concerning a Township-Initiated Zoning By-law Update

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Assignack will be holding an in-person statutory public meeting to consider a Township-initiated zoning by-law amendment and is notifying the public in accordance with Section 34 of the Planning Act.

Purpose and Effect of the Zoning By-law Amendment:
The purpose of the zoning by-law amendment is to update the Township's zoning by-law. The Township zoning by-law currently in effect is by-law No. 80-20 and By-law No. 80-21, first approved by Council in 1980. Since 1980, the Township zoning by-laws have been amended from time to time through approval of privately initiated zoning by-law amendment applications and through general amendments/reviews initiated by the Township. In October 2018, a new District of Manitoulin Official Plan was approved to be consistent with Provincial policies. The Planning Act requires municipalities to update their zoning by-law after an update to their Official Plan. Pursuant to the Planning Act, this update will bring the Township zoning by-law into conformity with the District of Manitoulin Official Plan.

Public Meeting:
A statutory public meeting is scheduled for June 25, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. to provide information regarding the Township-initiated zoning by-law amendment. The public meeting will be held at the Municipal Office located at 156 Arthur Street, Manitowaning, ON.

Location of the Subject Lands:
The proposed zoning by-law amendment applies to all lands within the Township and therefore a key map has not been provided.

What is the Township of Assignack Zoning By-law?
It is a by-law passed by Council to implement the District of Manitoulin Official Plan to control the use of land and the use and construction of buildings/structures. For example, it states:

- How land may be used;
- Where buildings and other structures can be located;
- The type of buildings that are permitted and how they may be used;
- The minimum and maximum lot sizes, parking requirements, building height and setbacks from a property line; and
- Other building and land use controls as deemed appropriate.

What stage is the Township at with its Zoning By-law Review?
Township staff and the Township's planning consultants conducted a public open house on March 27, 2024. Comments received from the public at the open house and during the subsequent commenting period have been incorporated into the second draft of the zoning by-law as appropriate.

Representation:
Any person may participate at the public meeting and/or make written or verbal representation regarding this matter. Written submissions can be sent electronically to hferguson@assignack.ca or can be dropped at the Municipal Office located at 156 Arthur Street, Manitowaning, ON. Please ensure your name and address are included as required for the public record.

Appeal Rights:
If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Township of Assignack before the by-law is passed, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of the Council of the Township of Assignack to the Ontario Land Tribunal, and may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Land Tribunal unless, in the opinion of the Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to do so.

Notice of Passing of Zoning By-law Amendment:
A copy of the notice of passing will be sent to each person who has filed with the Clerk a written request for a notice of passing.

Additional Information:
Additional information relating to the Zoning By-law update will be available on the Township's website on June 4th, 2024, or for inspection on weekdays by appointment between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the Municipal Office located at 156 Arthur Street, Manitowaning, ON. Please contact hferguson@assignack.ca or call (705) 859-3196 to arrange for an appointment.

Dated at the Township of Assignack this 29th day of May 2024.
Heidi Ferguson, Clerk

Death Notices

HILDA SHIRLEY MARCELLA OTOWADJIWAN

April 29, 1944 - June 1, 2024



Hilda Shirley Marcella Otowadjiwan, age 80, of Negaunee Township, passed away peacefully at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, Michigan, USA in the comfort of her loving family on Saturday, June 1, 2024. Hilda was born on April 29, 1944, in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, to Theresa (nee Wassegijig) and Lawrence Lewis (Otowadjiwan). She graduated from Loretto Catholic Central High School, Class of 1962. She married the late Wayne Tadgerson, and together they raised their family in Negaunee. When her children were grown, Hilda returned to school and earned her Early Child Development degree from Northern Michigan University, Class of 1997. Hilda, Niigaaniizhigokwe (Leading the Day Woman), was a proud member of the Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory, Manitoulin Island. Hilda enjoyed spending time with her family and was an avid harvester and gardener. She was an expert crafter in beadwork, basket making, quillwork, leatherwork and sewing. All of her crafts were lovingly gifted to family and friends. She looked forward to attending the annual family moose hunting trip in Canada. Hilda loved hosting and cooking for her family every holiday and family gathering. She followed her children's, grandchildren's, and great-grandchildren's sports and extracurricular activities until her recent illness. Surviving are her children, Cheryl (Dave) Bernier of Brimley, Aaron (Teresa) Tadgerson of Brimley, Lynn (April) Tadgerson of Negaunee, Danny (Terri) Tadgerson of Brimley, Patrick (Tammy) Tadgerson of Brimley, Jimmy (JoAnn) Tadgerson of Negaunee, Jennie (Errol) Lukkarinen of Negaunee, Dennis (Tasha) Tadgerson of Marquette, Carrie Hale of Sault Ste. Marie, and Raymond (Jessie) Tadgerson of Reno, Nevada; two brothers, Chet (Peggy) Lewis of Westerville, OH and Richard (Stephanie) Lewis of Sault Ste. Marie; sister-in-law, Joan Lewis of Front Royal, VA; and 25 grandchildren, 36 great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. Hilda is preceded in death by her parents, her son, Michael Tadgerson and two brothers, Kenny and Byron Lewis. A traditional fire was lit at Hilda's home, 174 Valley Rd., Negaunee. Visitation began at 5 pm on Wednesday, June 5, 2024, at Koskey Funeral Home and continued throughout the night. Traditional Native American services were held at the funeral home at 10 am on Thursday, June 6, 2024, before burial services in the Negaunee Cemetery. A luncheon followed at the Negaunee Elks. Hilda's memorial page may be viewed at KoskeyFuneralHome.com.

WILLIAM C. MCALLISTER (Bill)

August 12, 1947 - June 2, 2024



In loving memory of William C. McAllister (Bill), who passed away peacefully at the Mindemoya Hospital on Saturday, June 2, 2024 at the age of 76. Survived by his wife Jacqueline; sons William James "Jim" (Kim) McAllister and Robert C. "Rob" (Tina) McAllister; grandchildren Evelyn, Brodie, Lucian, Quinton, Piper and Maeve. Born to the late Rachel Evelyn (nee Hopper) and Orval James McAllister in Mindemoya on August 12, 1947. Brother of Mary (John) White, Gord (Helga) McAllister and Reg (Gloria) McAllister. Predeceased by siblings Eleanor (Lawrence) McMurray, Jim McAllister and Martin McAllister. Will always be remembered by many cousins, nieces, nephews and friends. A special thank you for the excellent care given to Bill by the staff and nurses at the Mindemoya Hospital. Donations may be made in Bill's honour to the Mindemoya Hospital Auxiliary or the North East Cancer Centre. Please share your thoughts, memories and photos at www.islandfuneralhome.ca

Island

FUNERAL HOME LIMITED

OLIVERA JANICIJEVIC

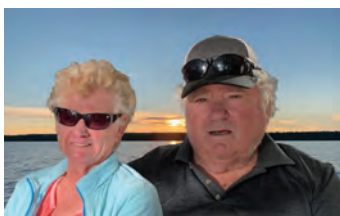
1949 - 2024



Our beloved wife, mother, grandmother (Baba), aunt, kuma and friend, Oliera passed away on Thursday morning, May 30, 2024 surrounded by her family. Survived by the love of her life Dobrivoje (Bob) and her children Dr. Boro (Ljiljana-her favorite daughter in-law), Dr. Kosta and Dr. Zlata, and what she called her greatest accomplishments, her grandchildren Luka and Sofija. Her Brother Tiho (Jessica), her sister Angelina (predeceased), parents (predeceased) Kosta (Petkovic/Velkovski) and Desanka (Mickovic). Kumovi, Stojanka and Aco (predeceased), Milija, Svetlana and Bob. She will be sadly missed by her brothers-in law Dr. Nenad Janicijevic (Dr. Milena) and Predrag, as well as her many nieces, nephews and cousins. Olivera's strong will and kindness touched many of the lives she encountered including her workers and tenants over the years. She loved you all. Olivera was a sharp business lady, known to be firm but fair. Thoughtful, generous, artistic and free spirited, she lived life like the Queen she was. She had many great talents, creating magnificent pieces of stained glass art, wood carvings, painting, mosaics, basket weaving, knitting, gardening and, especially, her renowned pastries and mouth-watering meals. She was a master chef, she loved to feed everyone around her, it was her way of showing love. Olivera and Dobrivoje, together for over 50 years, created a business from the ground up, raised and guided three children and two grandchildren, built their dream cottage on Manitoulin Island that boasts both their creativity, passion for native culture, love of animals, flowers and gardening. Viewing was at Jackson and Barnard Funeral Home on Tuesday, June 4, 2024 from 5 to 8 pm with Serbian Orthodox prayers starting at 7 pm. A church service was held at St. Peter and Paul's Orthodox Church at 515 Antwerp Street, Sudbury at 10 am on Wednesday, June 5, 2024 interment followed at Civic Cemetery on Second Avenue, Sudbury.

Celebration of Life

TOM AND MARGIE STRINGER



With heavy hearts but cherished memories, we invite you to celebrate the remarkable lives of Tom and Margie Stringer who passed away just two months apart earlier this year after 58 beautiful years of marriage. A joint burial will take place on June 15, 2024 at 11 am at the Green Bay Cemetery. Family and close friends are invited to attend. A public Celebration of Life will be hosted by their daughters between 1 to 3 pm on June 15, 2024 at the Sheguiandah Seniors' Hall. Please join us in sharing stories, laughter and light refreshments as we honour their lasting legacy and the countless moments of joy they brought into our lives.

Burial Service

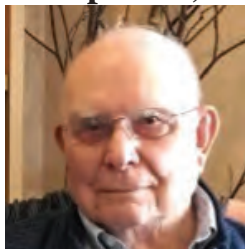
DONALD "KIRK" STRAIN



Please join us in Celebrating the Life of Donald "Kirk" Strain on Saturday, June 15, 2024 at 11 am for a graveside service to be held at the Gordon Cemetery. After the service you are invited to a light lunch at the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 514, Gore Bay.

WILLIAM JOHN BOYCE ANDERSON

April 29, 1929 - January 5, 2024



Family and friends are invited to attend the burial of Boyce Anderson, to be held at the Grimesthorpe Cemetery on Saturday, June 22, 2024 at 2 pm.

DOUGLAS IVAN DAVID LANKTREE

January 5, 1956 - May 22, 2024

Douglas Ivan David Lanktree, born January 5, 1956 on Manitoulin, passed away peacefully with his wife Barb and Sister Joan by his side in Brandon General Hospital, Brandon Manitoba on May 22, 2024 at the age of 68. Doug is survived by his wife Barb (Wilson) his sister Joan Vyse (John 1994) (Calvin 2019), sister-in-law Chris (Dwayne 2018) sisters-in-law Maxine, Donna, Beth and Kelly and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by parents Ivan and Hazel Lanktree, brother Dwayne and brothers-in-law John Vyse (1994) and Calvin Pearson (2019). Doug has resided in Benito, Manitoba for 41 years Doug and Barb ran a grocery store in Benito and when they sold it, Doug worked for 30 years for Ag Sheild a farm equipment manufacturing company in Benito. Doug loved to fish, hunt, camp, golf, play darts and garden or just visit with friends and have a beer. Doug was a member of the Elks Foundation of Manitoba. Cremation has taken place and at a later date his ashes will be buried at Providence Bay Cemetery. Doug will be greatly missed and loved dearly.

MIKE MEEKER

February 23, 1958 - June 5, 2024

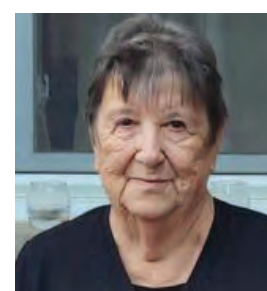


Mike Meeker, born February 23, 1958, passed away June 5, 2024. First and foremost Mike loved his family. He leaves behind his wife Sharon Meeker (Vaughn); sons Zac (Terri) and Adam (Deborah); grandchildren Nathaniel, Ty, Elizabeth, Victoria, Norah and Hannah along with nieces and nephews; Seth, Shane, Hannah, Isaac, Riley, Emmett and Tess. Mike was born in Kingston, Ontario, the oldest to Joan and Thomas (predeceased); siblings Shari, Danny (Brenda) and Tracy (Mark). Mike had a prolific hockey career which traversed tier two junior (Nepean Raiders), NCAA (Wisconsin Badgers), OHL (Peterborough Petes), AHL (Binghamton Dusters), NHL (Pittsburgh Penguins) and professional hockey in Sweden (Karlskrona). Even during his athletic endeavours, Mike pursued adventure and innovation related to his interest in nature and biology. This led him to Manitoulin Island in 1984 with his wife Sharon to start an aquaculture business. Mike made many contributions to the community with his experience and leadership abilities. He coached a variety of baseball and hockey teams and provided mentorship to countless local athletes. In addition to his own industrious business, he volunteered on the local fire department and was a key contributor to many professional organizations and business developments across Manitoulin. He was instrumental in the development of the aquaculture industry in Northern Ontario. Mike was a principled individual who lived to support and protect country, community and family. It is for this reason that he touched so many lives and why he will be so dearly missed. A Celebration of Life will be held at Simpson Funeral Home in Gore Bay on June 16, 2024 at 1 pm. The funeral service will take place At Simpson Funeral Home on Sunday, June 16, 2024 at 1pm with Rev. Janice Frame officiating. Please share your thoughts, memories and photos at www.simpsonfuneralhome.ca.



Celebration of Life

GRETTA GARBUTT



Please join the family of Gretta Garbutt to share stories and remember our wonderful mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. The family will be hosting a casual come and go Celebration of Life on Friday, June 21, 2024 from 11 am to 2 pm at the Sheguiandah Seniors Hall.

Lunch and refreshments will be served.

...Chinook helicopter makes surprise landing at Gore Bay schoolyard

...continued from page 14 that we are here presenting this very deserving recognition to her."

Lieutenant-Colonel (Commanding Officer) Harris then called upon C.C. McLean Principal Robyn Best, "I am making a presentation of a special Squadron Commander's coin to Ms. Best, as a lot of organization behind the scenes has gone into this event today. I present this coin to members of my squadron after they've done something excellent in the workplace. Thank you very much for keeping it a secret and for all the organization and the work you've done to make this happen today."

Ms. Best said that programs like the Christmas packages program, writing letters to CAF members and being pen pals with them, "gives the students a real purpose and really ignites their desire to learn."

Lt. Colonel Harris then coaxed the students to run a lap around the track at C.C. McLean before they were able to take a tour and look inside the Chinook. The Chinook in question is one of 14 helicopters in service with the 450 Tactical Helicopter Squadron, based at CFB Petawawa. The helicopters, which are



Major Dave White, who nominated Heather Jefkins for the award, got to meet his penpal, Grade 3 student Jack Pfeifer.



Only 100 '100 Coins for 100 Canadians' were minted and Heather Jefkins is one of the few to be honoured for her unwavering support of the Canadian Armed Forces.

designed to carry about 36 passengers, are used by the CAF in situations where they are needed to transport equipment or personnel in domestic situations such as flood and fire relief within Canada, deployments around the world and search and rescue operations. Students had an opportunity to tour the aircraft, speak with the crew and even get autographs.

The Expositor caught up to Ms. Jefkins (who will be retiring as of June 28 after a 30-year teaching career) a day after receiving the RCAF coin. She was still absolutely shocked to be the recipient of the award. "I had no idea the Chinook was coming. Major Dave White and I had texted back and forth this past winter about his idea of getting a helicopter to the school so he could surprise his penpal (Grade 3 student Jack Pfeifer), but seeing that it is getting late in the school year I was going with the idea that it was not going to happen. Dave and I message back and forth quite a bit and on Thursday night he told me he wanted to get Jack a hat and shirt. I was thinking he would send it in the mail."

On Friday, at the time the military helicopter was to arrive at C.C. Mc-

Lean, "I was on recess duty," said Ms. Jefkins. "I saw the police go by the classroom window, and then I saw Tom Sasvari and Mike Erskine walk by and I was wondering what it was all about because you are both from the same paper, but still I wasn't thinking anything big was taking place that involved me. The students were watching the police walking past the window

and then one of the students said, 'There's a helicopter.' Then I heard a loud 'whomp-whomp-whomp' sound and thought there is only one that makes that sound."

So, she walked out of the school saying, "I've been had."

"I really thought Dave had been able to pull the visit off without telling me. I never dreamed that

...continued on page 21

Law & Order

...continued from page 6

a call of a suspicious person at the same apartment complex in the main village of Wiikwemkoong.

A suspect was outside and was attempting to open the door at the complainant's residence. The complainant yelled at the suspect, and they fled on foot away from the area. Again, no entry was gained.

Police encourage community members to keep their doors locked, keep valuables in a safe place inside the residence. And further, to report any suspicious persons or suspicious activity to police.

Weapons call being investigated

The WTPS received a disturbance call on June 1 at an apartment complex in the main village area on the WUT. At approximately 1 am, officers received a call of a fight occurring involving multiple persons outside of the apartment complex. It was also reported that one suspect was observed with a possible handgun.

Officers attended the scene and spoke to witnesses that stated the disturbance had just ended and other persons involved had fled the area in a black vehicle. One person at the scene had been assaulted but the injuries were not too serious.

Witnesses identified the male suspect and stated he was in possession of a handgun and was pointing it at people. A suspect was observed entering an apartment at the complex.

Police investigation revealed that the male suspect did not exit the apartment and was still inside.

At approximately 2:30 am, officers entered the apartment and located the male suspect hiding within. Officers also located a pellet handgun inside the apartment as well. The male suspect was arrested and returned to the Wikwemikong Police Office without further incident.

The male suspect was found to be on conditions of release as well. As a result of the investigation, a 36-year-old male resident of Wiikwemkoong has been charged with the following: weapons dangerous, pointing a firearm, imitation weapon-use while committing an offence, failure to comply with release order.

The matter is still under investigation.

Anyone with information on this incident or any other investigation can contact the Wikwemikong Tribal Police at (705) 370-3141 or through the communications centre at 1-888-310-1122, or Crimestoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS.

The Wikwemikong Tribal Police responded to 186 calls for service for the week of May 27-June 4.

in memoriam

BAKER—It is with heavy hearts that we mourn the loss of Lion Joe Baker, who has been with the Gore Bay/ Western Manitoulin Lions Club for many years. Lion Joe was a steady guiding hand through the years and loved to be the meat cook for both Lionsfest and Harbour Days until the last few years. He was always available with advice and suggestions when asked. He made being the Tail Twister for the club fun, always made us laugh when he found issues that the members forgot to do and as a consequence had to pay 25 cents to "Little Leo". Lion Joe will be greatly missed by all of us. One final roar for Lion Joe Baker.

4c



Heather Jefkins embraces Major Dave White, who nominated the teacher for the special acknowledgment.

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

KJV Bible Study, every Monday night, 7 to 9 pm in Providence Bay. For more information call 705-348-2229, or email kjc.manitoulin@gmail.com. All welcome.

4tfn



Little Current Home
3 beds & 2.5 baths
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McGregor Bay Private Island
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Garage Sale

Garage Sale for Shelly Wright
6 Wright Street, Gore Bay
Saturday, June 15 | 9 am-3 pm

This is a very large garage sale! Includes a workshop of tools for woodworking, lots of metal and hand tools, tool chests, wood stove, tarped outbuilding, Vanguard 8000 electric generator, rigid mitre and table saw, Stihl blower and snipper, ladders, doors, oak dining table and chairs, Cub Cadet trailer, Keg BBQ, snow sled, bricks, 2 skids of flagstone slabs, picnic table, street signs, freezer, oil and paint, electrical tools, household items, camping supplies, golf clubs, compressor, motorcycle equipment, pub kitchen set.

Rain or shine. Mostly held indoors. There are so many items so bring your truck and trailers to transport.
Something for everyone.

Cash only! Follow signs in from H&M Mini Mart.

Text 905-691-7355,
email rrtarp@hotmail.com
or follow Robbie White from Milton on Marketplace for pictures.

Sale rain or shine

...Chinook makes surprise landing

...continued from page 20

they would land a helicopter at the school, and that they would do all of this to present one of my students with a hat and shirt. I thought it was a pretty big deal for one student and the rest of my class of Grade 3-4s. I had no clue the Lieutenant Colonel and Chief Warrant Officer (Carmen Bear) would be here. I thought it was a big surprise that Dave had organized for our class, and I had no clue that Tim (Armstrong) would be there," said Ms. Jefkins.

After having had time to digest having been presented with a 100 Coins to 100 Canadians coin, Ms. Jefkins stated, "It is such an honour. I can't put it into words. I've had the opportunity to work with so many great people in the military through the years." She concluded with, "I couldn't have done any of this for the past 18 years without the amazing community support from around Manitoulin Island. Any time I have put up my hand for help with the Christmas boxes or anything else, everyone I've ever approached from community members to parents to businesses, no one has ever said no. It has always been 'how many (items) do you need, Heather,' or 'What can we do to help?'"

When asked if she intended to continue with providing morale mail



Charles C. McLean students had the unique opportunity to tour a Chinook helicopter that landed in their schoolyard.

photo by Tom Sasvari

projects after her retirement, she stated that she is still working through possible ideas about how she might run the programs in the future, and if it would be possible outside of the classroom setting.

"Receiving this honour made me cry my head off, because I've worked with

so many great people over the years and everyone has been so supportive," concluded Ms. Jefkins. "It still seems unreal to me that all of this has happened."

Visit the Expositor's TikTok page for great footage from the event!

Manitoulin Island Real Estate Brokerage Inc.

FEATURED LISTING

Newer home in Gore Bay with one level living on spectacular lot. Open concept with three bedrooms, including ensuite and laundry. Thoughtful design with modern amenities including a propane fireplace. This three year old home has a full basement ready to make it your own and an attached garage and expansive deck. This beautiful property has over two acres and a detached garage. Very private and peaceful. Available for quick closing. Call for your private showing today.

MLS #: 2117007 – Price: \$465,000



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75 Holmes Street, Spring Bay
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MLS #2116060, \$250,000

25 acres with the perfect getaway cabin!
17895 Highway 540, Evansville
MLS #2116822 \$259,000

222 Clover Valley Road West, Manitowaning
MLS #2115543, \$440,000

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

102 C&D Water Street, South Baymouth
MLS #2115353, \$549,000

2128 Highway 542, Lake Manitou
MLS #2112825, \$999,666

149 Yonge Street, Kagawong
Riverfront Century Home
MLS #2112936, \$380,000

65 Queen Street, Manitowaning
MLS #2115831, \$299,999

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MLS #2117159
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705-282-7738



Leanne Lewis
Realtor & Team Leader
705-261-4663



Windfred Pasveer
Realtor
289-213-4503



Mitch Paquette
Realtor
705-507-5910



Karen Bond
Realtor
705-497-4006



Corey McCutcheon
Realtor
705-562-3496

VACANT LAND

Lot 11 Pleasant View Terrace
MLS#: 2111777,
\$69,900

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

12 Cockburn St., Little Current
MLS#: 2117080,
\$48,000

PT1 Hwy 540, Gore Bay
MLS#: 2113047
\$79,900

PT2 Hwy 540, Gore Bay
MLS#: 2113046
\$79,900

LOT 28, Con 10, Hwy 540,
Little Current
MLS#: 2114168,
\$69,000

Lot 27 Hayward Crescent,
Little Current
MLS#: 2115567
\$57,000

48 Fraser, Gore Bay
MLS#: 2115677
\$125,000

Lot 20B Thorne St, Mindemoya
MLS#: 2115666
\$59,900

270 Bay Estates Road,
Sheguiandah
MLS#: 2115897
\$219,900

N/A Monument Road,
Spring Bay
MLS#: 2116815
\$59,700

VACANT LANDSCAPED LOT
N/A Limberlost Lane,
Mindemoya
MLS#: 2116937
\$79,900

WATERFRONT/VACANT

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

Lot 12 Lake Huron Drive
Spring Bay
MLS#: 2116049
\$275,000

ACREAGE
1301 Mason Line,
Silver Water
MLS#: 2116940
\$219,000



NEW LISTING
COMMERCIAL BUILDING
55 Meredith Street, Gore Bay
MLS#: 2117080, \$485,000



NEW LISTING
WATERFRONT
ACREAGE
5570C Highway 540, Billings
MLS#: 2117086, \$750,000



NEW LISTING
FARM
20th Side Road, Tehkummah
MLS#: 2117076 & 2117071,
\$796,000



PRICE ADJUSTMENT
130 Thorne Street,
Mindemoya
MLS#: 2114944, \$649,500



PRICE ADJUSTMENT
SELLER MOTIVATED!
195 Limberlost Lane,
Mindemoya
MLS#: 2113337, \$627,000



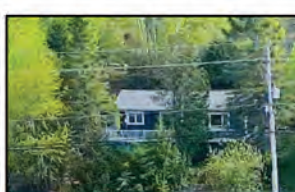
PRICE ADJUSTMENT
4847 Bidwell Road,
Sheguiandah
MLS#: 2116542, \$495,000



PRICE ADJUSTMENT
159 Main Street, Kagawong
MLS#: 2116012, \$459,000



PRICE ADJUSTMENT
WATERFRONT
646 Pebble Road, Silver Water
MLS#: 2116015, \$299,000



PRICE ADJUSTMENT
WATERFRONT
317 Main Street, Kagawong
MLS#: 2115228, \$347,900



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Manitowaning
MLS#: 2116415, \$475,000



WATERFRONT
507 Lakeshore Road, Mindemoya
MLS#: 2115157, \$675,000



WATERFRONT
10 McQuarrie Drive, Kagawong
MLS#: 2115676, \$699,000



WATERFRONT
141 Maple Lane, Mindemoya
MLS#: 2114791, \$399,000



WATERFRONT
71 Corbiere Road, Spring Bay
MLS#: 2113707, \$275,000



WATERFRONT
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WATERFRONT
75 Holmes Road, Spring Bay
MLS#: 2115461, \$825,000



WATERFRONT
454 Cardwell Street, Manitowaning
MLS#: 2115566, \$999,000



FARM
208 20th Side Road,
Tehkummah
MLS#: 2116078, \$687,000



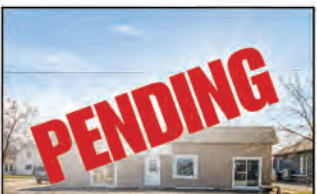
FARM
12 Robertson Road, Gore Bay
MLS#: 2116193, \$415,000



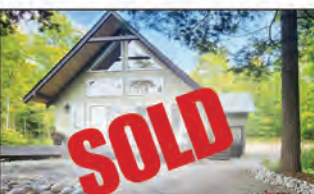
FARM
94 Watson Bay Road,
Tehkummah
MLS#: 2115367, \$2,500,000



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MLS#: 2113498, \$259,500



6227 King Street, Mindemoya
MLS#: 2115895, \$339,000



63 Rainbow Trail, Mindemoya
MLS#: 2115757, \$639,000



14110 Highway 542, Gore Bay
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38 Dominion Bay Rd, Spring Bay
MLS#: 2116310 \$399,000



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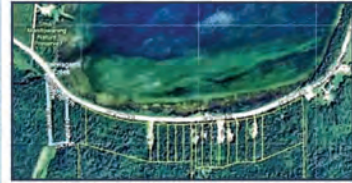
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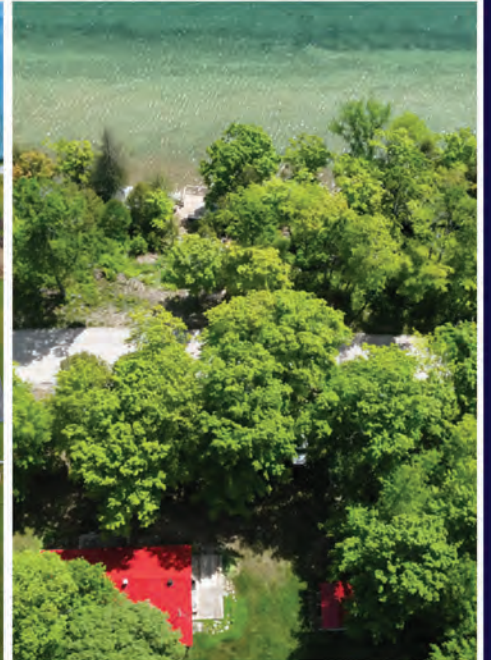
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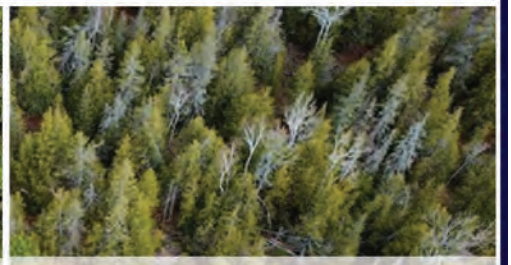
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MLS 2117160 | \$55,000



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Little Current, Ontario

Wednesday, June 12, 2024

Island golfer wins Senior Men's Northern Golf Assoc. championship

by Tom Sasvari

AUNDECK OMNI KANING—Denis Audette has won several championships in events played at Rainbow Ridge Golf Course (RRGC) in Manitowaning in the past, but he had never won an off-island tournament until the Senior Men's Northern Golf Association (NGA) championship earlier this month.

The 2024 senior men's NGA championship took place at Huron Pines Golf Course in Blind River on June 1. The tournament was also a qualifier for the Ontario Men's Amateur championship tournament.

Mr. Audette posted an 18-hole score of par 72 to win the senior men's championship by three strokes. "My short game and my chipping were really good, and I was making some putts."

Mr. Audette, 61, also has a pretty good long game as well, averaging 280 yards off the tee and reaching over 300 yards at times.

"This championship dates back to 1926 so it is quite an achievement to win this tournament," continued Mr. Audette. There was a total of 15 of the best senior players in Northern Ontario competing at this championship.

Huron Pines, "is definitely a challenging course, but the course is in great shape. The greens are immaculate," said Mr. Audette.

Mr. Audette also qualified for the NGA mid-amateur championship also held at Huron Pines on June 2. He didn't

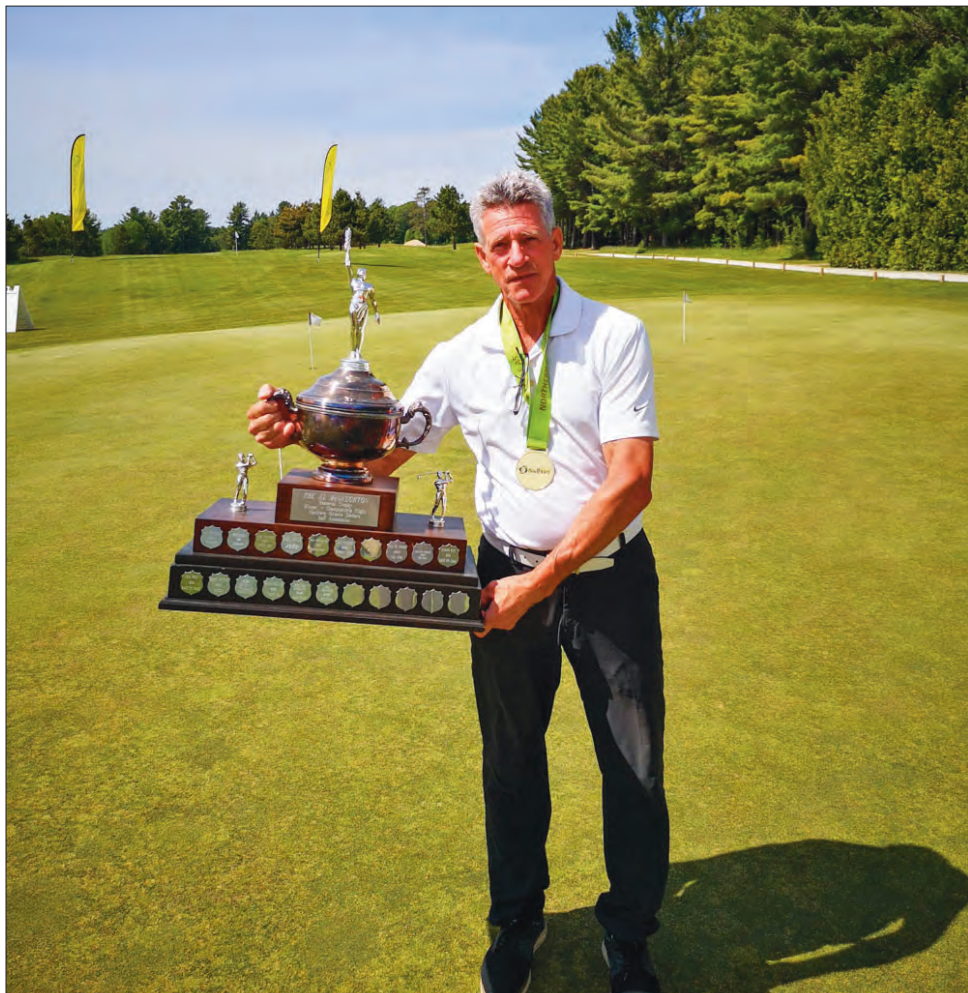
do as well as hoped, shooting 85. "I almost left after six holes; the mosquitoes were so bad. I couldn't even stand over the ball without getting bit. The mosquitoes were bad Saturday, but a whole lot worse Sunday."

Mr. Audette is no stranger to winning, having won the RRGC mixed division championship six or seven times, the men's title four times and the club championship about eight times.

Interestingly, he got a late start in his golf career. "No, I never touched a golf club until I was 39 years old," he told The Expositor. "I was self-taught but about seven years ago I took lessons from Rae McNichol of Espanola. His lessons really helped me. I tip my hat to him for all his help."

As if winning a prestigious tournament is not enough, Mr. Audette also notched a hole in one on the 11th hole (the third of his lifetime) at RRGC in May. He also tied for fifth in the Champion of Champions event last year at a tournament held at Bond Head Golf Course.

With his victory at the NGA senior men's Mr. Audette was one of three players in the tournament who qualified for the All-Ontario Senior Men's championship taking place July 21-23 in Brockville. "I'm really looking forward to that tournament. If I am fortunate to win there it would qualify me for the All-Canadian championship."



Golfer Denis Audette of Aundeck Omni Kaning won the Senior Men's Northern Golf Association championship earlier this month at a tournament held in Blind River.

Manitoulin Sporting Life

Ice Chips to Canoe Quips

by Larry and André Leblanc



Islanders at OFSAA!

Congratulations to all the Manitoulin athletes who competed against the top qualifiers in Ontario at last week's OFSAA track and field meet in London. What a way to end a season to put all that preparation to the test against the best.

Results are spotty here at best, but I know **Mya Balfe** was 8th in discus with a 29.27m hurl, although not her PB, 14th in long jump with a new PB of 4.66m and 14th in triple, also a PB of 10.53. Her sister **Annie** was an amazing fifth in triple jump and just a few centimetres shy of 3rd with her PB of 11.45 m. Hopefully, I will be able to track down more for next week. Hats off as well to **Brooke Gibeault, Brodie Pennie, Jack Bridgeman, Sadie Bridgeman, Greyson Case, Andrew Cooper, Fia Flanagan, TJ Green, Maren Kasunich, Colin Lindner, Brodie Pennie, Alan Wilkin** and **Wyatt Williamson-Wright**.

MTB team hosts and races!

The Manitoulin Mountain Bike Team had two MTB events this week and even played host to one of them. The first was in Walden on June 3 for the Walden for the Bush Pig Open! Congratulations to the team! Here are their individual results: **Rachel Quackenbush** was 2nd in her 5km race for U16 girls. In the 10km race - U16 boys, brothers **Nathan Quackenbush** was 1st and **Isaac Quackenbush** was 5th. Ripping through the 16-plus men on his new ride was **Dane Gibeault**, taking first place, teammate **Xavier Coleman** was 6th. In the 10km race 16+ women division, **Caroline Black** was 5th. Up in the 20km race 16+ men, **Alex Anstice** was third overall while **Brad Slaght** was 22nd overall and 3rd of the 16-19 year olds who raced it!

Then the team, along with Breakaway Sports, hosted the Manitoulin MTB Challenge Sunday, June 9 at the fabulous McLean's Park mountain bike trail. This was their second Manitoulin MTB Challenge Event in partnership with the Township of Assinack and offered events for the whole family. There was a short 1km kids race and the youth and adult events consisted of multiple laps of a 4km loop. Younger and recreational riders completed two laps and the older and more experienced riders completed 4 laps. Coach **Ben Quackenbush** extends thanks to the Township of Assinack for hosting this event with them.

Congratulations to all the participants of the four-lapper: **Alex Anstice, Dane Gibeault, Matt Hansford, Bradley Slaght, Nathan Quackenbush, Mitch Trottier, Riley Breton, Nishin Meawasige, Bill Slaght, Sebastian Mara, Eric Durie, Sarah Quackenbush** and **Hannah Brown**.

Taking in the two-lap tour were: **Blake Trottier, Rachel Quackenbush, Rex Meawasige, Grayson Gilchrist, Harrison Wright, Olivia Moffatt, Bonnie Steele** and **Rodney Steele**.

The kids event featured: **Grayson Gilchrist, Harrison Wright, Emily Anstice** and **Chloe Anstice!**

Next weekend, there is a race in the provincial O-cup series in Sault Ste.

Marie next weekend that three of the MMBT guys will attend and then there's another Bush Pig race at Walden the first week of July. Of course, team members will likely be poached to anchor the bike leg of this year's Mindemoya Classic on June 30!

Where are they now?

It is great to hear when active kids become active adults. I was recently able to discover that **Rachel Hoffman**, now in her mid 20s, is more than just active in her spare time. She is at work as well! Rachel is a certified fitness trainer now out in Alberta who has started competing in power lifting competitions. This past weekend, she achieved what anyone would hope for, beating all her PBs! A power lifter competes in three disciplines: bench press, deadlift and squats for an aggregate result. How about these for new personal records: squats - 203.5 lbs, deadlifts - 280.5 lbs and bench press she admits is not her strongest lift but still beat her PB with a 121 pounder! Her goal is to break 300 lbs on her deadlifts in the next competition. Best of luck, Rachel!

Mike will be missed

It was with great sadness we learned of the passing of **Mike Meeker** last week. Mike was an accomplished hockey player with several teams from the Peterborough Petes, the University of Wisconsin Wolverines and even a few games with the NHL's Pittsburgh Penguins before injuries sidelined him.

Hockey never left him after retirement, however, and his positive imprint on scores of local hockey players through his coaching is obvious. Mike had an admirable team concept that he instilled in his teams.

I constantly hounded him for players' names from the scoresheets of his Manitoulin Mustang teams over the years. Although he was very generous with thoughts on the team and their prospects, he was reticent to just celebrate goal-scorers. He, rightly so, didn't want to damage morale and his vision for the team. He understood the vital importance of every player feeling that they had a positive contribution to add even if it never showed on the scoresheet.

What a great legacy to give someone who is a player and also a person. You will be missed, Mike.

Thank you.



The Mustangs pose for a photo following their winning ways at the Cardinal Carter Classic Tournament at York University in 2020 led ably by Coach Mike Meeker, left.

A good sport is good for sports
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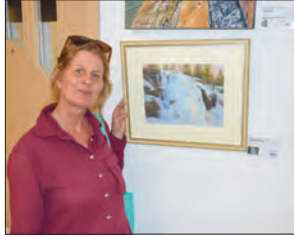
67th NOAA Juried Exhibition opens at Centennial Museum to rave reviews



Northern Ontario Artist Association Island rep Pam Jackson with her award-winning painting 'Joan Jackson was here.'



'Stream in Autumn' by Richard Edwards, garnered a Manitoulin Fine Arts Association member Honourable Mention.



'Frozen-Plein Air' is an open air painting by Sue Lampinen (Manitoulin Fine Arts Association member).



'Pink Joy' by Ellen Lewis (Manitoulin Fine Arts Association member).

by Michael Erskine

SHEGUIANDAH—It has been a long three-year hiatus for the travelling Northern Ontario Art Association (NOAA) Juried Exhibition in coming to the Island to display the very best of fine art in the North, but this past week the 67th edition of the popular art show opened at the Centennial Museum of Sheguiandah to outstanding praise. Best of all, four Island artists are featured in this year's exhibition.

"I very much appreciate the work of Lisa (Hallaert, museum curator and town events coordinator) in making this happen so we can have these exhibitions at the museum," said Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands Mayor Al MacNevin. "It is not often you get to see a cross section of Northern Ontario art without having

to travel to Moonbeam, Kapuskasing or Hearst—having them all here in one display is very nice."

"Isn't this great?" asked local NOAA board rep Pam Jackson. "There are so many talented artists in this show." Ms. Jackson might be forgiven a bit of bias in this show as one of the works adorning the gallery is hers (a portrait of her late mother). But no less a luminary than renown Island artist Ivan Wheale heartily shared her assessment.

"It's a good show," he said. "There is a lot of interesting work, of course there always is, but not to this extent. This is one of the best, if not the best, I have ever seen."

Mr. Wheale noted that "there is such a nice variety of subjects and medium, acrylics and drawing, mixed

media, there is something there for every taste."

Full disclosure, Mr. Wheale might also be forgiven a bit of bias in this show, as a number of the artists that were chosen by the jury are some of his own students. "It's nice to see the end result (of his mentoring)," he said.

The Island works include 'Joan Jackson was Here' by Pam Jackson, which won the MFAA Agnico Eagle Ltd. Award; 'Stream in Autumn' by Richard Edwards, which garnered an MFAA Honourable Mention; 'Frozen-Plein Air' by Sue Lampinen (MFAA); and 'Pink Joy' by Ellen Lewis (MFAA).

The show will run at the museum until June 28 and is free admission. Museum hours are Monday to Sunday 9 am to 4:30 pm.



Manitoulin Health Centre (MHC) Corporation Notice of Annual General Meeting Monday, June 17, 2024 at 6:00 pm

Manitoulin Health Centre will be holding their Annual General Meeting (AGM) virtually (via Microsoft Teams) on Monday, June 17th, beginning at 6 pm.

Members of the Corporation and the General Public are invited and welcome to attend, but only members will be able to comment or ask questions during the meeting.

To receive the Microsoft Teams link, please send an email inquiry to Lori Mastelko at lmastelko@mhc.on.ca.

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- Post-secondary diploma for Developmental Service Worker or equivalent in the Human Services Field (preferred)
- Personal Support Worker certificate or equivalent
- First Year Developmental Service Worker students may also qualify
- A valid Ontario driver's licence (Class G)
- Vulnerable Sector Criminal Reference Check

Interested candidates should send a cover letter and resumé by regular mail to the attention of:

Mrs. Megan Wickett, Operations Manager
Community Living Manitoulin
PO Box 152
Mindemoya, Ontario, P0P 1S0
Or by email to: mwickett@clmanitoulin.com
Or by fax to: (705) 377-7175

For more information regarding Community Living Manitoulin, please visit our website at: www.clmanitoulin.com.



AUNDECK OMNI KANING FIRST NATION EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY BAND MANAGER

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

JOB DUTIES:

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

QUALIFICATIONS:

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

APPLICATION TO INCLUDE:

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

Please forward applications marked CONFIDENTIAL to:

Aundeck Omni Kaning First Nation
c/o Chief Patsy Corbiere
13 Hill Street, Little Current, ON P0P 1K0

Complete job description is available at the Band Office reception desk.

Deadline for applications is Friday, June 14, 2024 at 12:00 NOON.

The successful candidate must provide an acceptable Police Record Check (C.P.I.C.).



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Phone: (705) 283-3292 Fax: (705) 283-3481

The thriving Community of Sheshegwaning First Nation is currently accepting applications for an Elementary School Teacher at St. Joseph's Anishnabek School. Come work with some wonderful staff, amazing kids and fantastic community members and make a difference in the future generation, with the gift of education.

Essential Duties:

- Work under the supervision of the Principal.
- Prepare and deliver lessons to the students according to the approved curriculum.
- Implement and deliver culturally appropriate Anishnaabe teachings within the school and community setting.
- Experience and/or knowledge of land-based learning.
- Teach students using a systematic plan of lessons, discussion, audio-visual presentations, field trips, hands-on activities to promote their physical, mental and social development and their school readiness.
- Develop and implement long-range plans.
- Prepare and administer assessments.
- Evaluate the progress of students and discuss results with students, parents and school officials.
- Identify children's learning styles and needs.
- Prepare and implement remedial programs for children requiring extra help. Work with consultants and principal to provide supports.
- Participate in staff meetings, teacher training workshops, professional development days and other school functions.
- May supervise teacher assistants and student teachers.
- Knowledgeable in literacy and numeracy practices.

Qualifications/Requirements:

- Must hold a valid Ontario Teaching Certificate.
- Preferred Bachelor of Education or ATEP.
- Must have knowledge and/or experience of the culture, tradition, history and customs of the Anishnaabe.
- Understanding and fluency of Odawa or Ojibwe language is an asset or must be willing to learn the language.
- CRC/CPIC and Vulnerable Sector Screening.

Location: Sheshegwaning First Nation, St. Joseph's Anishnabek School
Salary Range: As per placement on the approved Teacher Salary Grid

Deadline to Apply: June 24, 2024 at 4:30 pm.

Interested applicants may forward their cover letter and resumé marked 'Confidential' to:
Jessica Sampson, Human Resources Director
Sheshegwaning First Nation
1079A Sheshegwaning Road
Sheshegwaning First Nation, ON P0P 1X0
Jessica@sheshegwaning.org



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This key position in the organization requires an individual who has excellent computer and numeracy skills as well as the personal suitability in working directly with business clients. An educational background in Office or Business Administration (Accounting) is preferred along with strong organizational and self-motivational skills. Naishnaabemaang shwii go washme ndawendaagod

This individual will perform the following duties;

- Manage the receipt of all incoming calls as well as incoming/outgoing correspondence;
- Ensuring orderly functioning of the office, ordering office supplies and overseeing office equipment, etc;
- Preparing general office correspondence;
- Managing all organization digital files;
- Organizing Board meetings and preparing digital meeting kits;
- Preparing and processing client claims for approved financing;
- Entering data into the loans/investment database;
- Registering liens on loan security;
- Processing creditor's life loan insurance;
- Issuing client account statements;
- Managing the organization's website and social media;
- Helping to organize workshops and events; and
- Being a strong support to the organization in meeting its mandate and service standards.

Salary is commensurate with qualifications and experience. A six (6) month probationary review is applicable. Please submit a letter of application and resume with three (3) references by **noon on Friday, June 14th, 2024** to: dmadahbeebeach@waubetek.com.

While all applications for the position are appreciated, only those invited for an interview will be contacted.



WAUBETEK
Business Development Corporation
A Community Futures Development Corporation

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER
INDIGENOUS WOMEN'S ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAM

The Waubetek Business Development Corporation is seeking a Business Development Officer who will work with individuals applying to our Indigenous Women's Entrepreneurship Program (IWE).

Qualifications:

This important position in the organization requires an individual with post-secondary education in business administration and work experience in banking and/or assisting small businesses. All applicants require:

- The ability to prepare business analyses, as well as financial projections/cash-flow statements;
- Proficiency in the use of various types of business and communications software and databases (word processing, spreadsheets, loan databases, etc.);
- Excellent written and oral communication skills; and
- Experience in delivering workshops and public presentations related to business programs, entrepreneurship, marketing, etc.

Duties:

- Providing business development services to guide applicants through the development process;
- Preparing business analyses along with financial projections to assess business viability for management/Board approval;
- Establishing and administering a business mentorship program;
- Organizing online and in-person business workshops to support new and existing Indigenous women entrepreneurs; and
- Tracking program deliverables and preparing program reports.

Salary is commensurate with qualifications and experience. The deadline for applications is **Friday, June 21st, 2024**. Please submit a letter of application, your resume and two (2) work related letters of reference to Waubetek's General Manager at the following email using the subject reference "IWE Business Development Officer Position": dmadahbeebeach@waubetek.com

While all applications for the position are appreciated, only those invited for an interview will be contacted.

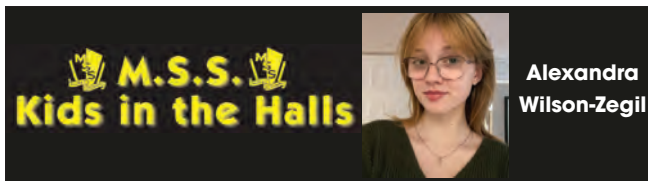
There are just two weeks left of school before exams! Summer is in the air as students begin to finish up culminating projects, study for exams and make plans with their friends. Even with school coming to a close, there is still a lot to do! This week, MSS

students were busy with environmental initiatives and field trips – some students even went to Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations (OFSAA)!

Ms. Cheng's Outdoor Education class went on a canoeing trip this past week. Using the skills

learned throughout the semester, students were well prepared to take on the wilderness and have a lot of fun in the meantime!

Several students from MSS made the tremendous achievement of qualifying for the OFSAA track and field meet. Students Greyson Case, Alan



Alexandra Wilson-Zegil

Wilkin, Andrew Cooper, TJ Green, Wyatt Williamson-Wright, Maren Kasunich, Colin Lindner, Annie Balfe, Sadie Bridgeman, Brodie Pennie, Mya Balfe, Fia Flanagan and Jack Bridgeman were proudly representing MSS at the Western University campus from Thursday,

June 6 to Saturday, June 8. Congratulations to our athletes!

The robotics team has been busy with different environmental protection events this week. In honour of World Environment Day, the team participated in a community clean-up after school. The

group cleaned up around the school grounds, the nearby playground and the ditches on the road leading to the school. Armed with garbage bags, grabbers and sanitary gloves, the team picked up four large bags of trash and recycling. Manitoulin Metal was also host to an e-waste drive this week. The annual event strives to keep electronics out of landfills by recycling them properly. All week, community members could drop off old TVs, smartphones, appliances and more. The robotics team saved several large crates of electronics from going to the landfill.

Yearbooks for sale! The MSS 2023-2024 yearbook is officially available for order. The yearbook committee has been working tirelessly taking photos, hosting grad awards, gathering graduates' quotes and more. For those interested in purchasing a yearbook they can go to this link: <https://online.edgeimaging.ca/>, and enter the school code "MAN".

This Friday, June 7 was Anything but a Backpack Day. As it says in the name, students can bring in all their school supplies in something other than the typical backpack. Students brought in waste paper bins and cooking pots among other things to hold their textbooks.

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



The Manitoulin Secondary School Robotics crew were hard at work cleaning up the environment.

Conseil des Services du District de
Manitoulin-Sudbury
District Services Board

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Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board (DSB) is looking for a self-motivated and energetic individual to join our industry-leading organization which works towards the delivery of high-quality services and programs to the residents of Manitoulin-Sudbury districts. Created by the provincial government, the DSB is responsible for overseeing and managing a range of services divested to the municipal order of government, including Ontario Works, Community Housing, Paramedic Services (Land Ambulance) and Early Learning and Child Care Services.

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While all responses are appreciated, only applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Gwekwaadziwin Miikan

Withdrawal Management/Harm Reduction Support Worker

(Multiple positions available)

Program Description:

A full-time contract position responsible for the development and implementation of acute withdrawal, distribution of harm reduction supplies, safe/flex beds, and opioid agonist tapering services as part of the Gwekwaadziwin Miikan continuum of services.

Responsibilities and Duties:

- Reporting to the Withdrawal Management/Harm Reduction Team Leader.
- Program development and implementation.
- Responsible for supporting the intake of program participants.
- Electronic file and paper file management.
- Communicate with participants and their families about the program.
- Supporting referrals to external organizations.
- Responsible for liaising with community organizations.
- Group and one-to-one interactions.
- Assist in implementation of research and outcome measurement projects.
- Various administrative duties as needed.

Qualifications:

- Minimum requirement is a degree in social services, nursing or other related human service diploma, with mental health and addictions training.
- Preference given to an individual of Anishinaabe ancestry with knowledge and understanding of Anishinabek history, clan systems, protocols, etiquette, culture, traditions and ceremonies.
- Proven experience with data management, office administration and electronic medical records.
- Experience working in mental health and addictions field.
- Experience working in the withdrawal management sector and knowledge of best practices.
- Demonstrated interpersonal and communication skills (both written and verbal).
- Ability to prioritize multiple responsibilities and projects.
- Mature individual who can work independently with preference given to individuals living a traditional lifestyle and being on a life-long journey in traditional knowledge.

Requirements:

- Possesses a valid Ontario class 'G' driver's licence in good standing with access to a reliable vehicle, able to obtain an 'F' class driver's licence with a preference given to those who already hold a class 'F' driver's licence.
- Ability to work outside normal business hours and weekends and on call as required.
- Must have a relevant diploma and work experience.

Salary: \$ Commensurate with qualifications

Closing Date: June 21, 2024 @ 4:30pm

To Apply: Please complete the application online at: gwek.bamboohr.com/careers to apply.
Contact mmaracle@gwek.ca with any questions.

We thank all applicants for their interest, however, only those applicants under consideration will be contacted for an interview.

Combined Indigenous Courtworker

N'Swakamok Native Friendship Centre – Espanola and Gore Bay

Job Purpose:

Provide advocacy to Indigenous people who are involved in the Canadian justice system to help them better understand their rights, options and responsibilities when appearing before the Ontario Courts of Justice. By ensuring Indigenous people have access to legal representation and making referrals and recommendations to the individuals whom you work with. Every effort should be made to present these plans of action to courts for consideration.

Skills/Qualifications:

- Diploma or degree in the Justice, Social Services or related field of study
- Knowledge of the structure and procedures of the Criminal Justice System
- Knowledge of the Criminal Code and Young Offenders Act and other relevant acts
- Must be able to maintain confidentiality
- Must possess excellent interviewing and counselling skills
- Must possess excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Knowledge of Aboriginal language and culture an asset
- Computer literacy - must have experience with Microsoft Office and Outlook
- Collecting statistical information for reporting purposes
- Must be honest, empathetic and respectful as these attributes are fundamental to being an effective Courtworker
- Knowledge and experience with Aboriginal culture and traditions
- Ability to work within a team-oriented environment
- Work experience in client advocacy and client liaison with various service providers
- Must possess valid Ontario Driver's Licence, have access to a reliable vehicle and be willing to travel when required
- Superior ability to work within deadlines and under minimal supervision
- Must be able to work with mainstream justice personnel and authority figures in an appropriate manner so as not to cause a detriment to the clientele served, the courtworker program, N'Swakamok or its affiliates
- Must include up to date CPIC which includes Vulnerable Sector

A letter of application, resumé and three work-related reference letters must be received no later than **June 14, 2024 at 3:00 pm** to the attention of:

**Ms. Marie Meawasige, Executive Director,
N'Swakamok Native Friendship Centre
110 Elm Street, Sudbury, Ontario P3C 1T5**

Applications for this position will be accepted in person,
by mail or email: apatisiwin@nfcsudbury.org

We would like to thank everyone who applies, however, only those candidates selected for an interview will be contacted and preference will be given to Indigenous applicants.

Spring/Summer Edition

HAWWEATERS

Guide

2024



FEATURING



Islanders aid research into little brown bats
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The invasive Eurasian ruffe could soon be in our waters
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Cover photo submitted to The Manitoulin Expositor during our 'Toulin Times' photo contest by Vladimir Kabelik.
More of Vladimir Kabelik's works can be found on: www.kabelik.com and www.vladimirkabelik.com

Community support spurs Progress in Manitoulin bat research

by Ed Prudhomme

MANITOULIN—Following an earlier Expositor article on the research being conducted on little brown bats in the Manitoulin Island area, this newspaper is pleased to report that the project's citizen call-out for assistance has been met with overwhelming support from the community.

The academic trio from the University of Guelph, consisting of lead researcher (MSS alumna) Alexandria Cosby (PhD candidate), and assisted by Genevieve Kleefisch (MSc candidate) and Owen Tapia Daly (BSc candidate), are incredibly thankful for the enthusiastic response. They said the assistance they have gotten has significantly aided the project, allowing it to proceed in a highly productive manner. It has also ensured that the research has established a sound foundation with plenty of opportunities to access and collect crucial data.

Over 30 residents have volunteered to let the researchers access their properties for their bat investigation. This unique contribution from the community has been instrumental in the research. Ms. Cosby noted that she was "stunned, as not everyone would be keen about letting strangers



The University of Guelph academic trio consisting of, left, lead researcher Alexandria Cosby (PhD candidate), Owen Tapia Daly (BSc candidate) and Genevieve Kleefisch (MSc candidate).

onto their property to conduct research at all hours of the day." Further, the team has also expressed that the support they have received has also gone beyond simple access to the properties, though this was of primary importance. Ms. Kleefisch told The Expositor, "the team has also received various generous donations in the form of unexpected resources, including emergency provisions such as pens and stationery. We've even gotten rides into town."

The Manitoulin commu-

nity has again demonstrated its commitment to environmental conservation and wildlife protection by supporting these dedicated researchers. Thus far, the research team is investigating various aspects of brown bat life, including their primary food sources. This research is not just about bats but also about the health of Manitoulin's ecosystem.

"While it was previously thought that their diet consisted mainly of mosquitoes and certain moths, this is not yet definitive," Ms. Cosby

said. "It appears as though diversified environments and access to clean water, which is plentiful on Manitoulin Island, are beneficial for healthy bat populations." Understanding bat diets and habitat preferences can help better manage the area environment and protect local wildlife.

When asked what readers could look for if they wanted to know that they had little brown bats on their property Mr. Tapia Daly said, "that aside from their obvious visual presence of them

flying around, people could go looking for guano (bat droppings). The absence of guano often indicates a lack of bat presence." Ms. Cosby added, "It's important to note that simply having a bat box doesn't guarantee bats, however, appropriate bat boxes can help encourage bats to settle." Interested readers are encouraged to check various available online resources such as www.BatWatch.ca to assist in constructing and installing suitable bat boxes.

Bat house tips

Set up bat boxes at the start of April prior to when bats start to have their pups, or in late August when bats

predators—trees make the box more difficult for the bats to find.

Use untreated rough wood, or boards with horizontal grooves that allow for bats to latch onto the boxes' interiors.

Consider placing two boxes in a similar general area as it provides the bats with options based on preference for location, temperature and ease of access and egress.

Once a house is occupied, avoid disrupting your guests. When the bat house is in use, avoid disrupting its occupants.

Ms. Cosby said, "Bat boxes offer alternative habitats for bats, helping to keep




Installing bat boxes on your property can help the bat population.

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are starting to seek winter dwellings.

Boxes should be facing south or east in direct sunlight to ensure that they receive the most sun and should also be painted black to maximize internal temperature. The bat homes ought to be at least three metres off the ground on a building or pole to avoid

them out of houses where they might be seen as a nuisance." Bat boxes are an essential commodity to the bat population because they may contribute to controlling the spread of white-nose syndrome (WNS), a fungal infection affecting bat hibernation. Ms. Cosby told the Expositor, "The in-...continued on page 4



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Invasive species watchdogs are warning that it's only a matter of time before the Eurasian ruffe could be in our waters.

The invasive Eurasian ruffe could soon be in our waters

by Tom Sasvari

MANITOULIN—While Manitoulin Island area waters may be fortunate that the invasive species fish, Eurasian ruffe, have not been reported yet, it appears the chances are good it will in the future. The species could have a very detrimental affect on fishing in area waters, similar to round gobies. The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) is calling on anglers to kill the invasive fish if they are spotted, and a specialist with the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH) Invading Species Awareness Program is in agreement with this.

"I wouldn't say that Manitoulin Island

is under duress because of Eurasian ruffe, but if they haven't yet, over time they could show up," said Mr. Schryer. "There is the possibility they are already there (Manitoulin). But we count on reports through human science and data. A lot of aquatic species fly under the radar and before they are really noticed, they are already well established in a water body. Finding one can be like finding a needle in a haystack. If someone does report them on Manitoulin, you can be sure they are already well established."

Mr. Schryer said history-wise, it is suspected the Eurasian ruffe is nearby. They came in through sea-faring vessels from Europe

...continued on page 4

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The invasive Eurasian ruffe could soon be in our waters

...continued from page 2 and Asia. They probably came in through the ocean and St. Lawrence Seaway. At that time there were not many regulations in place requiring ships to get rid of ballast water before they

entered the Great Lakes.” He noted stricter regulations are in place. Now ships must exchange ballast with salt water. This kills a large amount of organisms.” Mr. Schryer said Eurasian ruffe were introduced in the

1980s in areas like Thunder Bay. “When you see one, you may think of yellow perch because they look a lot similar,” said Mr. Schryer. Two of the key differences is that the ruffe lacks the dark vertical stripes found on the native yellow perch, and their front and back dorsal fins are joined.

The Soo Today reported that a Sault Ste. Marie angler reported that he was surprised by his catch of an Eurasian ruffe, just north of the Sault.

Dustin Graham thought he hooked into a yellow perch when he first caught it, but once we pulled it up, this fish had a huge spike on its back, he told Soo Today. He showed it to a neighbour (who is an angler as well)

and neither had seen this species of fish previously. He released the fish back into the lake after having taken a few pictures of it. An experienced angler from the area had a look at the photos and confirmed that it was an Eurasian ruffe, the Soo Today reported. “He said they’re no good,” Mr. Graham said. “He didn’t realize they were out there either.”

Technically referred to as Eurasian ruffe (*Gymnocephalus cernua*) the fish is a small-bodied member of the perch family, native to Europe and Asia.

In searching the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) website it explains that Eurasian ruffe have the ability to reproduce relatively rapidly and are tolerant

of a range of water quality parameters. At high densities, ruffe may impact native fish species, such as yellow perch through competition for food and habitat.

A MNR spokesperson told Soo Today, “they were suspected to have been transported in the mid 1980s, definitively identified in the lower St. Louis River (tributary to Lake Superior) in the late summer 1987.

Ontario’s Invading Species Awareness Program supports the MNR points, suggesting that ruffe can quickly become the most dominant fish in local areas, ultimately putting pressure on native species.

“They will become predators of native species of fish

and commercial fish,” said Mr. Schryer. “They reduce food availability in all other species.”

“Since their introduction, this species has spread around the Great Lakes, possibly being brought in by ballast, as the Great Lakes are not as heavily regulated as oceans are now,” said Mr. Schryer. “And they can spread through humans catching them and using them for bait. But their spread is most likely from being naturally spread.”

Mr. Schryer pointed out, “it has been seven years since a confirmation of the invasive was first reported to us. I’m part of the OFAH and Invasive Species Awareness program, so we would receive

...continued on page 6



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...progress in Manitoulin bat research

...continued from page 2

fection spreads primarily within large colonies, making bat boxes a useful tool in providing alternative shelters which might help to prevent the spread of the disease. WNS causes the bats to awaken from torpor (the low activity state of hibernation) more often than they would otherwise over a normal winter hibernation. This excessive waking costs the bats much energy, depleting their fat stores as they need to expend great energy to return to hibernation. As a result, the bats may become emaciated before food becomes available in the spring and may die.”

Regarding the spread of the disease, human activity in caves and other bat habitats is primarily believed to contribute to the spread of WNS. WNS is already spreading throughout Ontario. This has caused an increase in death tolls for hibernating bats. Further, excessive human activity in known habitats over winter can significantly disturb

survivors, increasing the odds that these little creatures might not survive until spring. Readers can play a crucial role in preventing the spread of WNS. Along with installing appropriate bat boxes, following specific simple strategies can make a difference. Avoid entering bat habitats, such as abandoned mines or caves, unless necessary, even more so in winter. Mr. Tapia Daly said, “If you must enter a known bat habitat, change or disinfect all clothing and equipment before entering another potential habitat. By taking these measures, you can help protect not just the bats in that habitat, but also those in the other areas that may be free from WNS.” Your actions can make a difference in the conservation of these fascinating creatures.

Bat business aside, for both Ms. Kleefisch and Mr. Tapia Daly, who hail from the Greater Toronto Area, moving to the Island has been a magical experience, given all the natural beauty they have experienced. The duo said that among the most magical was one of their first nights on the Island, where they witnessed the splendour of the aurora borealis. The kindness and generosity of the Island’s residents has made a lasting impression on these two researchers, who count themselves very lucky for this opportunity. Mr. Tapia Daly said he was surprised that people were both so aware and proud to have brown bats in their area. Ms. Kleefisch also noted how passionate everyone was about the environment and nature in this region. Such an experience is not lost on Ms. Cosby, who is a born and raised Haweater.

Looking ahead, the team emphasizes that this is a multi-year project with ongoing needs. They look forward to continued partnerships with the community to study these important and fascinating creatures. Anyone who is wishing to extend further assistance can contact Ms. Cosby on her cellphone 705-282-4176 or email acosby@uoguelph.ca

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The research trio led by Alexandria Cosby, left, monitoring the results of their Island research project.

How to keep an air conditioner unit running strong this summer

MANITOULIN—Air conditioners are a lifeline come the dog days of summer, when soaring temperatures make a well-cooled home a welcome respite from the outdoors. Maintaining an AC unit ensures it will be there to keep everyone cool when the mercury rises. The following are some steps homeowners can take to keep their AC units in tip-top shape this summer.

- Replace the air filter on the unit. Dirt, dust, debris, and pollen can quickly fill the filter on an AC unit. Replacing these filters prior to summer can make the unit operate more efficiently and keep cool air circulating throughout the house all summer. Homeowners can first identify which type of unit they have and then find an online tutorial to see how to replace the filter. Some filters are more expensive than others, but the cost is still low and the energy savings can be substantial.

- Schedule annual maintenance on the unit. Routine maintenance performed by a local HVAC technician is another way to ensure an AC unit is running at peak capacity when it's most needed. Such maintenance



Keep your AC in tip top shape this summer. **RIGHT:** Using a programmable thermostat is paramount to good AC health. **Shutterstock**

is perhaps most effective in spring, as that ensures the unit is running strong from the first heat wave of the summer all the way through Labor Day. HVAC technicians can identify problems and recommend services that homeowners may not recognize they need until it's already hot. Annual maintenance appointments also give HVAC professionals a chance to assess a system compared to the previous year, which can help them identify if a unit is nearing its end. That can ensure homeowners are not caught off guard when the unit needs to be replaced.

- Help the unit make it through the summer. Whether it's a typical summer or one marked by a handful of heat waves, AC

units can use a little help to get through the season. Closing curtains throughout the house on hot afternoons is a natural way to keep a home cool during a heat wave, and that can cut back on home cooling costs and protect a unit from being overworked. Ceiling fans also can be installed to keep rooms cool and circulate air, which also makes a hot summer a little less taxing on an AC unit.

- Use a programmable thermostat. Programmable thermostats allow homeowners to set the temperatures inside their homes throughout the day. If no one is home during the afternoon, there's no reason to have the AC cranking. Program the thermostat so the house is comfortable when people are home, but raise the desired temperature when no one is around. That gives the AC unit a break during the day and can help to dramatically reduce the cost of cooling the home.

AC units will not last forever, but some simple maintenance can improve their life expectancy and keep homes comfortable throughout the summer.



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Ontario braces for potentially severe forest fire season in 2024

by Jacqueline M. St.Pierre,
Local Journalism Initiative reporter

MANITOULIN—As Ontario and the rest of Canada prepare for the 2024 wildfire season, the echoes of 2023’s unprecedented fires still linger. Last year, over 6,600 fires scorched more than 18 million hectares of boreal forest, setting a daunting precedent. Experts are sounding alarms about the potential for another severe season, emphasizing the unpredictable nature of wildfire trends, influenced by factors such as precipitation, wind, and temperature. While long-term predictions remain complex, seasonal weather forecasts provide crucial insights, highlighting high-risk areas and helping communities brace for what lies ahead.

The Expositor spoke with Central Manitoulin’s fire chief, Phil Gosse who had this to say: “We can be scared but in the end, day by day, be aware of the rain. I use a scientific data collecting system, its basically a rain gauge, to monitor how much precipitation we have gotten. Sometimes it feels like a lot of rain, but its just been a half inch or less. We also have to be aware that just because our lawns look good doesn’t mean that enough water has been absorbed to affect the ground water. And when its very dry, as soon as it rains the trees and



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foliage are opening up their root systems and drinking it right away. To measure how dry an area is, check the brush in the forest floor.”

The Climate Connection

Canada’s winter of 2023-2024 saw above-normal tempera-

tures and low precipitation, exacerbating drought conditions and elevating wildfire risks. Natural Resources Canada’s latest forecasts predict a continuation of these trends into spring and summer 2024, with temperatures expected to soar well above average. These conditions, intensified by the El Niño phenomenon, suggest a particularly active and intense forest fire season. Regions such as western Canada, eastern Ontario, and southern Quebec are poised for early snowmelt, further heightening the risk.

El Niño and its counterpart, La Niña, are natural climate patterns driven by temperature shifts in the eastern Pacific Ocean, profoundly impacting global weather. While La Niña typically brings cooler temperatures, the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) predicts a 60% chance of La Niña developing over the summer. This could result in an active Atlantic hurricane season, further influencing Canada’s weather patterns.

The Human Factor

Human-driven climate change is steadily increasing global temperatures, exacerbating natural climate phenomena. According to the Met Office, global temperatures in 2024 are projected to be between 1.34°C and 1.58°C above pre-industrial levels, marking the 11th consecutive year of such increases. This aligns with findings from the International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction, which highlight the significant impacts of global warming on fire regimes in Canada. Longer, more severe fire seasons are becoming the norm, with human activities and warmer temperatures altering fire patterns and diminishing forests’ natural regeneration capacity.

Proactive Measures and Community Preparedness

In light of these predictions, experts are calling for enhanced wildfire prevention efforts. The combination of low snow levels and forecasts for a hot, dry summer suggests elevated risks in northwestern Quebec, the Prairie provinces, and western and northern Canada. Traditional fire suppression methods are proving unsustainable, necessitating a shift towards risk-based management approaches that balance fire mitigation with the preservation of natural ecosystems.

Central Manitoulin Fire Chief Gosse underscores the importance of public education in fire prevention. “The best

...continued on page 10

...Eurasian ruffe could soon be in our waters

...continued from page 3

reports of it. Over the years eight have been reported in the Sault Ste. Marie region. They have been confirmed there and almost certainly can travel quickly by people moving them, by boat, or spreading naturally.”

“A lot of invasive species have made their way from the south to Northern Ontario and vice versa,” said Mr. Schryer. “For example, Round Gobies, which are around Manitoulin Island waters, are very damaging. If they are captured (the province) asks they be reported to Invasive Species and to make sure they are euthanized. They are not to be returned to the water.”

“Yes, it would be the same for Eurasian ruffe, as long as the person (angler) is confident they are Eurasian ruffe and not yellow perch, for instance,” continued Mr. Schryer. “I would encourage anyone who thinks they have a ruffe to report it first. I’ve been doing this nine years, and unfortunately there are many species of fish that look alike.”

“If someone is not confident what they have found is a

Eurasian ruffe, we ask that they take photos of it and report it to the Invading Species hotline, including where it was found,” said Mr. Schryer.

To identify Eurasian ruffe, Ontario’s Invasion Species Awareness program explains they resemble juvenile wall-eye, yellow perch and trout perch, but they differ from these species in the following ways: their perch-like body is less than 20 centimetres (eight inches) long with glassy eyes and a down-turned mouth, their colouring is olive-brown on their back, with pale sides, they lack the dark vertical stripes found on the native yellow perch; their front and back dorsal fins are joined; the first fin has 11-16 stiff, sharp spines with rows of dark spots between them and the second dorsal fin has soft, flexible rays. Yellow perch and walleye, by contrast, have separated dorsal fins. There are also sharp spined on their anal fins and gill covers, and they have no scales on their head.

Anglers are asked to kill the fish if caught, and reports can be made to the Invading Species hotline 1-800-563-7711.

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Smoking food: A guide for beginners

MANITOULIN—There's no shortage of ways to impart flavor to foods when cooking at home. Smoking food is one method that has grown increasingly popular in recent years.

Smoking imparts unique flavor to a wide variety of foods. Like other approaches to cooking, smoking involves a learning curve that may include some trial and error. Grilling enthusiasts who want to try their hand at smoking food can keep these tips in mind.

- Remember the mantra "low and slow." Low and slow is the preferred method among cooks experienced in smoking. The method involves cooking foods at low temperatures for long periods of time. When smoking, unlike with traditional grilling, cooks want to ensure the food is not directly over a flame. Smoking stones can be used to absorb and deflect heat, and similar products can accomplish the same. That absorption and deflection allows foods to cook slowly, which in turns helps impart the smoky flavor people love.

- Consider adding water to create moisture. A water pan inside the smoker can ensure foods remain moist while smoking. Long cook-

ing times can dry foods out, but the water in a water pan can make the environment inside the grill more humid.

- Add flavour with wood. Seasoned wood chunks and wood chips can add flavor to foods, and such products are

readily available at many grocery stores and home improvement retailers. Choice of chunk or chips depends

on which type of smoker individuals have. Grilling experts advise using chips when light smoking for less

than an hour. If smoking for an hour or more, it's suggested that chunks are used.

- Consider accessorizing ...continued on page 9

Smoked short ribs



Smoked foods are wildly popular. The unique flavor that smoking imparts to anything from beef to poultry to seafood to vegetables is impossible to replicate with other cooking methods, which perhaps contributes to its popularity.

As hosts prepare to welcome friends and family for a Canada Day barbecue, they can cook to impress with this recipe for "Smoked Beef Short Ribs" courtesy of Allen Kiezel of Fatty Butts BBQ and KamadoJoe.com.

Smoked Beef Short Ribs

Spritz

1/4 cup beef broth
1/4 cup soy sauce
1 spray bottle
1/2 cup water

Main

5 pounds beef short ribs
2 sheets butcher paper
1 1/2 tablespoons mayo

Dry Rub

3 tablespoons black pepper
1 1/2 tablespoons garlic powder
3 tablespoons seasoned salt

- Remove the beef ribs 1 hour prior to smoking. This will give the meat time to reach room temperature for more even cooking and allow the rub to adhere better. Trim off any extra thick fat and silver skin from the top of the short ribs. You can remove all of the fat, but I keep a thin

layer for protection and added flavor. Slather the mayonnaise evenly over the entire surface of the beef ribs. Mix dry rub ingredients in a bowl and sprinkle evenly over the ribs. You'll want a heavy coating of the rub to help build a nice bark on the outside of the beef short ribs. The ribs are thick, so even a lot of rub won't overpower them.

- Preheat the grill to 250 F.

- Place short ribs on the grill and smoke at 250 F until it hits an internal temperature of around 175 F in the thickest part of the meat, approximately 5 to 6 hours depending on the size. I recommend using a good leave-in meat thermometer so you don't have to constantly check the short ribs. We're looking for a nice bark to have formed before we wrap the short ribs. If your bark isn't where you'd like it to be yet, keep smoking for an additional hour or so to help the bark form.

- Combine the spritz ingredients and place in spray bottle. Each hour after the first 3 hours or once the bark starts looking dry, open up the smoker and spritz the beef short ribs. Make sure your spray bottle is set to spray in a light, even

mist and not a direct blast of the liquid. You just want to moisten the short ribs, not soak them.

- When the bark has formed and the smoked short ribs hit our target temperature of at least 175 F, remove them from the smoker, lay them in the center of 2 pieces of partially overlapped butcher paper (lengthwise), and then wrap tightly around the ribs. You can spritz the butcher paper a few times to help it form a tighter wrap around the beef short ribs. If you don't have butcher paper, you can use heavy duty aluminum foil instead. Just note, the bark will be a little mushy when it's done, as it's not permeable like butcher paper and will partially steam it.

- Return to the grill, insert the meat probe again, and smoke at 250 F for approximately 4 more hours. The smoked beef short ribs are done when the internal temperature is around 205 F to 208 F and the meat thermometer slides in and out like a knife slicing through room temperature butter—barely any resistance. I find that this usually occurs around 205 F, but all meat is different. Remember to take the temperature in a few places as the short ribs tend to cook slower in larger areas.

- Remove the smoked beef short ribs from grill and keep wrapped while it rests for a minimum of 1 hour. If you need to keep the meat warmer even longer, place them inside of a good cooler for up to 4 hours.

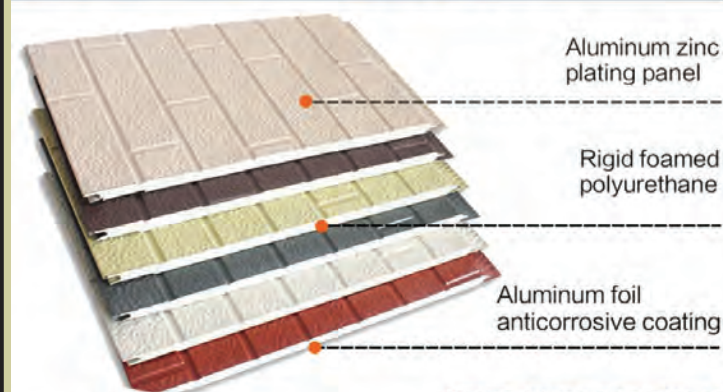
- Slice the short ribs between each bone and serve with the bone or slice into smaller portions and share. Enjoy!

Serves 3

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Smoked ribs are a smokehouse favourite.

Photo from Shutterstock.

...Smoking food: A guide for beginners

...continued from page 7

an existing grill. Smokers or grills that can accommodate smoking can be expensive, and cooks who already have reliable charcoal or gas grills may not be able to justify such an investment. In such instances, smoker boxes, which sit right on an existing grill grate and make it easy to transform grills into makeshift smokers, can do the trick. In addition, smoker attachments that can be attached to gas and charcoal grills can enable a less expensive introduction to smoking foods.

- Monitor temperatures. Temperature is important when smoking foods. If temperatures rise too quickly, foods can quickly

become dry and overcooked. If temperatures do not rise, foods can sit on the grill for hours on end. Each recipe is unique and will suggest an ideal temperature range when cooking foods slowly. That may require staying home and monitoring the grill temperature, periodically adjusting vents to maintain a steady temperature. Many smokers now enable users to monitor temperatures via a smartphone app, and those can be useful for cooks who cannot stick around the house for the duration of the smoking.

Smoking is a popular way to cook foods over an open flame. Smoking may involve some initial trial and error, but the results are well worth navigating one's way through the learning curve.

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...Ontario braces for potentially severe forest fire season in 2024

...continued from page 6

fire prevention is education and teaching people how to plan for emergencies,” he emphasizes. Community awareness is critical in mitigating wildfire risks, and organizations like Firewise Training and Consulting are stepping up to offer specialized training for fire departments and emergency response teams.



A West End barn was set alight in April, the cause an out-of-control grass fire.

Expositor file photo

home, plant fire-resistant vegetation, and use gravel or decorative rock mulch instead of bark or pine needles.

Insurance and recovery

In the unfortunate event of a wildfire, insurance plays a vital role in recovery. Standard homeowner, condo, or tenant policies typically cover damage and destruction caused by fire, including additional living expenses due to mass evacuation.

For those insured, it's important to check policy limits and keep all receipts for expenses incurred during evacuation.

Once the immediate threat has passed, prompt reporting of claims and detailed documentation of lost or damaged belongings can expedite the recovery process. Utilizing resources like the Government of Canada's Canadian Wildland Fire Information System (CWFIS) can help individuals stay informed about fire danger conditions in their area.

Community resilience and the future

As more people purchase recreational properties or move into forested residential developments, the potential exposure to wildland fires increases. Firefighting activities are crucial in protecting communities, but understanding and mitigating the risks is equally important. Public awareness programs, like FireSmart, offer valuable resources for homeowners and communities to manage and reduce fire risk, emphasizing the need for vegetation management and fire-resistant construction.

Research collaborations between the Canadian Forest Service and various partners aim to better understand public perceptions of fire risk and the factors influencing community and household mitigation efforts. These insights will guide the development of policies and programs to enhance community resilience against wildfires.

As Ontario braces for the 2024 wildfire season, the focus on proactive measures, community preparedness, and adaptive management strategies will be crucial in navigating the challenges posed by climate change and natural climate patterns. Through vigilance and collaboration, communities can better protect themselves and their homes from the devastating impacts of wildfires.

Practical steps for homeowners

As wildfires loom, homeowners can take practical steps to protect their properties. FireSmart Canada provides a comprehensive guide, emphasizing the importance of creating defensible spaces and using fire-resistant materials.

Key recommendations include:

Installing a Class A fire-rated roof: Metal, asphalt, clay, or composite rubber tiles offer the best protection.

Regular roof maintenance

Clean roofs of combustible materials and screen gutters with metal mesh to reduce debris.

Fire-resistant vents and siding: Use 3-millimetre screening or ASTM fire-rated vents, and opt for stucco, metal, brick/concrete, or fibre cement siding over untreated wood or vinyl.

Double-paned windows rather than fire-rated doors: Enhance your home's defenses against extreme heat and flames.

Proper yard maintenance

Maintain a 1.5-metre non-combustible zone around your



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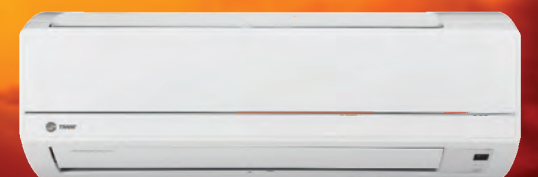
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