

Vol. 144, No. 50 \$1.90 + GST

Little Current, Ontario

Wednesday, May 1, 2024



CALVIN! CALVIN! CALVIN! Pontiac School Grade 4 student Calvin Kaboni is all smiles as he holds a live walleye (ably assisted by Bill Strain) during the annual Little Current Fish and Game Club's annual Sheguiandah hatchery tour. SEE PHOTO GALLERY ON PAGE 13. photo by Alicia McCutcheon

## **Deer management meeting recommends status quo for 2024 hunt tag distribution** *3,058 deer harvested in 2023 Manitoulin hunt*

#### by Tom Sasvari

MANITOULIN—While there were concerns raised that another mild winter has benefited the deer population on Manitoulin, which could mean an explosion of the Island herd in the future, the recommendation made from the annual Manitoulin deer management meeting last week will be to maintain the status

**UCCM Police will have full-time** 

drug enforcement unit, five officers

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter ishnaabe Police Chief James

MANITOULIN ISLAND-The Killeen, a survey conducted

quo in terms of antlerless deer tags available for hunters.

"Finding the balance is key but difficult," said Denis Gendron, biologist with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF). He pointed out it is, "difficult to find balance, given divergent views around value and impact." He pointed out the deer hunt provides the Island with substantial ecological, social and economic benefits. The deer can, however, damage crops, residential properties and ecosystems. There are also public safety concerns and it was noted that deer are not distributed evenly across the landscape. Social acceptance is below carrying capacity.

"I agree with Ian (Anderson)'s take for (Wildlife Management Unit) 43A, to maintain status quo, but for 43B I would like to see this go up slightly," said Lee Hayden, a resident of Gordon/ Barrie Island who also hunts the area. "There is going to be an explosion of the deer population soon. I have seen fawns this year that shouldn't have made it through a normal winter. We are going to see a lot of triplets this year."

# Ferry starts Friday

MS Chi-Cheemaun enters 50th sailing season

**by Michael Erskine** OWEN SOUND—With its first sailing of the 2024 season on Friday, May 3 from Tobermory on the tip of the Bruce Peninsula to South Baymouth on Manitoulin Island, the MS Chi-Cheemaun ferry will have been officially serving Manitoulin for five decades. Its first crossing was in early October 1974.

Reservations are now open for the May 3 to June 20 spring sailings, with the first departure from Tobermory taking place at 8:50 am, arriving in South Baymouth at around 10:50 am, before departing at 11:10 am and returning to Tobermory at 1:10 pm. The second sailing departs Tobermory at 1:30 pm, arriving



The Chi-Cheemaun now sports a 50th anniversary decal on its port side.

in South Baymouth at 3:30 pm and departing at 3:50 pm and arriving back in Tobermory at 5:50 pm. As this is a Friday, there is a third sailing this day each week during only the fall and spring

...continued on page 8

## MFR food bank delivering to six community hubs

Alleviating burden of travel to Mindemoya

by Jacqueline M. St. Pierre, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter MINDEMOYA—Manitoulin Family Resources (MFR) unveiled an exciting new initiative aimed at revolutionizing access to its food bank services. Thanks to a generous grant exceeding \$40,000 from Food Banks Canada Access, MFR is set to make significant strides in supporting its clientele.

The grant, which emphasizes a commitment to bolstering community well-being, will address a crucial need identified by MFR. Recognizing that many local residents faced transportation barriers in accessing the food bank located in Mindemoya, the organization decided to take proactive measures to bridge this gap.

In a bid to ensure equitable access for all, particularly those without reliable trans-

bank, staffed by one full-time member and a dedicated team of volunteers, could not offer delivery services—until now.

Commencing from the first week of May until the end of August, the pilot program will extend its reach to six community hubs across the region. Through careful allocation of funds, MFR aims not only to cover transportation costs but also to curate food hampers to provide culturally significant food items for First Nations clients. The exact locations of the hubs have yet to be announced, however the communities listed tentatively are Gore Bay/West End, M'Chigeeng, Aundeck Omni Kaning, Little Current, Sheguiandah and Wiikwemkoong.

MFR engaged with Noo-jmowin Teg's Indigenous Foods Team during the planning stages, seeking to incor-porate traditional and locally sourced foods into their offerings. This partnership signifies a commitment to honouring Indigenous traditions and promoting healthful eating habits within the community. To access these enhanced services, individuals who are not yet registered food bank recipients are encouraged to reach out to MFR food bank at (705) 368-3400 extension 242. A brief five to 10 minute intake process is all that's required to gain access to this vital support. This innovative pilot program not only addresses immediate challenges but also underscores MFR's dedication to fostering inclusivity and community resilience. As the initiative unfolds, it holds the promise of not just providing nourishment but also cultivating a stronger, more connected Manitoulin community.

United Chiefs and Councils of Manitoulin (UCCM) Anishnaabe Police announced April 22 that it is putting its first fulltime Drug Enforcement Unit into place. The police force will be adding five full-time positions to its roster to tackle the incendiary issue of drug trafficking and the cascading violent crimes that are connected. The five full-time positions come with a number of incentives, including experience pay, increased benefits and available housing.

by Jacqueline M. St. Pierre,

In 2023, UCCM Anishinaabe Police were among three First Nation police force plaintiffs in a federal case that contested discriminatory funding conditions, outlined in the First Nations and Inuit Policing Program (FNIPP) established in 1996. Public Safety Minister Marco Mendicino rescinded the prohibition on establishing specialized units in June of last among residents of Whitefish River First Nation, Aundeck Omni Kaning, M'Chigeeng, Sheguiandah, Zhiibaahaasing and Sheshegwaning revealed that

year. According to UCCM An-

...continued on page 10

"Last year the quota was in-...continued on page 8 portation, MFR conceived a pilot program that promises to transform the way food assistance is delivered. Previously constrained by limited resources and staffing, the food

Mac's Bay, Manitou River properties held in trust Latest acquisitions of Escarpment Biosphere Conservancy

**by Jacqueline M. St. Pierre, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter** MANITOULIN ISLAND—In a move forward for conservation efforts, Escarpment Biosphere Conservancy (EBC) has recently acquired 200 acres at two new preserve sites on Manitoulin Island: Mac's Bay and the Manitou River. This development coincides with the appointment of EBC's new CEO, Beth Gil-

hespie, who shared insights with The Expositor.

"The addition of the 100-acre Mac's Bay Nature Preserve marks a significant milestone in bolstering the ecological connectivity of the Burpee and Mills municipality," said Ms. Gilhespie. "Linking



Ontario Parks land, the Mac Bay's Conservation Reserve and nearby Nature Conservancy of Canada protected lands creates a contiguous area that amplifies biodiversity. While we're yet to conduct a full ecological inventory, we already know it's teeming with rare species like Hill's Thistle and the Variegated Meadowhawk, alongside unique alvar grasslands supporting the

Massasauga rattlesnake and a variety of rare orchids and ferns. We're eager to delve deeper into assessing the property to safeguard its delicate

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# The Manitoulin West Recorder



YOU'LL BE MISSED, MARIE!—A retirement party celebration was held on April 25 in Mindemoya for Marie Ford, a longtime provincial constable with the Manitoulin Ontario Provincial Police in Mindemoya last week. Among the guests in attendance was a representative of the 'Grand Haw,' who presented Ms. Ford with her 'Official Haweater' certificate as part of the event.

## **Beloved Manitoulin constable feted by** Island community at retirement party provincial constable with the Ontario Provin-

MINDEMOYA—Marie Ford is a beloved member of the Manitoulin community and as a police officer with the Manitoulin Ontario Provincial Police, something that was proven at the constable's retirement party held last week in Mindemoya.

"Can you feel the love tonight? Marie you are so loved and appreciated. Thank you for coming to the Island for what you had expected would be a four year and are duration and staying a lifetime," stated Karlene Scott, master of ceremonies at a retirement celebration held for Ms. Ford, a

cial Police for 30 years (25 of which were spent on Manitoulin). Well over 100 people packed the hall of the Freshwater Community Church last Thursday evening to recognize, thank and show love and appreciation for Ms. Ford, from representatives of local police services, the many groups and organizations she belongs to, her many friends across the Island and family.

James Killeen, Chief of Police for the UCCM

... continued on page 15

### **Celebrating Anishinaabe women at Wiky's** inaugural Kweok Recognition Awards Gala

#### by Jacqueline M. St. Pierre,

Local Journalism Initiative reporter WIIKWEMIKOONG-The gymnasium at Wiikwemikoong High School underwent a breathtaking transformation, adorned with birch saplings and twinkling lights, setting the stage for a remarkable evening dedicated to honoring the remarkable women of the community. Bedecked in elegance, guests gathered to celebrate and capture moments against a backdrop of shimmering lights.

The inaugural Anishinaabe Kweok Recognition Awards Gala was conceived by Ogimaa Rachel Manitowabi and council, with the noble intention

of paying homage to the exceptional women who have dedicated years of service and goodwill to Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory. Choosing the spring season to host this grand event, the organizers aimed to complement the spirit of renewal and healing that the season brings without overshadowing the Inspiring Anishinaabe Kweok event on International Women's Day.

As the doors opened to the beautifully decorated event space, a sea of ribbon skirts, regalia, sequins, ball gowns and intricate beadwork greeted the attendees. Laughter filled the air as community members came together in a heartwarming ... continued on page 9

## New physician joining Gore Bay medical team

with files from Tom Sasvari GORE BAY-Gore Bay's healthcare community is proud to be welcoming a new addition to its esteemed team of physicians. Dr. Zeshan Talib will be joining the Gore Bay medical team in the fall of 2024.

'The town is incredibly fortunate that Dr. Talib has chosen Gore Bay as his practice location, considering the ongoing physician shortage crisis across the province, particularly in Northern Ontario," a press release states.

"Dr. Talib was drawn to the unique charm of the rural municipality and surrounding area. After an extensive tour across Western Manitoulin, meeting with representatives from each community and experiencing the exceptional amenities such as the local public school, he has eagerly accepted the offer to join the Gore Bay medical team."

"I am thrilled to be joining the Gore Bay community and to have the opportunity to work alongside such dedicated healthcare professionals," says Dr. Talib. "My goal is to build strong relationships with my patients and provide them personalized care that meets their unique needs."

We are delighted to welcome Dr. Talib to the Gore Bay Medical Centre," said Dr. Robert Hamilton, long-time physician at the Gore Bay Medical Centre. "His passion for patient care and depth of experience make him a valuable addition to our team. We look forward to his positive impact on the health and wellness of our community.'

Gore Bay Mayor Ron Lane said, "the successful recruitment of Dr. Talib was a collective effort showcasing the strength and unity of our community. Our dedicated physi-cians (Drs. Robert Hamilton, Shelagh McRae and Chantelle Wilson), committed volunteers, and the unwavering support of the Town of Gore Bay all played a crucial role. Thank you to the Ministry of Health for their vision to support the Foreign Trained Family Physicians (program). We are thrilled to have Dr. Talib join the local practice and are truly thankful to the ministry of affording us this opportunity."

...continued on page 7

## Manitoulin Lodge adds a fulltime nurse practitioner to staff

#### by Tom Sasvari

GORE BAY-The Manitoulin Lodge has hired a full-time nurse practitioner, Sarah Bremner.

"As our nurse practitioner, Sarah will increase the quality of care we are able to offer our residents with her knowledge and experience," said Jaime-Lynn Kalmikov, administrator of Manitoulin Lodge. "She is supporting our physician and nursing group as well as providing education to our staff to increase the level of care for our residents." "I am originally from the Is-

land," she told the Expositor. "My parents Vic and Nancy Mc-Cutcheon moved to the Island after I was born. They operated the post office in Sheguiandah, and when the post office was closed, they relocated off-Island when I was in my teens."

"I was previously a nurse practitioner in a long-term care facility in Barrie and prior to that worked as a cardiac nurse in South Lake and a trau-



The Manitoulin Lodge Nursina Home has hired a new full-time practitioner, Sarah Bremner. nurse From left is Jaime Lynn-Kalmikov, administrator of the Lodge, Sarah Bremner and Brittany Honess, director of care at the Lodge.

ma nurse in Sunnybrook long term care," said Ms. Bremner, who had been living in Coldwater before she moved back to Manitoulin. "I have been a nurse practitioner for the past 13 years and previous to that had been a registered nurse for 17 years." She has a Master's of Science in Nursing degree

as well as a nurse practitioner

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## It's Smile Cookie time! It's Smile Cookie week at Tim Hortons in Little Current, which runs all week until Sunday, May 5. This spring's recipient is Local Food Manitoulin/Good Food Box Manitoulin. Hard at work are volunteers, above, Manor residents Maddy Becks, Jean Pearson and Orpha Duxbury and, right, Ethan Leblanc, Richard Lathwell and Jennifer Hooper of Century 21 Integrity Brokerage.

### New health unit medical officer of health pays visit to Manitoulin

#### by Michael Erskine

LITTLE CURRENT—There is a new Medical Officer of Health (MOH) at the helm of Public Health Sudbury and Districts (PHSD). Dr. Mustafa Hirji joins PHSD following more than eight years at Niagara Region Public Health where he served as Associate Medical Officer of Health, including almost five-and-a-half years as Acting Medical Officer of Health and Commissioner of Public Health and Emergency Services.

Dr. Penny Sutcliffe had announced a year-long sabbatical leading to her retirement in 2023, following 23 years of dedicated service to PHSD. Her replacement was announced in December.

Upon his appointment on March 19, Dr. Hirji announced that his first few months in the Sudbury and Manitoulin districts would focus on "building meaningful relationships internally and externally to support community health and well-being."

To that end, Dr. Hirji came to Manitoulin Island where he continued his engagement with staff, community members, municipal and Indigenous leaders and organizations. The new MOH said he was seeking to

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# *"who dares not offend cannot be honest"* **One Manitowaning Road** opinion

# National Day of Mourning calls for reflection and action

The National Day of Mourning, observed this past weekend, is a day to remember and honour those lives lost or injured due to a workplace tragedy, but it is much more than a day of reflectionit is also a day to renew our nation's commitment to improving health and safety in the workplace and to preventing further injuries, illnesses and deaths, far too many of which were preventable.

of all stripes to stand in solidarity with workers and many fine words can be heard emanating from the pulpits and the pundits but for many who are not directly impacted, the National Day of Mourning can pass unnoticed and unremarked.

Without meaningful action these words, no matter how well delivered or heartfelt, evaporate as quickly as they are emitted, be-

Those deaths and injuries are manifest, with few families remaining untouched by a loss. According to the Association of Workers' Compensation Boards of (AWCBC), there Canada were 993 workplace fatalities recorded in Canada in 2022-33 young workers aged 15-24 were among those whose lives were cut short.

During that time, there were some 348,747 compensation claims filed. That's an increase of 71,530 from the previous year for lost time due to a work-related injury or disease. Youth were also a significant portion of that statistic, with 40,203 of the claims coming from workers aged 15-24.

This is only the tip of the iceberg, as many injuries, particularly among more inexperienced workers, go unreported. The impact of workplace injuries and

death goes far beyond these stark numerals. Behind every worker tragedy stand loved ones--family members, friends and co-workers left behind whose lives are forever changed.

The National Day of Mourning is an opportunity for politicians

NATIONAL DAY **OF MOURNING** 

coming little more than odious hot air blowing into the ears of those bereaved family members who stand waiting for meaningful action. Too often, economic considerations trump action.

If the National Day of Mourning passed by unremarked in your world, take a moment to gaze upon your loved ones and imagine the impact their death or life-altering injury would have on your family. A moment of silent reflection does not need validation of a set date or moment of time passing on the face of a clock.

Our nation is experiencing one of the largest transfers of generational labour in its history,

Shutterstock as millions of the baby boomer generation settle into retirement, their

labour being taken up by younger, less experienced hands. Let us ensure that the phrase "safety first" is inculcated into every hour of their working day.

Let's make 2024 the year that workplace injuries finally decline.

### letters

Alexandra Wilson-Zegil, Warren Schlote

Petra Wall, biography Claire Cline, literary Rose Diebolt, culinary Shelley Pearen, history Joe Shorthouse, Professor of Entomology Dr. Janice Mitchell, veterinary Heather Marshall, welcomer

**Correspondents:** Karen Noble, Silver Water Heather Theijsmeijer, Kagawong Jill Ferguson, Kagawong Lillian Greenman, Barrie Island Elaine Bradly, Meldrum Bay Willie Munro, Millsite Alexia Hannigan, Providence Bay



### Mother of worker lost in tragic accident calls for progress A painful discovery of general apathy among elected officials

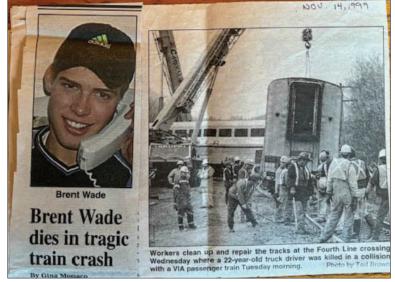
#### To the Expositor:

Today I was saddened to discover what I would call apathy towards the National Day of Mourning. Apathy is lack of interest and/or concern. After calling each of the municipalities and talking with different personnel, I found there was a lack of knowledge about the significance of this day, and limited knowledge of anything going on in each community to commemorate this day.

Our workers are the backbone of our country. Have we become so desensitized by death and human struggle that the grief and struggles of our families, friends, neighbours and co-workers impacted and living each day with the outcome of a workplace tragedy goes unnoticed, unmentioned?

I belong to The Threads of Life, a national charitable organization. It was started in 2023 with approximately 100 members and now we are supporting over 3,000 family members across Canada. We honour and remember all workers and their families suffering from a workplace tragedy. As one of its original members, it gave me hope, support and a feeling of being understood. I no longer felt alone.

the National Day of Mourning and why recognize it? What





<u>editorial</u> And on the traditional territories Northern Ontario's oldest newspaper: printers and publishers since 1879

A winner of the Michener Award for Public Service Journalism

Manitoulin Island's Newspaper-of-Record,

The Manitoulin Expositor is published by the Manitoulin Publishing Co. Ltd. Wednesday mornings from our office at One Manitowaning Road Little Current, Ont. POP 1K0

> 37 Meredith Street, Gore Bay, Ont. POP 1H0

of the Anishinaabek of

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Publications Mail Registration No. 40012298

ISSN 0834-6682 Freelance Staff: Mike Brock, Betty Bardswich

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	Newspapers Association					
<b>Annual Subscription Rates</b>						

Digital Edition	\$54 <b>.</b> 50
Anywhere in the world (No discou	nts)
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Manitoulin Island	\$54.60
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It is a day when we take a few minutes out of our busy schedules to honour and remember those lives who have been shattered by a workplace fatality, life altering injury or occupational disease. Many decades back, our workers went to work in mines and took a canary with them. If the canary died it was a signal to vacate the mine immediately.

Many a life has been lost. Many a family broken over the years. Health and safety awareness and changes have been brought about by these losses. The workers injured or killed and their families have paid the highest cost for change. Their loss hopefully have brought about changes in laws and policy and procedures that will save someone's life within the workplace.

We have Remembrance Day to honour and remember our veterans. Let us never forget the ultimate sacrifice they have made and that our military are making for us today. When they choose to defend our country, our freedom, they know the risk of death or injury is very high.

But when our everyday workers go to work, they expect to go home to their families, safe and free from injury. The cost of their job should not be their life.

Myself and my girls live everyday with the loss of my son, their brother, to a workplace fatality.

Our lives have been forever changed. The family dynamics change, I have changed. There is a rippling effect that follows these tragedies. In many cases, if the person killed or injured is a bread winner, the losses not only include the physical loss, but the financial and social losses.

Never underestimate the losses of an injured worker or someone

This story appeared on the front page of the Expositor.

living with an occupational disease. Their losses are great. They often live with chronic pain, often unable to provide for their families, unable to play with their growing children and everyday life can be an effort. Their world is difficult and they need the support of family and friends.

People do survive and live on, but at what cost? You may not see the pain, the hurt, physical or emotional, but it is there, felt by the whole family and those that love that person.

We have made much progress in the world of workplace health and safety since the canary days, but we can never stop increasing our awareness and improving workplace safety.

Health and safety is everyone's responsibility. We want all workers to come home safe to their families.

Please know: This day I am thinking of all families living with a workplace loss. I understand your loss, your pain as much as I am capable of as I have been where many of you have been. My prayers are with you. Let us honour and remember these workers and their families today.

If anyone is needing support or information on our organization, please feel free to contact me at 705-862-1652.

> Joanne Wade Sheguiandah

## **MSS World Robotics competition relayed in first person**

EDITOR'S NOTE: Alexandra Wilson-Zegil, who is both captain of the MSS Robotics team and the author of this newspaper's weekly Kids in the Halls column about MSS events undertook a first-person account of the team's successful journey to the World Robotics championships in Houston, Texas a week ago.

#### by Alexandra Wilson-Zegil

#### Tuesday, April 16

"Good luck in Houston!" my friends told me before I hopped on the bus that would take me and sixteen other students from Manitoulin Metal 6865 to Toronto.

The first leg of our journey included leaving Manitoulin Island, the home that we would not return to for another five days. Even after having a year to wrap my head around it, I am still in shock that we are leaving the Island to represent Canada on the global stage at the FIRST World Championships for the second year in a row. Once in a lifetime has turned into twice in a lifetime.

Houston, Texas is approximately 2,787km away from the Island. Despite the distance, and challenges we faced as a rural team, we crossed every kilometer and overcame every obstacle.



Manitoulin Metal team after winning the Sustainability Award.

photos by Helen Sisek

#### Saturday, April 20

Today was alliance selections and the finals. We walked 20 minutes to the venue from our hotel and were met with even more people than we had seen in the building previously. We claimed seats in the stands (precious real estate in the robotics world) and watched as teams were invited to the division finals. Shortly after, awards ceremonies began. We came to Worlds with little expectation, we wanted a working robot and we wanted to have fun. we were there with the best of the best after all. So imagine my surprise, when for the second year in a row, our name is called to receive an award on the world stage. My team exploded with cheers as we ran up to get our award. We won the Sustainability Award, which "celebrates and recognizes a team which has developed sustainable practices to have a positive environmental impact and achieve long-term continuity." I was so grateful for the opportunity to once again put Manitoulin on the map at an international competition.

Later, there were the semi-finals where three Canadian teams were represented. I watched the vastly different robots complete the same challenge while talking to friends I've made from differ-



Glamorous Manitoulin Metal ready for Robo Prom.

This is largely due to the tremendous support from Manitoulin Island as a whole. Over the past year, I have seen every community come together to support our team and our dream. When they say there is no place like the Island, they mean it.

After a six-hour bus ride, we arrived at the hotel where we would stay for the night before catching a flight the next morning. The night is spent hanging out with team members, preparing for the journey the next day, and getting some sleep before our four am wake-up call. ally. I finally got to meet several project participants in person and discuss different ways that we can make the world a better place.

Later that night, we shared pizzas as a team and met up with Helen Siksek, our team grandma. Helen, who lives part-time in Texas, has been invaluable to Manitoulin Metal. During our stay here Helen has offered to make lunch for all twenty of us each day, provide needed supplies, and cheer our team on. Her support will forever be appreciated and she will always hold a special place in Manitoulin Metal's hearts.

P.S. You can disregard what I said about looking forward to the weather, I am sweating buckets!





The Build Team working on the robot in the "pits."

to attend Robo Prom. This is a dance designed for teens attending the World Championships to come together and dance. Myself and several others got dressed up and headed towards the Hyatt Regency in the Houston Downtown. We danced the night away with dozens of other teams around us, singing, cheering and busting some moves.

#### Friday, April 19

After yesterday's adven-tures, we settled into another day of competition. Manitoulin squeezed through the throngs of tens of thousands of people, cheering, visiting the tion Faire, driving robots, eating at the food trucks, singing karaoke, and enjoying the heat. Despite knowing what to expect, I was still not ready for the crowds. The energy emanating from the building-the excitement, happiness and togetherness that you can only find at robotics-felt euphoric. This year, my team incorporated many new-to-us technologies into our robot including, swerve drive (an efficient way of moving the robot) and pneumatics (using air to move parts). This being our first year using these things, we ran into issues that we had to solve. By the time we made it to the World's fields, our robot had come together. We were able to zoom across the field and have a smooth gamepiece shooter. Several hours of work went into the robot, and I could not be more proud.

ent countries. I was filled with a bittersweet feeling during finals. Worlds was almost over and so was competition season, leaving room for new ideas. I thought that a part of me would always miss my time in Houston and the friends I made while I was there.

Even if we hadn't brought home an award, this experience would have had immeasurable value for those there. In Houston, I was able to fully see the depth of my team's unique skills and talents. I saw them when their hard work this season was recognized by thousands

#### Wednesday, April 17 On the airplane

Getting up at four in the morning is not as hard as it seems... if your alarm goes off. Mine did not. Miraculously, I managed to get ready in time.

I am currently writing this 10,359 meters above the ground. The airport was an even more chaotic experience than my earlier adventures. Despite the challenges, all seventeen students and three mentors made it through to our gate.

Once we land, we will go to the competition venue to "load-in." This includes taking our robot out of the crate it was shipped in, setting up our "pit" (our robot-repair area), and navigating our way through up to 60,000 people.

This is all hosted at the George R. Brown Convention Centre. The venue takes several kilometers to go around and could fit several times the population of our similarities and celebrates all of our differences. It is the first day, so I feel nervous, but at the same time, I know this is where I belong.

Manitoulin Island comfortably.

balmy 29°C (I am not in the USA

yet!) when we get there. The

temperature is one of the many

**Later that day...** We have finally arrived at the

FIRST Robotics World Champi-

onship. I have never seen any

group of people come together

in the same way they came to-

gether at Champs. Teenagers

from different countries, back-

grounds, cultures and experi-

ences are bonding over robotics

in a way that highlights all of

things I am looking forward to.

Houston is supposed to be a

At load-in, we saved our robot, BEEthoven, and some other supplies from their shipping crate. Parts of Manitoulin touch our build area (also known as 'the pits'). Bees crocheted by a community member, 3D-printed keychains of the Island, a poster of all our sponsors (the overwhelming majority of them local), and a map of Manitoulin hung proudly on our canopy. I spend part of my time explaining to people from all over the world where I live, and why it is the coolest place on Earth.

I had the opportunity to speak to teams from the United States to Turkey to Mexico today. My team and I are involved in an international initiative called Project Pangea. This project aims to amplify a message of environmental sustainability globTeam members cleaning up the stands after the crowds leave.

#### Thursday, April 18

It is the first official day of competition matches. The buzz of excitement I felt both this year and last is shared with the roughly 60,000 other people in the building. I spent my day watching the robot race across the field and in the pits, meeting kids my age from several different countries and talking to judges.

As Manitoulin Metal's captain, I often find myself in awe of my teammates, especially today. Their skills, though different, all work together. Throughout the season, our teamwork skills have only grown. We can problem-solve together, share ideas, and be there for one another. I could not have asked for a better group of people to lead.

Tonight was a special night for Manitoulin Metal as we got of people, and that was just as meaningful as the Sustainability Award itself.

Without our mentors, parents, sponsors, and community volunteers there wouldn't be a Manitoulin Metal, much less one capable of competing at an international level. These adults are the ones opening doors for rural teens to pursue what they are passionate about. The opportunities provided will have a positive impact on myself and my team for years to come.

Living in a small town I thought that something of this scale couldn't happen to me. Manitoulin's community disproved what I once believed. They have come together to support me and Manitoulin Metal in a way that goes above and beyond what anywhere else in the world could do. My time in Houston, despite being so far away from the Island, has only reaffirmed to me that I truly could not live in a better place.

### Accused in M'Chigeeng unwanted persons case remains at large

M'CHIGEENG—The UCCM Anishinaabe Police Service is advising local residents that Mitchell Osama Gillingham remains at large and is armed and dangerous, and to not approach him. Just before 10 am on Friday, April 19, UCCM Police were called regarding an unwanted person at a residence in M'Chigeeng First Nation. Further investigation revealed that a firearm was pointed at a victim and the accused was still believed to be in the residence. As a result, the UCCM Crime Unit and the OPP Criminal Investigations Branch were acti-



UCCM Police are warning the public to not approach Mitchell Osama Gillingham.

vated.

UCCM Police, along with the OPP Emergency Response Team began containment. The OPP Critical Incident Command Unit, crisis negotiators, the Tactical Rescue Unit and K9 Unit arrived later, and the residence was searched with negative results.

'This is believed to be a targeted, isolated incident. Currently the accused and firearm are still outstanding," James Killeen, chief of police, said in a release.

An arrest warrant has been issued for Mr. Gillingham, 33, of Windsor, for the following offences: pointing a firearm, assault with a weapon, carry firearm, weapon, prohibited device or ammunition in a careless manner and unauthorized possession of a firearm. "This remains an active

investigation with the UCCM Police and the OPP. Please do not approach the accused, Mitchell Gillingham, as he is considered armed and dangerous," said UCCM Police Chief Killeen.

If anyone has further information regarding this incident, please contact either UCCM Police at 705-377-7135 or Sudbury **Rainbow Crime Stoppers** at 705-222-TIPS (8477), 1-800-222-TIPS 8477) or submit an online tip at www.sudburycrimestoppers.com.



#### Assault with weapon incident reported

On April 21 at approximately 10 am, officers with the Wikwemikong Tribal Police Service (WTPS) received a weapons call in the main village area on the Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory (WUT).

"Officers responded and located an adult male who had suffered cuts to his facial area. The injuries were non-life-threatening," reported WTPS. "The incident occurred in the main village area of Wiikwemkoong. The victim was reluctant to provide details to police.'

This was deemed to be an isolated incident and there is no concern for public safety at this time, WTPS reported.

Anyone with information on this incident or any other investigation can contact the Wikwemikong Tribal Police at (705) 859-3141 or through the Communications Centre at 1-888-310-1122, or Crimestoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS.

...continued on page 10

# Friends and Neighbours

### Providence Bay Alexia Hannigan

lexia here with your Friendly Fly! Buoys, birdies, bots and brides to be! So many wonderful things are happening these days in our lovely township

Toot! Did you hear that? The CCGS Samuel Risley buoy drop began last week and that's happy news for boaters and brave polar bear swimmers like my daughter. The season of spring and summer fishing and boating officially launches as of May so it wouldn't be a bad idea to register early for your pleasure craft operator card course now for June 15. There will be one in Little Current and one is Espanola. The cost is \$75, email boatigal@gmail.com for details.

Fore! Golf season is officially underway as well with tee sheets and live bookings at an Island golf club near you. If you don't have a fair game on the fairway, maybe re-purp that nine-iron to the Manitoulin Metal Robotics FRC which won the Sustainability Award at the World Championships in Houston, Texas. Well done, World Champions! What an incredible accomplishment! Worthy of much celebration this summer.

Here's what's happening: Providence Bay Arena: Youth soccer kicked off last Saturday and (weather permitting) will continue Saturdays on the arena field from 10 to 11 am. You can find information on the Providence Bay/Spring Bay Recreation Committee FB page.

Providence Bay Hall: Yoga at the Spring Bay Hall/ Providence Bay Hall Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons and Central Manitoulin morning exercise class begins again on Friday, May 10. Visit centralmanitoulin.ca for information. This weekend the Providence Bay Hall is hosting a birthday party and the Twilight Group meeting will be in the lower Hall.

Mindemoya Community Hall: traditional taekwon-do classes begin tomorrow evening and continue into May on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Reminder to all, it's Mother Day Market celebration weekend! Join the Mindemoya Community Hall and Memorial Park events and fun this Saturday, May 4 from 10 am to 2 pm.

Providence Bay Community of Christ Church: The Providence Bay Fair Board bridal shower took place the weekend of the 20th and was a huge success! The memorable and beautiful event was hosted by the Providence Bay Fair Board as a gesture of appreciation to honour and celebrate the diligence and hard work of four wonderful young ladies. Congratulations to our brides to be Jary White, Carolyn Glasby, Victoria Cranston and Rebecca Dawson and families. Wishing you all the very best! Dawn Dawson shared some lovely pictures and memories of the special event.

With April showers signaling spring is definitely here, you might want to start looking forward to some of the amazing events going on in the coming months as things really heat up in Billings! The Jabbawong Storytelling Festival is July 5 and 6 (featuring Waubgeshig Rice, Kim Fahner, Emily De Angelis, Mark Seabrook and Steve Paikin). Jabbawong organizers, if we're honest, as impressive as all those participants are, you had Team Fergmeijer at Steve Paikin.

The library book sale and local author showcase will be held July 20, and the Manitoulin Art Tour is on that same weekend. And don't forget about Kagawong's huge market on Wednesdays throughout the summer!

We've seen plenty of people taking advantage of the lavender Sic Sox boxes near the Kagawong Park Centre. Drop off any unwanted textile items and the Sic Sox team will take them from there. Items in good shape will be resold at the Sic Sox retail store. Other textiles that would otherwise be garbage are recycled into insulation. It's a win-win for you and for the environment!

If you or someone you love has a birthday coming up, let us know (fergmeijer@gmail.com). We'll 'honour' the special occasion as only Team Fergmeijer can!

Billings council has established an Ad-Hoc Committee to create a municipal-owned water system policy. The committee will be responsible for developing clear procedures on capital projects and major upgrades to the water lines, as well as reviewing options for implementing a capital levy that can be used to create a water capital reserve, among other important tasks. The township is looking for four members of the community to serve on the committee. Application details are available on the Township website.

Old Mill Road bridge replacement will begin today, May 1! There will be several weeks when the bridge is out-of-service and the only access to properties on Old Mill Road will be via Newburn Road/Graham Hill. Full closure of the bridge is expected to be no later than May 15. Please note that construction will also affect those using the river trail. Anyone walking on the east side trails (along the bluff) will not be able to cross the river at the river mouth and will have to retrace their steps to the new pedestrian bridge.

The local librarian has some reading suggestions for Star Wars day: Qui-Gon Girl, Gone with the Windu, A Bendu in the River, Heart of Darthness, and of course, The Fault in Our Death Star. Have a great week!



fonday afternoon there was an annual planning meeting for St. Andrew's United Church in Meldrum Bay. Attendance was good and plans were made. Included in the plans is a Strawberry Social later in the summer when one of the members will be able to get a large quantity of strawberries for us Tuesday was Kits and Quilts at the hall and a large number of hygiene bags were assembled. Soon they will be going down to Southern Ontario to be distributed to where they are needed for disaster relief. I am so proud of the people who work so hard on this. A group of us have been working hard cutting trees, splitting wood and piling it for next winter's supply. The trees that are being cut right now are some of the dead ash that were killed by the emerald ash borer. It is really sad to see the effect of this invasive species. Two pairs of ospreys have returned to their nests near Lake Wolsley. It is so nice to see them. Friday night at cards there were two full tables and one three handed tables. High lady was Lois Wismer with 72 points; high man was Harold Rogers with 79 points; ladies' lone hands went to Natasha McVey with three; men's lone hands went to Karen Noble with six; most euchres went to Diane Jones with 12; the juice was taken home by Natasha McVey; the special prize went to Donna K McDonald; the 50/50 draw was won by Myra Duncanson.

ATV ride that is coming up soon. Everyone else is being called to bake and cook and work at the event as well. The trail is getting prepared. It should be an amazing day. Mark it on your calendars for May 18, the Saturday of the long weekend in May. Be sure to come.

### **Barrie Island** Lillian Greenman

he Earth Day ceremony at the Gordon Community Centre was on April 19 and was the plant-

ing of a transparent apple tree by Reeve Lee Hayden with Councillor Isobel Harry. Following the tree planting, community members went inside for coffee, cookies and squares. Earth Day t-shirts and caps were available as well as lavender and echinacea seeds to grow. There were also garbage bags for community cleaning for April 22, Earth Day 2024.

### Silver Water Karen Noble

urray and Gladys Duncanson had her great niece, Jessica Eisenbraun and her friend Jacob visit them on April 19 and 20. Craig Duncanson arrived on April 21 to help with next winter's stove wood. He left on Tuesday.

Friday night, Myra Duncanson, DonnaKay McDonald, Lois Wismer and I went to Meldrum Bay to play euchre. There were about 20 deer to avoid on the drive home.

Lara Chevrette and family spent last week in Punta Cana in the Dominican Republic on vacation. Larissa finished her third year of university just in time to go on the trip.

Shawn Noble stayed at Lara's house to look after the dogs and cats.

Carl Barager and Heather Sparks were married on April 20. There was a dinner and reception at the community hall in the evening.

There was a birthday party for Lynn and Charles Pickard's daughter, Abby Morrison, at Don Tenniswood's house on Saturday night.

Some of the Silver Water ladies attended a baby shower for Lily Hore's son on Sunday afternoon at the Gordon Barrie Island hall.

Monday, April 22 there were seven tables of euchre players at the Burpee Mills Complex. I had good enough luck that I won the money jar.

There was an exercise class at the Silver Water Hall

Regular mass will be held this Sunday.

Volunteer week was a huge success as were the Island-wide Earth Day events and celebrations. Keep up the good work everyone and keep on keeping it clean! We want to keep our Island sustainable and beautiful for many years to come.

Happy May Day, Learn to Ride a Bike day, School Principals Day, National Brothers and Sisters Day. Listen for the lazer whistles of the Cardinals and May the 4th be with you all during the Mother's Day celebrations this weekend in Mindy! Have Fun. Love to Moms.



ow would you describe your perfect date? Although it's a tough call, for Team Fergmeijer, it's April 25. It's not too hot, it's not too cold. Mostly you just need a light jacket. May isn't too bad, either. Take this week for example - it's Star Wars Day on Saturday! May the 4th be with you all! And don't forget to go out and celebrate Cinco de Kylo, just beware of the Revenge of the Sixth.

I received a call this week to make something for the

on Tuesday afternoon.

During the night on Tuesday, there was a lot of snowfall. It was mostly melted in two days.

On Wednesday morning, Albert Meijer and I packed the liquor containers into the car and went to Little Current with them. On the way back, we picked up the frozen strawberries for the fish dinner on May 4. We had breakfast at Elliot's and did a number of other errands.

Alfreda Wickett had lunch at Stop 540 on her 90th birthday on April 25. Everyone sang happy birthday. Her son, Paul, and his wife were with her.

Peter Rankis is at his house for a few days.

Gladys Duncanson and I had a visit with Maya Baumann when we were all out walking one day. Albert and I had a look at the inside of her house on Wednesday. Her family has done a wonderful job of renovating the inside.

Thursday night, we had five tables of euchre players at the Silver Water Community Hall. Congratulations to Paul Sorbara who won the money jar.

There are lots of events coming up in the next few weeks. May 2 is the UCW meeting at St Andrew's; May 4 is the Snowduster's fish dinner at the Silver Water Hall; May 5 is the euchre tournament in Tehkummah; May 11 there is a fashion show at the Silver Water Hall in the afternoon.

Condolences to the family of Bruce Collard.

## New physician joining Town of Gore Bay medical team

#### ...continued from page 3

"Dr. Talib is originally from Pakistan and has been working on and off in Canada for a couple of years," Mayor Lane told The Expositor. "He is currently working in a couple of medical centres in southern Ontario. He has been a licenced physician in Pakistan for 10 years." "The Ministry of Health

has a program in place to try to recruit foreign doctors. They have to go through training, and supervision working under a physician (in Canada) and then take exams to become licenced in Canada,"

continued Mayor Lane. "Dr. Talib will be spending 12 weeks in Sault Ste. Marie as a practicing physician under a licenced doctor and then will write his formal exams to be licenced in Canada."

"We expect Dr. Talib (who is in his 40s) will be here in the late summer

or early fall," continued Mayor Lane. "When he joins the Gore Bay Medical Team he will work under the current physician's supervision for two years.'

Under the program, Dr. Talib will have to stay in Gore Bay for a minimum of three years. "Dr. Talib will definitely be staying three years at the medical centre. We have provided a few incentives for him to come here, and to stay here. It is very important to get new doctors here, but it is equally important to have them stay here."

Mayor Lane pointed out, "two of our doctors (Dr. McRae and Dr. Hamilton) would like to retire or semi-retire at some point.

Dr. Talib signed a contract with the Ministry of Health and the Gore Bay Medical Centre. "He has

MANITOULIN

been to the Island; in early March we held a video conference with him. He then visited for three days in April where the met the doctors, mayor and reeves of Western Manitoulin (from Billings Township west) and First Nation representatives,' said Mayor Lane. "Dr. Talib had a real good tour of Western Manitoulin and he said afterward, 'I definitely want to come here if you want me to.' We are very pleased he will be coming here."

## ...Lodge adds full-time nurse practitioner to staff

#### ...continued from page 3

certificate from Laurentian University and a Masters degree in Clinical Science and Wound Healing from the University of Western Ontario."

Ms. Bremner explained as a nurse practitioner, "we can diagnose, treat, prescribe and order tests for residents. We help to share in the workload with doctors and staff. And in long term care we are a member of a medical team and provide support to staff and doctors."

'We feel kind of privileged and spoiled to add Sarah to our staff medical team as a nurse practitioner," said Brittany Honess, director of care at Manitoulin Lodge.

"The education and skills Sarah has brought and is providing to Lodge staff is wonderful," said Ms. Kalmikov. "Sarah is the first nurse practitioner we have had at the Lodge. We had posted for this position because the ministry funded this position. The ministry (Health and Long-Term Care) wants nurse practitioners in long term care home facilities."

Ms. Honess explained, "we previously had an agency nurse, and we did all the legwork in the fall to hire a nurse practitioner, but this fell through. But we advertised again and are very fortunate to have Sarah apply and that we could hire her.

Ms. Bremner moved back to Manitoulin Island late last summer. "It was part of my plan to move back to the Island," she said, noting she is widowed, having lost her husband and a son in a snowmobile accident. Her oldest son lives and works for CN Rail in Coldwater.

"We live on this side of Manitowaning with my significant other on their family farm," said Ms. Bremner.

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### New medical officer of health pays visit to Manitoulin.

#### ... continued from page 3

gain valuable insights into the unique local contexts, community needs and public health opportunities and challenges. He noted the Island visit was all part and parcel of his commitment "to ensuring Public Health programming remains locally responsive, particularly through any public health system changes.

"I am thrilled to join PHSD as the new MOH and CEO and am eager to immerse myself in the rich culture, diverse nature and vibrant communities throughout the Sudbury and Manitoulin districts," said Dr. Hirji. "I look forward to learning from the dynamic team here and engaging with community members on improving health and health equity throughout the service area. My goal is to build on the agency's considerable strengths and apply my skills, in collaboration with partners, to build healthy communities for all."

While on Manitoulin, Dr. Hirji met with eight PHSD staff, including public health nurses and health inspectors and promoters, as well as with Island Indigenous leaders and municipal officials.

Manitoulin, he notes, is experiencing many of the same challenges as other districts in the PHSD catchment area—specifically the ongoing opioid overdose crisis, but also the fallout from other addictions such as tobacco and alcohol that are having huge impacts on public health and well-being.

Less well known among those issues is the current rise in sexually transmitted diseases, which have largely fallen off the radar for too many people. At present, notes Dr. Hirji, the region is seeing a massive increase in instances of syphilis.

Another significant health issue is the rising incidence of measles, troubling in that the rise has been linked to a general lack of uptake in vaccinations.

'We are living in the misinformation age," noted Dr. Hirji, countering that with good quality information that is backed by science will be at the forefront of public health messaging. "If people don't have the right information they can be driven to things that are not good for them," said Dr. Hirji. "We must get the right

Dr. Mustafa Hirji

information to people."

Not too surprising is that mental health issues are also on the rise, something that also appears to correlate, at least in part, with the isolation stemming from the pandemic.

PHSD will be focusing on combating the underly-ing causes of poor health. "Health is influenced by socio-economic factors," pointed out Dr. Hirji. "We must always try to be proactive when it comes to health."

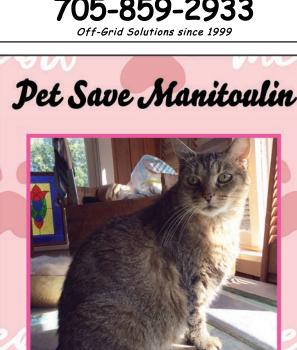
With his considerable experience in the public health field, Dr. Hirji is cognizant of the many-faceted issues presented in promoting and ensuring good community health.

Dr. Hirji said he had enjoyed his time on Manitoulin and gained a great deal of useful information during his engagements with local PHSD employees and community leaders.

## **Old Mill Rd. bridge work commences this week**

Contractors Ltd., will be commencing active construc- but as of the time of writing this (April 15), we are antiction on the Old Mill Road Bridge replacement project ipating full bridge closure (no access) to be occurring on May 1 in Kagawong. This work will include removal of the old bridge, excavation of existing approaches/ abutments, installation of a new pile system and approaches, installation of a new bridge deck and guardrail along with roadway re-instatement. There will definitely be a period of some weeks when the bridge will be completely out-of-service. Access to residences on Old Mill Road, northeast of the bridge, will be via Newburn Road, Graham Hill Road and Graham Hill only," a press release explains. "This will apply to all resident access, service deliveries, etc., as well as emergency services (police, fire and ambulance). Commencement of the period of full closure will

KAGAWONG—Old Mill Road Bridge contractors, MCA be refined once the contractor is mobilized to the site, no later than May 15."



### Dentistry For Annie

Our long-term feline residents visit their vet clinic every 3 months to provide early diagnosis and treatment. A dentistry visit is planned soon for our tiny princess, Annie.

Cheques made payable to 'Pet Save Manitoulin' may be sent to: Box 393, Gore Bay, ON P0P 1H0. E-transfers: reception@scottvet.ca (with Pet Save Manitoulin in the text box).

Freshmart

valu-märt

It was further explained, "that construction will affect pedestrian traffic, including Kagawong River Trail users. There will be no access for pedestrians to cross the river at the Old Mill Road bridge site. Trail users who use the pedestrian bridge to cross from the west side trails to the east side trails, and proceed to the river mouth, will have to retrace their steps.'

The project is scheduled for substantial completion by September 30, "but we will be working with the contractor and project engineers, EXP Services, to complete the work as quickly as possible," the press release adds.

The Bahá'ís of Manitoulin believe that all humanity shares a common spiritual heritage, which takes various forms in various times and places, reflecting the diversity of cultures evolving along with human nature. *If you would like to explore this common* heritage together with others, contact us at: (705) 210-0391 or gnox@gnusystems.ca.

See www.bahai.org for more information.



## Deer management meeting recommends status quo for 2024 tags

#### ...continued from page 1

creased by 1.500," Mr. Havden added. "Hunters have to get away from just wanting to shoot bucks." He pointed out, "Baiting (of deer) has changed the dynamics on Manitoulin Island. I see loads of carrots being brought in. It is changing the deer habitat and because of this deer are being found where they wouldn't ever be seen



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before."

Mr. Hayden said he is concerned chronic waste disease (CWD) in deer is coming to the Island.

"I also have a concern that we in 43B have to increase the number of deer harvested or we are going to have a problem next year with the deer numbers increasing," said Denis Goupil of Providence Bay

Kevin Hutchinson, a member of the Little Current Fish and Game Club (LCFGC) said, "Lee (Hayden) made an interesting point about bucks. And I agree with Mr. Hayden, we should try to get to 100 percent of hunting tag applications being filled by increasing the number of deer tags by 500-1,000. We have talked about this in our club and everyone likes 100 percent for 43B. In areas like Bidwell and Honora Bay there are all kinds of deer.'

'I've never seen so many healthy deer around as I have this year," said Mr. Hayden.

Bryan Barker of Billings Township said, "Billings has a very high concentration of deer. You will see upwards of 25 in fields. And the motor vehicle deer collisions are very high in the township." He said last summer there were a lot of twin fawns around and he expects this trend to continue this year, with the deer population on the in-

## Join us for **KINDERGARTEN** Orientation



Assiginack Public School Tuesday, May 7, 2024 5 pm to 6 pm **Principal: Tracey Chapman** 134 Michael's Bay Rd., Manitowaning 705-368-7010



Central Manitoulin Public School Monday, May 6, 2024 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm **Principal: Melissa Brandon** 56 Yonge St., Mindemoya 705-368-7005

Charles C. McLean Public School

#### **Kindergarten Orientation** and Registration Sessions

To register your child for Kindergarten, please complete the Elementary Registration Form at rainbowschools.ca

In preparing for the meeting Mr. Gendron said, "What we looked at is a set of indicators such as deer seen per hunter/hunter day, hunter success, harvest trends, winter severity. "We will talk about population targets and winter severity. And we will see the base benchmarks set over the yeas, and consider predicted population trends and the fall quota," Mr. Gendron said at the meeting held April 23.

Provincially, while WMU 43A is moderate in terms of other WMUs in the province, 43B is high in terms of deer seen, hunter success, hunting effort, tags allocated and harvest intensity, said Mr. Gendron.

"Manitoulin Island is a very unique place for many species of animals, including deer," said Mr. Gendron. "The deer hunt generates a lot of tourism, and Manitoulin is in the top three for the highest population and

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## ...Ferry starts Friday

schedules. It leaves Tobermory at 6:10 pm, arrives at South Baymouth at 7:55 pm and then returns to Tobermory, leaving South Baymouth at 8:15 pm, arriving at 10 pm.

An extra sailing will take place on Victoria Day, Monday, May 20, departing Tobermory at 6:10 pm, arriving in South Baymouth at 7:55 pm, departing at 8:15 pm and arriving back at Tobermory at 10 pm.

Off-peak fares apply to the first round of sailings. For adult passengers, the one-way fare will be \$18.05, child fare will be \$9 (under 4 are free) and seniors (65+) \$15.60. Vehicle prices vary, but estimates can be calculated at the Owen Sound Transportation Company website, OntarioFerries.com.

The fee schedule increases the number of sailings on June 21, with some minor changes in sailing times.

There has been little information forthcoming on what plans there are to celebrate the occasion of the ferry's 50th anniversary, but the ferry is sporting a new portside hull decal marking her 50th season. The provincial Crown agency has been undergoing several changes in leadership since the departure of long-time president Susan Schrempf, and continues to find challenges in filling the top post.

The newly appointed board chair is listed as James Colliver of Grand Bend, but he apparently lives in Toronto region. Mr. Colliver's official biography notes he is vice president of a Canadian investment management company (West Pine Capital) with over 40 years experience in capital markets and asset management. Over his career, as a senior executive Mr. Colliver has "built and managed successful businesses measured by asset growth and industry rankings." He is a volunteer member of the Knox College investment committee, the Toronto Cricket Curling and Skating Club, Finance and Audit Pension Sub Committee and the Lambton Shores Recreation Advisory Committee. Mr. Colliver graduated from Huron University College in London, Ontario and has numerous investment industry designations.

Curiously, at present, there are no members of the Owen Sound Transportation Company board from any of the communities their ferries serve, although members include former Progressive Conservative Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound MP Larry Miller; Benson Lau of Toronto, James Hepple of Meaford; Brook Dyson of Collingwood and Richard Stivrins of North Bay. One seat remains vacant.



Wednesday, May 8, 2024 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm **Principal: Robyn Best** 43 Hall St., Gore Bay 705-368-7015

Little Current Public School Wednesday, May 8, 2024 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm **Principal: Heather Pennie** 18 Draper St., Little Current 705-368-2932

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## ...Wiikwemkoong's inaugural Kweok Recognition Awards Gala

#### ...continued from page 3

display of honour and pride, celebrating not only themselves but also each other.

In a conversation with The Expositor, Ogimaa Manitowabi expressed the sentiment behind the gala: "We wanted to have something from the political office honouring some women from the community that have done some really great things. So, as a connecting piece between the Women's Day event in late winter and spring, springtime being a process of renewal, new life and healing we decided we would have a celebration of kweok.'

The evening commenced with a poignant opening prayer in Anishinaabemowin by Elder Donna Debassige and was gracefully emceed by Kerry Assiniwe, a respected media personality and producer. Catering was generously provided by Janz Catering, adding a touch of culinary excellence to the affair.

The highlight of the evening was the keynote address delivered by honouree Edna Manitowabi. who had recently received "Inspire Awards: the Celebrating Indigenous Achievement" accolade in Ottawa. Ms. Manitowabi was welcomed by thunderous applause from her proud family and community members, began her speech in Anishinaabemowin, paying tribute to her ancestors and acknowledging the support that led her to this moment.

Reflecting on her journey, Ms. Manitowabi humbly shared, "It is very, very special for us to take the time, to give recognition, to affirm, to encourage one another. For me, that is really good medicine. I am here, and I didn't do it by myself. There are mentors and teachers who encourage you, and that's what it is all about. Encouragement, affirmation."

She went on to recount the pivotal role of mentors in revitalizing cultural traditions such as the powwow, emphasizing the enduring impact of their efforts on the community's youth. "And so they went out searching. They went out west and they brought in old-time grass dancers and singers. They brought the big drum to lift up our spirits, to raise us up. It's been over 60 years, and you still host the best and biggest traditional powwow in the territory. And it's our women, our women did that.'

Throughout the eve-

# Island real estate agent says new capital gains tax will affect Manitoulin cottagers

MANITOULIN ISLAND—A Manitoulin real estate agent and a Gore Bay resident are in agreement with the Federation of Ontario Cottagers Association (FOCA) that the new Canadian capital gains tax rate announced by the federal government on April 16 raises significant concerns for many Canadians who have dedicated their lives to maintaining family properties.

FOCA is concerned because it says this tax will negatively impact 150,000 seasonal cottage owners in Ontario alone when it comes time for them to transfer their cottage to the next generation. "It is important to recognize that these individuals are not the wealthiest 0.13 percent of Canadians as described by the government last week but rather middle-class families who have cherished these properties as part of their heritage and family legacy, in many cases for multiple generations and over several decades," said FOCA's chief executive officer (CEO) Lesley Lavender.

On April 16, Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland tabled a 2024 federal budget including an announcement that the capital gains tax on amounts over \$250,000 will rise on or after June 25, 2024.

Chris Bousquet of Bousquet Realty Brokerage said, "this could affect a lot of people. On Manitoulin Island there are a lot of local people who own cottages and hunt properties. And we are a tourist area so a lot of people own cottages or recreational property."

"Right now, the capital gains tax is based on 50 percent of gain," said Mr. Bousquet. If someone sells their secondary dwelling, "in the budget for the first \$250,000 will be at 50 percent, but if it is over \$250,000 this will increase to 66.7 percent."

"With this new tax if you sell a cottage, because it is not your principal residence, the capital gains tax goes from 50 percent to over 66 percent if it is sold for over \$250,000," said Joyce Foster of Gore Bay. "A lot of people work for minimum wage, and their cottage was to be used for retirement purposes. This increase is not fair."

"Prime Minister Trudeau said this tax will only be penalizing the rich, 0.13 percent of the population," said Ms. Foster.

...continued on page 16



ning, several other remarkable women were honoured for their contributions to various fields, including education, animal advocacy, language preservation, trades, volunteerism, and healthcare. Their stories illuminated the depth of resilience and compassion within the community.

Jean Flammand was honoured for her service to community as an educator and an animal advocate (puppies and dogs); Gertie Manitowabi was honoured for her work in the preservation of Anishinaabemowin and her work in Indigenous Justice; Katelyn Abel was honoured for entering into the trades as a mechanic inspired by her father; Margaret Manitowabi for her volunteer work both in community and abroad including with the Red Cross; Phyllis Kinoshameg was honoured for her dedication in the field of health and wellbeing for community and her work Aboriginal ethics and health research.

Ogimaa Manitowabi underscored the importance of male presence at the event, recognizing them as protectors and supporters of Anishinaabe women, further emphasizing the unity and strength of the community.

As the night drew to a close, the echoes of laughter, applause, and heartfelt speeches lingered, serving as a testament to the power of recognition, encouragement, and collective celebration. The inaugural Anishinaabe Kweok Recognition Awards Gala not only honoured the past achievements but also ignited a flame of inspiration for the generations to come. affirming the enduring spirit of Wiikwemikoong Unceded Territory.



Recent Indspire Award winner Edna Manitowabi was among those recognized at the inaugural Wiikwemkoong Kweok Recognition Awards Gala.

photo by Jacqueline St. Pierre



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#### ...full-time drug enforcement unit ... continued from page 1

85 percent of respondents believe that a drug unit should be a top priority for law enforcement.

Since 2021, UCCM Anishnaabe Police have undertaken drug enforcement operations resulting in the charging of 85 individuals with more than 363 criminal and drug-related offenses, along with the confiscation of illicit and prescription drugs valued at over \$854,000 on the street.

Among those charged with drug offenses by UCCM Anishnaabe Police since 2021, 22 were drug traffickers from the Greater Toronto Area, many linked to notorious street gangs which are aggressively expanding into rural, Northern and First Nations communities. The combination of scarce supply and soaring demand presents a lucrative opportunity for them to reap enormous profits. Police report that gang members are brazenly seizing control of local residences, literally driving into town and commandeering homes belonging to unsuspecting residents. This alarming trend demands immediate action to safeguard these vulnerable communities from the devastating impact of organized crime infiltration.

...continued on page 11



The Little Current Yacht Club is offering CANSail 1-4 Sailing Camps again this summer!

Wikwemikong: July 8th to 12th, or 15th to 19th Contact the Youth Center to register! Gore Bay: July 29th to August 2nd Little Current: August 5th to 9th, 12th to 16th or 19th to 23rd

To register, visit: https://littlecurrentyachtclub.checklick.com Thanks again to our sponsors!



## ...Deer management recommends status quo for 2024

...continued from page 8 harvest numbers in the province."

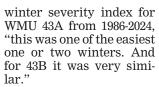
Mr. Gendron explained in the area of deer seen per hunter day, the years of 2017-2019 saw harsh winters, but things have been relatively stable for the past few years and there has been an increase in the last two years. Last fall, we saw a small decrease in the deer seen per hunter day, however, this is expected to increase this year.

Hunter success in both WMUs decreased slightly last fall but from 2020 the trend is an increase.

"It seems to be during the archery (bow) hunt that hunters are having a lot more success," said Rov Polsky.

"There has been a dramatic increase in archery in 43A over what there was 10 years ago," stated one hunter.

As for the winter severity index, "this past winter was pretty phenomenal, it was a good winter for deer," said Mr. Gendron. "This year was unusual, there was really only two months of winter where there was some actual snow on the ground. Across the province in many districts the severitv index was less than half of what it is historically." No snow stations in the province reported a severe winter. In looking at the



In the area of wolves seen per hunter day in 2023, for 43A there was a slight increase and in 43B the numbers were stable. Mr. Gendron explained that Mr. Anderson, a local trapper, said he normally traps 40 coyotes over the winter, but this dropped to 21 this year. "So, things are not too bad on that front.'

Last year the tag quota for 43A was increased from 300 to 400 and in 43B from 4,000 to 5,500, Mr. Gendron told the meeting. The tag allocation success rate for 43A was 59 percent and 99 percent for WMU 43B.

In providing a summary for WMU 43A Mr. Gendron explained, "historical hunter demand has decreased over time. There has been a habitat related population decline over a 15-20 year period through to 2010 (reduced timber harvest). The deer population is stable to increasing from 2010-2018. The winter of 2019 was extremely severe which led to significant winter mortality and a very poor fawn crop." However, "the winters of 2020-2024 were all favourable for deer. The number of tags increased from 300 to 400 in 2023, and the goal for 2024 hunt is to maintain population levels."

"For WMU 43B the density, hunting pressure and harvest are at the high end of the scale provincially," said Mr. Gendron. "There was an active effort to decrease the deer population from 2003 to 2010, but it has generally been increasing from 2010-2017. The 2017 harvest was the highest since 2007." With winter of 2019 being severe there was high mortality and a poor fawn crop, and a spike in predator populations in 2019 was linked to winter severity and deer mortality. "Populations have since declined." He said the impact of the 2019 winter was significant, while winters from 2020-2024 have all been favourable and there was a tag increase from 4,000 to 5,500 in 2023. "The goal for the 2024 hunt is to maintain population lev-

els."

"In 43B we are leaning toward keeping the same levels as last year. Based on all indicators we are in a pretty decent spot," said Mr. Gendron. "We have not seen a sharp increase or decrease in deer population. Ian (Anderson) told me he supported no change."

"I think you are spot on for the most part, and I concur with Ian," said Paul Methner. "It will be interesting to see what comes out this year, but things seem to be on the right track; it looks good."

"After the fall hunt I heard from a number of hunters that they had not seen bucks," said Mr. Methner. "I think this is due to a combination of everything going on. I hunt in an area where there are a lot of hunt camps, and the consensus was that they had only seen a couple of bucks in Central Manitoulin during the hunt."

Bob Florean said there is a lot of baiting of deer going on locally.

"It did seem we heard that a lot of people are baiting deer and we heard complaints from some camps because they don't bait and didn't see deer during the hunt because all the deer are going into their neighbour's property," said Mr. Gendron.

Mr. Florean said in the past there has been a concern raised by farmers with deer damaging agriculture, particularly in areas like Gordon/Barrie Island. And farmers had applied for deer removal authority (DRA) permits. "We have to keep on top of this. Maybe we need to focus on this in some areas." There was a question on how successful the DRA was on farmers' property. "The numbers were limited, maybe 10 tags were available," said Mr. Florean.

Glen Polsky reported that at his hunt camp during both the archery hunt and gun hunt there were very few deer seen. "I didn't see the purpose in increasing the quota numbers last fall. But with another mild winter this year I see a reason for it," he said, adding to those supporting a slight increase in the number of tags available in 43B this fall

Julie Poirier Mensinga of the Ontario Ministry

of Agriculture Food and Rural Affairs said, "I did reach out to a few farmers to get a feel for what they are seeing. And I reached out to OFA to see if they have carried out a wildlife damage survey recently. They haven't done this since 2021-2022, and it was a provincial survey. The farmers I reached out to had some issues with deer, most are horticulture crop producers, and one farmer put up a seven foot fence around orchards and this seems to have cleared up the deer problem, but it was an expensive solution."

"Another farmer is using electric fencing to keep deer out, but it has not been 100 percent effective. And it has been expensive," said Ms. Mensinga. "They are seeing a significant number of deer. Maybe a more in-depth study needs to be carried out. There is damage going on."

Nicholas Reiche, Management Coordinator for the MNRF Sudbury District said, "Part of the issue is trying to grow crops in a high deer population area. Its tricky navigating that one. Based on the lack of data available maybe OMAFRA (Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs) could carry out a study to bolster the numbers.'



...continued from page 6

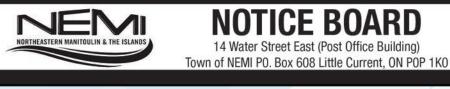
#### Disturbance call

#### results in arrest

On April 20, WTPS received a call of a disturbance occurring at a residence in the Rabbit Island area on the WUT.

At approximately 12:35 am, officers responded to the call, attended the residence and located three persons in the residence. One person appeared to have been assaulted but all denied anything took place. The homeowner requested all persons be removed from the residence.

Officers directed persons to leave the residence at which time one subject refused and became actively resistant. Officers placed the male under arrest for trespass property-refuse to to leave, and ne was escort ed out of the residence. Upon departing, a second subject became belligerent and actively resistant with police and was also placed under arrest. Both suspects had been consuming alcohol and were returned to the Wikwemikong police station and lodged without further incident. As a result of the incident, one male was charged with trespass, fail to leave when directed, a contradiction of Section 2(1)(b) Trespass to Property Act, and later released. The second male was later released unconditionally once sober. The Wikwemikong Tribal Police responded to 43 calls for service for the weekend of April 19-21.



**Public Notice** 

The Council Meeting of May 7th is Cancelled All items will be reviewed at the May 9th regularly scheduled meeting.

NOTICE BOARD

14 Water Street East (Post Office Building)

Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands **PUBLIC NOTICE** 

The Annual Spring Clean-up Week is scheduled for the week of May 13th to May 19, 2024

**Important Notice Regarding Brush and Tipping Fees** During Spring Clean-up week ONLY there will be no charge for brush brought to the to the landfill site. All other tipping fees apply.

#### Landfill Hours

Monday 11a.m to 7 p.m. Tuesdays 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 11 a.m. to 7p.m Saturdays 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Starting May 19, the landfill will be open Sundays 10 am to 5 pm

#### Attention users of the Little Current and Sheguiandah Water Systems

Annual maintenance will be starting shortly and will involve flushing of the water lines. Please be reminded that this may lead to discolourization of your water. Simply let your tap run until it runs clear. If you continue to have a problem, please call the Town Office. Little Current system - April 22nd to May 3rd Sheguiandah system – May 6th to May 10th

#### **Upcoming Events**

**Boaters Safety Course** Saturday, June 15 at 2:00pm-4:00pm NEMI Rec Centre One day only. Ages 11 and up. Contact boatingal@gmail.com Limited spots available.

**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.

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## ...UCCM full-time drug enforcement unit ...continued from page 10 ing), which has been difficult in the past.

... continued from page 10

"We are aware of who many of these individuals are, but it requires a tremendous amount of evidence to secure search warrants and to legally hold them accountable in court," Police Chief Killeen said. "We can't rely solely on informants, and second or third

hand anecdotal information. These individuals are also masters at intimidating potential witnesses and will pay people to go to jail for their crimes, making convicting those responsible difficult."

The force joined the Crim-inal Intelligence Service of Ontario (CISO) in 2021 and collaborates with the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) on drug investigations, while

also exchanging information with the Greater Sudbury Police Service, Wikwemikong Tribal Police Service and the Toronto Integrated Guns and Gangs Task Force.

"The new task force will be able to concentrate fully on the issue (drug traffick-

confident that when we can get the drug problem in hand, then we will see fewer residual crimes, like violence and hu-man trafficking," Chief of Police Killeen went on to say. Police Chief Killeen emphasizes the importance of partnerships with other law UCCM

enforcement agencies to gather intelligence and share information on criminal activities crossing jurisdictional boundaries. "We are grateful for our collaborations with other detachments and look forward to being able to share more information between us, going forward," he told The Expositor.

He further highlights the strong desire within First Nations communities for a Drug Enforcement Unit to become a permanent fixture within their police service, enhancing proactive measures against drug trafficking and associated crimes.

Focus had to be taken off investigations

to handle other types of crime. We are

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### ... Mac's Bay, Manitou River properties

#### ...continued from page 1

landscape. With its lush forests, Mac's Bay serves as a sanctuary for critical wildlife habitats, rare ecosystems and plays a vital role in carbon sequestration to combat climate change. Our heartfelt gratitude goes to the generous landowners who contributed to this invaluable cause.

Meanwhile, the newly acquired 100acre Manitou River Nature Preserve. nestled in Tehkummah near the south shore upriver from Michael's Bay, promises to be a sanctuary for biodiversity. With its pristine landscape and strategic location adjacent to other conservation lands, it holds great promise for protecting endangered species like the Variewhile fostering rare ecosystems.

Ms. Gilhespie underscored the inherent link between human well-being and environmental health

"Nature sustains us in myriad ways. From carbon sequestration and soil stabilization to providing habitats for diverse life forms, such as fish and wildlife, and preserving water quality, our connection to nature is fundamental to our health and that of our planet.'

In closing, Ms. Gilhespie emphasized the urgent need to protect Manitoulin Island's rich biodiversity in the face of climate change. "As stewards of this remarkable island, it's our duty to safeguard its natural treasures to ensure a thriving environment for generations

## ing endangered species like the Varie-gated Meadowhawk and Hill's Thistle, New nursing funding and recruitment helping Manitoulin Centennial Manor's bottom line

#### by Michael Erskine

LITTLE CURRENT—While agency staff use continues to bedevil the labour envelope at Manitoulin Centennial Manor, the long-term care home is starting to see some light at the end of the staffing tunnel, with the help of a significant (\$75,000) boost to nursing funds and the continued efforts of management to recruit new registered nurses (RN), registered practical nurses (RPN), a resident assessment coordinator, behavioural support specialist and a few more part-time personal support worker staff (PSW), starting to show results.

Manor administrator Don Cook informed the Manor board at its April 25 meeting that two RNs will are anticipated to be coming on board in May.

"Our new staff member that is on the two-month work placement through Cambrian College employment center is working out quite well," said Mr. Cook. "We have received an increase in the nursing envelope in the new April 1 budget allocations. So, with the reduction of agency staff, it will provide us with budget room to create a new nursing ward clerk, to take on the duties of scheduling, staff replacement and other clerical work that would

free time for nursing staff to work on more clinical work, such as assessments, reports and audits that will improve the care of the residents.'

The Manor is also working closely with Extendicare and placement consultants to recruit staff from offshore.

"Director of Care Sylvie Clark has interviewed two nurses and we are now moving forward with the next stage of bringing them here to work as PSW until they get their CNO (College of Nurses of Ontario) registration," continued Mr. Cook.

The administrator also noted that the Manor had the arbitration date for the CUPE contract on March 28 and the arbitration board informed the nursing home administration they were meeting on May 2. "So, we are hoping we will have a new contract on that date," said Mr. Cook. "We continue constructive monthly labour relation meetings with CUPE.'

The mild winter also contributed to some leeway in the Manor budget, with reduced Hydro and fuel costs taking less of a bite than anticipated. Overall, the Manor saw a health March surplus of \$170,000, a welcome bottom-line improvement from some previous years.



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Wiikwemkoong.

sues. We want people to

know that we want peace

in our community—we

have had enough of this

and enough of that (drugs

and associated crime). We

want people to know that

we are here, as a commu-

nity to bring awareness.

We want our children to

be safe, our elders and

community members to

be safe. We need to stand

together and take care of

commencing at Chi Wi-

igwam on Rabbit Island,

with the Wiikwemkoong

flag and eagle staff at its

head, spirits were high as

traditional songs echoed

through the air, fostering

an atmosphere of camara-

The significance of the

gathering was not lost on Mr. Cooper, who under-

scored the concerns of the

derie and hope.

ANAVETS (Army, Navy, Air Force),

in Canada, is looking to increase its

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the senior Veterans Association

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have special needs we may be able to assist you with, or

just to honour your service. Our main goal is to help our

Veterans and to give back to our community.

For further information, please contact: Brian Bird at (705) 368-3976

With the procession

each other.'

## Wikwemikong resurrects tradition of Take Back the Night observance

#### by Jacqueline M. St.Pierre Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

WIIKWEMIKOONG-In a powerful display of community unity, Wiikwemkoong has reignited its Take Back the Night community walk after a hiatus, drawing over a hundred locals to join forces against violence and drug-related issues, last Thursday night. Led by Dana Ominika, Ralph Gonawabi and Shane Cooper, the event saw participants adorned in ribbon shirts and ribbon skirts, marching together as a symbol of solidarity.

Originating a decade ago, the event had lapsed in recent years until the determination of its organizers to revive it. "We want people to know what we stand for," Ms. Ominika expressed, reflecting on the mission to raise awareness and advocate for peace and safety in the community.

Mr. Gonawabi, addressing the crowd at outset, emphasized the the importance of collective action in combating

elders regarding violence, substance abuse and property damage. "We want-ed to promote unity and the challenges faced by "We peace, not just as a First are here to do a peaceful Nation, but as an Island," walk in our community, he stated passionately. bringing awareness of the violence and drug is-

As dusk descended, the procession culminated at the healing lodge of the Wiikwemkoong Health Centre where Mr. Cooper urged the community to protect their sacred land and stand together in solidarity. "We wanted to end our night by coming to our sacred fire. This is our land, this is our traditional territory and we need to stand up for it and protect it. We need to come together like this more often, it's nice that we have the support from every one of you. Look beside you, look in front of you, look behind youthat person that you see, hopefully you can walk with them once more, when we gather again like this. You should be proud of yourselves."



Community members in Wiikwemkoong take to the streets as part of a revival of the Take Back the Night observances.

photo by Jacqueline M. St. Pierre

With a heartfelt rendi-

tion of 'The Humble Song' by Danielle Roy-MacDonald, the event concluded

district,

bury

on a poignant note, leaving participants inspired and determined to continue their fight for a safer, more harmonious Wiikwemkoong.

## Manitoulin included in MNRF flood warnings

includ-

SUDBURY-Manitoulin Island is being included in a flood outlook, issued by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) Sudbury District. On April 26, the MNRF issued an updated watershed conditions statement-flood outlook, which will be in effect for the district until Friday, May 3.

"Residents in the Sud-



ing the communities of Sudbury, Espanola, the municipalities of Markstay-Warren and St. Charles, townships of Sables-Spanish River and Baldwin, Town of Spanish and Manitoulin Island should exercise caution along local waterways, an MNRF release April 26 states. "Local streams and rivers, which are at seasonal levels, will see increased flows and higher water levels due to the incoming precipitation event. There is the potential for flooding in low-lying areas and residents may wish to take necessary action to secure or protect property in floodprone or vulnerable areas. Please monitor any children or pets under your care around these hazards and supervise their activities."

"The ministry is closely

#### updates will be issued as appropriate," the MNRF release notes. A watershed conditions statement-flood outlook gives early notice of the

monitoring the weather and developing water-

shed conditions. Further

potential for flooding based on weather forecasts calling for heavy rain, snow melt, high winds or other conditions. The MNRF release explains, "a Colorado Low

tracking into Ontario is forecast to bring widespread rain this weekend and into (this) week. With mostly clear conditions today locally. Heavier precipitation is forecast to begin today (April 26) in the northwest with rain amounts between 10-20 millimetres in the Far North and from Kenora to Thunder Bay, extending to the east-Lake Superior shoreline towards

forecast to range between 20-50 mm.

"Water levels and stream flows across Northeastern Ontario are back to seasonal spring levels, however, due to the anticipated amounts of rainfall over the next five days local inflows and watercourse levels may increase. Flooding may be experienced in low lying or flood prone areas," the MNRF adds.

### **Expositor** Correction

The April 24 edition of The Expositor contained a Page 3 story titled 'Carol Gilmore to be inducted into the Great Northern Opry.' Carol Gilmore was reported as saying that about nine years ago she and her band played music at nursing homes and that lately, the band has been playing at Milltown homes in Espanola. The latter should have read Millsite in Gore Bay. The Expositor regrets any inconvenience this may have caused.

Sault Ste. Marie. As the low-pressure system continues to move eastward on Saturday, an additional 10-20 mm is forecast over the Thunder Bay and Nipigon areas, with 20-30 mm forecast for areas along the east shore of Lake Superior and into the Northeastern Region. Over the next five days, accumulated rainfall in the Northeast region is

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		\$6,995.00		2018 Kubota KX033 Series 4GAX	\$69,995.00
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	2000 Kubota F3060 Front Mount Mower	\$12,995.00		K36/450	\$43,995.00
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	Mower	\$9,995.00		Loader & Backhoe with Tektite Cab, Fron	it
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	2008 Kubota M8540 HDC	\$64,995.00		2021 Kubota KXB860QA	\$22,995.00
	2008 Kubota M9540 HDC	\$59,995.00	•	2021 Kubota BX TLB Series BX23SLBB-T	\$37,995.00
•	2009 John Deere LA105	\$995.00	•	2021 Kubota BX80 Series BX1880T	\$24,995.00
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## **Conservation is the goal of the Little Current Fish and Game Club**



Club member (and past president) Bill Strain expalins the intricacies of the walleye nets that are set in the rivermouth to capture spawning fish



Students learn the intricacies of putting eggs and sperm together to fertilize the walleye eggs.



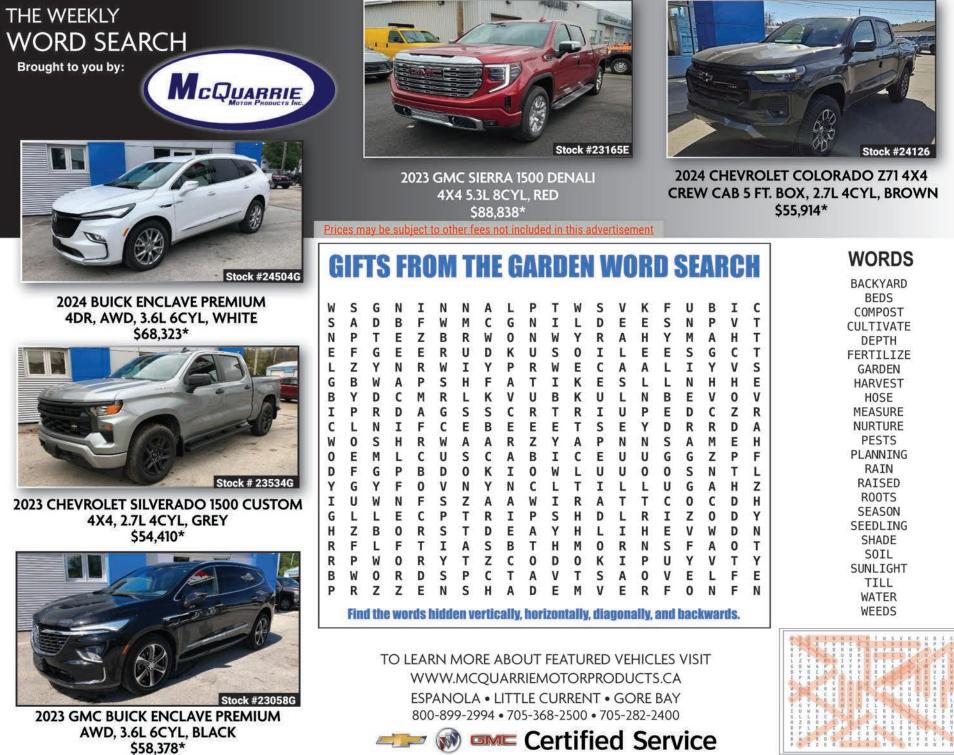
Students from Wasse Abin Pontiac School in Wiikwemkoong got to be hands on when they came to the Little Current Fish and Game Club hatchery at the mouth of Bass Creek to learn about the club's conservation efforts. Each student recieves a fishing rod as a gift following the demonstrations. Area schools took turns coming to the site to learn about conservation.



Everything you need to know about walleye and conservation can be found at the Little Current Fish and Game Club demonstrations.



Finally, it's into the hatchery itself to learn more about the whole process.



### Pontiac School inspires community with second annual Earth Day water walk

by Jacqueline M. St.Pierre, Local Journalism Initiative of School Program Fa-WIIKWEMKOONG-In a powerful display of reverence for Mother Earth, Wasse Abin Pontiac El-ementary School hosted its second annual Earth Day water walk on April 22, drawing together students, parents and faculty in a celebration of unity and environmental stewardship.

Under the guidance cilitator Braidie Brittin and revered elders, participants embarked on a sacred journey from the school grounds to the tranquil waterside at the marina in Wikwemikoong. Adorned in traditional regalia, they moved in harmony, their steps echoing the timeless connection between humanity and the life-giving essence of water.

Danielle Roy-MacDonald, lead drummer and singer of Odeminkwe Singers, provided insight into the profound signif-icance of the ceremony. "We as women are water carriers," she shared with The Expositor. "It is the water of our wombs that bring life into the world, so it is very important and



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> Manitoulin Hotel - Conference Centre 66 Meredith Street East, Little Current



Teachers and students from Wasse Abin Pontiac School engage in a water walk that inspired the entire community during Earth Day photo by Jacqueline M. St. Pierre

sacred to us to pray for the waters in this way.<sup>3</sup>

Roy-MacDonald Ms. emphasized the global impact of their prayers, highlighting the interconnectedness of all waters. "We pray not only for our water, but the health of the water around the world," she explained. "Waters are all connected, so what we do here makes a difference everywhere "

The spiritual essence of

the water, Ms. Roy-Mac-Donald revealed, carries the messages of love and healing across continents. "The spirit of the water takes the messages we put into her all over the world," she expressed passionately. "I encourage women everywhere to pray for the water every chance they get."

The Earth Day water walk at Wasse Abin Pontiac School transcended a simple event, becoming a

profound testament to the enduring wisdom of Indigenous traditions and the urgent call to protect our planet. As participants united in prayer and reflection, they not only honoured the sacredness of water but also inspired a community to embrace their role as stewards of the Earth, promoting a legacy of respect and harmony for generations to come.



Guides celebrate a Mother's Day market

Members of the First Western Manitoulin Guiding unit held a Mothers Day market at the Gore Bay community hall on April 20. Members of the guiding unit, including Emma Chaytor, Kiley DeRoche, Sophia Hubbard, Lexi Phelps, Lilly Phelps and Abby Lauber pose for a photograph during the event. There were 15 vendors displaying their wares at booths in the community hall, with a chili luncheon, silent auction, and colouring table for children. Proceeds raised from the market event will go towards Girl Guide planning for a Great Wolf Lodge trip, and a camping trip the guides are taking part in this month.

# **Mother's Day Brunch**

Sunday, May 12, 2024 from 8am to 2pm at North 46 Restaurant

### 66 Meredith Street East, Little Current \$37.00 per adult plus taxes • \$18.00 for children 12 and under plus taxes Menu

• Eggs • Homefries • Bacon • Sausage • Ham • Pancakes • French Toast • Lasagna • Roasted Chicken • Perogies • Seasonal Vegetables • Pasta Salad • Fruit & Vegetable Platter • Assorted Desserts

> Reservations Required. Call (705) 368-9966 or email reservations@manitoulinhotel.com

### Manitoulin Hotel - Conference Centre

www.manitoulinhotel.com

## Beloved Manitoulin constable feted by Island community.

...continued from page 3

Anishinaabe Police Service said, "I think everyone here tonight should give yourselves a round of applause. I have been a police officer for 26 years and I have never seen the response for an officer as I am seeing tonight. The support is massive for Marie. It is incredible and wonderful to see all your support for Marie.'

"I would like to welcome everyone here for this evening," said Ms. Scott. "We are here to celebrate a wonderful evening to celebrate provincial constable Marie Ford on her retirement."

"We are celebrating a dear friend and showing an amazing lady how much we appreciate her service, dedication, commitment and friendship for all of Manitoulin Island, but especially our hometown of Mindemoya," said Ms. Scott.

"It all started in August 1998 when a young married couple saw a posting for provincial constables on Manitoulin Island," explained Ms. Scott. "Marie and (her husband) Steve (Redmond) decided to give it a try and come to the Island for a duration of four years. After all, how bad could it be?"

"They checked out the local real estate and found a house on Hill Road. So, in July 1999 they both reported to duty for a fouryear duration on Mani-toulin Island," said Ms.



Marie Ford, left, is presented with an Manitoulin Special Olympics coaches jacket by MSO coordinator Janet Anning. Ms. Ford, a volunteer with Special Olympics, was honoured with a celebration retirement party for her career as a provincial constable with the Manitoulin Ontario Provincial Police on April

Mindemoya was excited to have the two additional young officers in the community. Some questioned why Marie didn't take her husband's last name. As was the case then and as we found out, "Marie is her own person with a strong personality."

"Two years passed, and it was now 2001, and Marie and Steve had their first son, Matthew. Everyone was excited for them," said Ms. Scott. "They had two more years' time adjusting to the Island and

Scott. She pointed out then their four-year duration would be up. They decided to take it year by year. They had another baby in 2004, Zoe. By this time Matthew had so many friends, and their house was too small, so they built an addition on their house."

"Then in 2009 Thomas arrived and Marie decided they couldn't leave the Island," continued Ms. Scott. "She even convinced her parents to move to Mindemoya. We remember Marie stating that 'no way are my kids



Quilter Carol Gilmore, right, takes part in a 'fashion show' held as part of a retirement party celebration held for Marie Ford, a provincial constable with the Manitoulin OPP.

going to play hockey.' All participated in Mindemoya Thunder hockey, attending Central Manitoulin Public School and Manitoulin Secondary School."

"Marie saw the closing of the OPP detachments in Manitowaning and Mindemoya. She and her family had many happy events, along with tough times like everyone else. But even during the tough times, Marie always saw the bright side of things, with her big laugh and very caring heart," said Ms. Scott. "We want to show you how much we appreciate everything you have done."

Manitoulin Central Mayor Richard Stephens said "We wish Marie all the best in your retirement. You do look too young to be retiring. And we want to thank everyone for coming out here this evening to show your appreciation for Marie."

"Central Manitoulin is a very welcoming com-munity," said Mayor Ste-phens. "We appreciate that she has remained here all these years. Marie and her family are a big part of the community.

Janet Anning, who works for Manitoulin North Shore Victim Services and is the coordinator for Manitoulin Special Olympics (MSO) told the audience she had met Marie a few years ago in the Mindemoya arena. "I began work in the court system in 2000-2001, and with victim services and we both deal with a lot of clients. I miss you dearly already.'

Ms. Anning explained that Special Olympics holds provincial and national fundraising Torch Runs every year. "I was able to coerce Marie to become the MSO torch run law enforcement officer. The Torch Run is a fundraiser, but the run on Manitoulin is unique and not really a fundraiser."

'When the run originated on the Island participants would run from the Mindemoya hospital to the downtown area," said Ms. Anning. "But Marie was able to get the public school (CMPS) involved. Students line up outside the school and cheer our athletes on, and then the students participate with our athletes in the run. Our Special Olympic athletes really enjoy this and the way it is run has raised a lot of acceptance as well in recognizing Special Olympics. Marie is such an important part of our Special Olympics program."

Ms. Ford arranged an annual Manitoulin police services floor hockey game with the MSO athletes. "Our athletes look forward to this more than anything else they take part in," said Ms. Anning. 'Thankfully, Marie is going to stay on with MSO and will be organizing the Torch Run again this year. And Steve (Redmond) is just as important to us, he has taken on providing extra training for several of our athletes. He and Marie have gone the extra mile in helping out," she said in presenting an

...continued on page 16





### 10 AM TO 2 PM

SATURDAY, MAY 4TH, 2024

### AT THE MINDEMOYA HALL & MEMORIAL PARK

### BARBECUES • PATIO FURNITURE • GAZEBOS GARDENING SUPPLIES

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## **Beloved Manitoulin constable feted by Island community**

... continued from page 15 MSO coaches jacket to Ms. Ford.

Lauren Dewar, a member of the Mindemoya Neighbourhood Watch Program, "on behalf of Mindemoya Neighbourhood Watch I would like to thank Marie for all the support she has given us for the program." She explained in the fall of 2019, there seemed to be an increase in crime related instances in Mindemoya. "It rattled us, the residents in town. In just a few short days Marie took calls to have a public meeting and from that the Neighbourhood Watch program was established. Marie has been a key part of helping and comforting us, she is a neighbour, one of us, and cares."

David Wiwchar, principal of MSS talked about Ms. Ford's role as a school resource officer (SRO) and mentioned that when situations arose in which students had taken part in negative action, she would take action and help solve the problem, in turn building rapport in the school, and with the students, building a real connection and trust with them. "Her dedication and purpose had her mind on what good could come of something awful. Then she set about making it happen. And I'd get the phone call, 'how do you think this might go?' And off she would go and make it happen."

"JK Rowling wrote, 'you don't seek power or popularity. You simply



Marie Ford poses with her husband and fellow officer Steve Redmond and members of the family in attendance including their children Thomas and Zoe. Missing from photo is eldest son Matthew.

ask, is the thing right in itself? If it is, then I must do it, no matter the cost," said Mr. Wiwchar. "Marie walked the balance of social worker versus police enforcement. With a quick smile, students warmed to her immediately and trusted her to correct them and defend them from harm. On everything from substance abuse, online bullying and everything that goes wrong with kids on cell phones. 'Right is right even if no one is doing it; wrong is wrong even if everyone is doing it,' by Saint Augustine comes to mind."

"Marie took care of the Island while taking care of her family. She and Steve have raised wonderful children, exemplary in every way," continued Mr. Wiwchar. "She was always just a text away as we dealt with so many complex situations. Each of Marie and Steve's children are the best anyone could hope for, impeccable character in each of them learned from their

"So, of course, Marie served on school council for years, always that person to turn conversation positive, proactive and productive, dreaming of what could be and joining with great ideas to bring them about," continued Mr. Wiwchar. "All of her actions built trust in her, gave students a sense of security in their sometimes difficult circumstances, let students feel safe, knowing someone strong was looking out for them, our schools and our community. That same person who played laser tag with them with such skill was the one to come practice lockdown drills and debrief what went well and could improve with each class. She trained Tessa Kasch in the role of SRO and made that transition so smooth, it felt like we had double the help for just the right amount of time and I know that came of Marie doing double duty in the interest of making sure all went well and that our students were looked after."

"By Marie's way with people, hundreds of students got the privilege of knowing the best attributes of law enforcement and civil society," continued Mr. Wiwchar. "In challenging times like these, it's role models like Marie that the world

needs, and we've been privileged to have had her serve here on the great Manitoulin Island. Roosevelt put in nicely, 'in any moment of decision, the best thing you can do is the right thing. The worst thing you can do is nothing.' Thank you, Marie!"

"I'm honoured," stated Ms. Ford. "It is because of all of you here this evening that I have had the best career on Manitoulin Island."

Ms. Ford told The Expositor in an interview last week that she spent a 30-year career with the OPP. She had started in Napanee for six years before she and Steve decided to transfer to the Island for a four-year duration.

"But when we got here, we realized that this is a little piece of paradise, for families, kids and parents," said Ms. Ford. "You just can't beat the work life balance here. We love all our Island communities—this is an incredible place to work and live."

"We quickly adjusted to living here and learned the real importance of community and that our communities do care. You are not policing them, you are policing with them," said Ms. Ford.

In retirement, "I want to do volunteer work in the community and give back to the kids and families," added Ms. Ford.



HIKING

SEND YOUR PHOTOS TO EXPOSITOR@MANITOULIN.COM For your chance to

### ...capital gains tax will affect Island cottagers

...continued from page 9

"Just because you own a cottage doesn't mean you are rich."

"There are going to be a lot of people affected by this," said Ms. Foster.

Mr. Bousquet said property rates have gone up for quite a few years, since before COVID-19 or even just before, there were increases of 50 percent. "We have seen in some cases property increases of 400-500 percent."

FOCA provided an example of a couple who inherited their waterfront property from parents in the early 1980s when the average cost of a home was around \$75,000 could have a property with a fair market value today of over \$1,000,000 (according to Royal LePage's 2024 Spring Recreational property report). That would represent a \$925,000 capital gain upon disposition of the cottage in a sale or even by gifting the cottage to the kids, of which \$675,000 would be taxed at the new higher rate (the amount above the \$250.000 threshold).

"This tax change will have a devastating effect on families' ability to keep the next generation in the cottage, which could have a profound cultural impact on our heritage and way of life as Canadians," said Ms. Lavender. "It's crucial that any tax measures consider the unique circumstances of cottage owners and preserve their ability to maintain these treasured properties within their families." Otherwise, this tax could result in the premature sale of tens of thousands of Ontario cottage properties which would open the door to speculators, the proliferation of absentee landlords and more short-term rentals in rural waterfront communities.

"FOCA hopes the government will amend the application of this new tax to mitigate its impact on middle-class families and ensure the traditional stewards of these cottage properties can continue to enjoy the waterfront for generations to come."

In a letter to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland, Ms. Lavender wrote, "I am to come," added Ms. Lavender. writing to you on behalf of (FOCA) to express our strong opposition to the recent

announcement regarding changes to the Canadian capital gains tax. This change, as outlined in your announcement on April 16, poses a significant threat to the ability of families to maintain their cherished cottages for future generations, which could have profound cultural implications for our Canadian heritage and way of life."

"FOCA is deeply concerned about the impact this tax change will have on the approximately 150,000 seasonal cottage owners in Ontario alone, particularly when it comes time for them to pass the cottage on to their children. Contrary to the government's characterization, these individuals are not among the wealthiest 0.13 percent of Canadians, but rather hard-working middle-class families who have cherished these properties as part of their heritage and family legacy for generations.'

"Secondly, FOCA is opposed to the implementation date of June 24, 2024, for the new tax rate," continued Ms. Lav-ender. "We believe that 60 days of notice is insufficient for such a significant change, which could have a dramatic impact on the financial position of middle-class Canadian families."

"It is imperative that any tax measures consider the unique circumstances of cottage owners and preserve their ability to maintain these treasured properties within their families," wrote Ms. Lavender. "Failure to do so could result in the premature sale of tens of thousands of Ontario cottage properties, leading to the proliferation of speculators, absentee landlords and short-term rentals in rural waterfront communities. This outcome would run counter to the government's stated goal of preserving Canadian heritage and way of life."

"FOCA respectfully urges the government to reconsider the application of this new tax and to take steps to mitigate its impact on middle-class families. We believe that by doing so, the government can ensure that the traditional stewards of these cottage properties can continue

to enjoy the waterfront for generations

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#### PAGE 18 — THE MANITOULIN EXPOSITOR





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

#### Tfn

Tfn

Tfn

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

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

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



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 (MCSG) 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 705-507-0433, Mackenzie, tandjmackenzie@hotmail. com; Bonnie Young, 705-377-4998; Ann Cranston, 705 282-7531, bnannc@gmail.com. tfn



Ferguson tractor, new tires and back rims, rebuilt carb and tuned up. Asking \$3,200 OBO. Call Charlie, 705-368-0089. 49-50p

Three trailers for sale; 5 x 10 utility (new;) 4 x 8 utility, (used;) 5 x 8 ATV, (used) all in excellent condition. Full cedar wishing well, octagon with roof, crank and bucket. Can been seen at 345 Hideaway Road, Kagawong. Call 705-282-2365. 50-51c



25, two-year-old and year-Charolais bulls. Call ling 705-282-7371 after pm. 46-51c



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

17tfn



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



To all of my family and friends who sent me happy 90th birthday wishes with cards, phone calls and in person, a big thank you. It was kind and thoughtful and much appreciated. Sincerely, Alfreda

50c



#### coming $\square$ events

An evening of Contemporary Inspirational Music, Saturday, April 26 at 7 pm at St. John's Anglican Church, Kagawong. Refreshments provided, donations appreciated. Proceeds of fundraiser to repair stained glass window. tfn

Mindemoya Hospital Auxiliary is having their spring bazaar, bake sale and luncheon on Saturday, May 11. The sale runs from 11 am to 2 pm and the luncheon is available from 11:30 am to 1 pm. The cost of the luncheon is \$15 for adults, \$10 for ages 6 to 12 and under \$5 is free. The event will be held at the Mindemoya Community Centre. 49-51c

Enjoy an afternoon of country music with George Williamson and Friends at the Shequiandah Seniors' Hall from 1 to 4 pm on May 5. Refreshments available. Donation basket for the Senior's Club will be available.

Book sale at St. Bernards Catholic Church, Little Current, Saturday, Masy 4 from 10 am to 12 noon.

50p

### Legion events

Come join the Little Current Royal Canadian Legion, 15 Vankoughnet St. West, for a breakfast brunch 15 Vankoughnet St. on Sunday, May 5 from 10 am to 1 pm. \$10 per person. 47-50p



### WILLIAM EDWARD MEGWONABE

**Death Notices** 

(Andrews)

January 26, 1940 - April 22, 2024

William Edward Megwonabe (Andrews) passed away April 22, 2024. Edward is predeceased by his parents William and Lucy Ann (Niganigijig) Megwanabe; his siblings Irene (Conrad), Wesley (Mary), Henry (Jean), Louise, Pauline, George and Jim (Nora). Ed was an avid fisherman,

guide and hunter. He was known as a jack off all trades, but will be especially remembered as a master fish filleter as you would never find a bone in any fish he cleaned. He was also the right hand man when it came to making maple syrup at the sugar camp. In his younger years he spent some time working for the Whitefish River First Nation maintenance department, but for the majority of his career he spent it doing what he loved, being out on the lake as a fishing guide up north. He also enjoyed being a member of a bowling league for many years, and as he got older he continued to enjoy berry picking, playing bingo, playing cards with friends and family and watching different Canadian sports team compete, although his favourite was the Toronto Blue Jays. He cherished spending quality time with his family by taking them to his fishing "hot spots" but he was most happy when everyone would come together for a family gathering. He was always eager to share his knowledge with the younger generations as he was always willing to give tips and advice to those who asked. He will be sadly missed by his siblings Lawrence (Jean) and Beatrice (Julian), his brother-in-law Fred, his many nieces, nephews and especially by Nico, Deacon, Caleb and Haisley who called him "Papa". He will also be missed by his furry friend Chumlee, who he referred to as "Bebe". Edward rested at the Whitefish River First Nation community centre on Wednesday afternoon, April 24, 2024. The funeral servicewas on Friday, April 26. Arrangements by Bourcier Funeral Home Ltd, Espanola.

## **Celebration of Life**





You are in invited to a Celebration of Life for Garry Ivan Lewis on Saturday, May 11, 2024 at the Grimesthorpe Cemetery in Spring Bay at 11 am. Garry passed away peacefully on December 19, 2023 after a long, difficult struggle with cancer and other health issues. After the service, you are

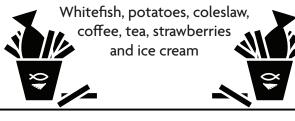
invited to a light lunch at the Providence Bay Hall. Donations to the charity of your choice will be gratefully accepted.

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

### **MANITOULIN SNOWDUSTERS** FISH SUPPER

Saturday, May 4, 2024 5 pm to 7 pm

\$25/person and \$10 (12 and under)



#### You could win up to \$5,000! Friends of the Mindemoya Old School Annual 50/50 Draw May 1 - Aug 10

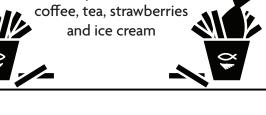
Draw is at noon during the Annual Birthday Bash and BBQ. \$5.00 each. Only 2,000 available. Early Bird Draw \$500, July 1 (re-entered for final draw).

Tickets available: Williamson's, Kat's Pet Supplies OR call 705-377-4045, email/etransfer mindemoyaoldschool@gmail. com. Include name, email and specify "50/50 Draw" in note section. Your ticket numbers will be emailed to you.

www.mindemoyaoldschool.ca Licence # M870701

# 49-50p

Silver Water Community Hall



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

Single, honest, caring and easygoing 69-year-old gentleman looking for a lady companion to share all that life has to offer. I don't drink or smoke. Feel free to drink if you do. Please only non-smokers are welcome. I live in Elliot Lake. I am willing to relocate if need be. I can move, I'm not a tree, Iol! I am for real. If interested please call Bob, 705-923-8819. We will never know unless we try. 49-50c



### FOR RENT 2 BED, 1 BATH (only 1 left!)

New construction (with stairs) 4-plex at 473 Queensway in Espanola. Available May or June for \$2,150 plus utilities; includes appliances +. **Call/Text Olivadel Developments** 705-863-0487

### **RECRUITING EMPLOYEES?**

Our online job board and the 'Life' section of the Expositor is waiting to advertise your employment opportunities!

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### Foodland The annual meeting of the **NEMI FARMERS' MARKET**

#### will be held Wednesday, May 15, 2024 at 7 pm at the NEMI Rec. Centre in the Lions' Den

### **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:**

- Vendor applications Planning for opening day: Saturday, June 8
  - Other business that may arise

ANY NEW AND PROSPECTIVE VENDORS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND MEETING

Tfn



The Nominating Committee of the Board of Directors, as the committee responsible for bringing forward suitable candidates to the Board, is seeking applications from persons within the District of Manitoulin who are interested in serving as Directors. The Committee encourages applicants from all geographical areas of the Manitoulin Region.

MHC is a two-site hospital corporation, with locations in Mindemoya and Little Current, whose Mission is "To contribute to the health and well-being of all who come to us in need." The Board governs the organization and is responsible for issues such as strategic direction, capacity, quality, collaborative ventures, risk management and fiscal soundness of the organization. Towards these activities, Directors act in the best interest of the hospital corporation, ensuring through appropriate governance endeavours that the hospital fulfills its mission.

MHC selects Directors based on an identified need from within MHC's Board of Directors Skills Matrix. Consideration is given to individuals having the following experience or background:

- Business/Finance/Accounting/Insurance;
- Human Resources/Labour Relations;
- Law/Justice;
- Marketing/Fundraising/Public & Government Relations;
- Public Sector Administration/Education/Health Sector;
- CEO/Senior Executive/Management;
- Community Based Organization and Engagement;
- Other relevant skills desirable to the Board.

Diversity of skills, knowledge and viewpoints is desirable for a high-performing Board, and so the Board encourages applications from suitable individuals with an interest in serving in this capacity. Manitoulin Health Centre is strongly committed to diversity within its community and especially welcomes applications from racialized persons/ persons of colour, women, Indigenous/Aboriginal People, persons with disabilities, LGBTQ persons and others who may contribute to the further diversification of ideas.

Interested persons are asked to submit:

- A cover letter indicating the reason(s) why they wish to sit as a Director;
- A resume outlining skills and qualities they will bring to the Board;
- A description of any past experiences in serving other non-profit associations,
- organizations or community groups; and

• Three (3) references

by 12:00 pm (noon) on Friday, May 24th addressed to Chair, Nominating Committee, Board of Directors, by email to **lmastelko@mhc.on.ca**.

### United Church concert series brings food bank boost

#### by Michael Erskine

LITTLE CURRENT-George Williamson and friends have long been a summer Friday night fixture at Soldiers' Park in downtown Little Current. In recent years, the motley crew of local musicians brought their popular evening diversions indoors every couple of weeks through the cold winter months.

"They have been really popular," said Little Cur-rent United Coffeehouse organizer John Hodder, who arranged for the venue to be opened for the mu-



Kenjgewin Teg is accepting quotes/tenders for material and labour of roof replacement at the Kenjgewin Teg main campus building located at 374a Hwy 551, M'Chigeeng, ON.

Experienced and interested parties are

- Removal of existing roofing material
- Installation of new steel roofing, waterproof membrane and required strapping (if needed) across approximately a 16,000 sq. ft building
- Disposal of old roofing material and cleanup of the work site

A copy of the full Request for Tender (RFT) RFT 2024-01 details document can be obtained through request to Shanna Hare, Director of Operations via email,

shannahare@kenjgewinteg.ca or via phone, 705-370-4342.

Tender submission details are provided within the RFT document obtained at Kenjgewin Teg.

Deadline for tender submission is: May 31, 2024 at 2:00 PM. 600

**KENJGEWINTEG.CA** 

sicians and their patrons. "People really enjoy the music they bring.'

'We have a lot of fun," admitted Mr. Williamson. "We have a good group of folks who come out to play and there is usually a pretty good turnout to hear us



Food Security Program Supervisor Vanessa Glasby is all smiles as she holds up a donation cheque that will go toward helping provide food security for families in need across Manitoulin.

play."

The group plays free of charge but accepts free will offerings, with proceeds going to the Manitoulin Family Resources Food Bank. Tea and coffee were available at each performance.

'Total for the winter donations from attending patrons at the United Church Coffeehouse was \$1,356.90,' noted Mr. Williamson. "Thanks to the United Church for donating the hall and thanks to the volunteering musicians, Barry Hamilton, Dale Wood, Maurice Labelle, Doug Alkenbrack, Eugene Manitowabi, Cole Hughson, Tom Beamish and others that helped." Mr. Williamson offered special thanks to Mr. Hodder and the United Church members "for all their hard work, setting up and serving all our friends."

RF/MAX THE ISLAND Real Estate Brokerage INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED

#### **BUILD YOUR DREAM** HOME OR COTTAGE:

Bay Estates Lots (2) Asking \$55,000. MLS# 2115708 Mindemoya Building Lot. Close to golf course and beach. Asking \$74,900. MLS#2116196 Exclusive Waterfront Listings - Manitowaning Bay Waterfront Lots. Asking \$219,000



MLS#2116194 ASKING 839,900



LAKE HURON COTTAGE Turn-key, off-grid. Seasonal Access MLS#2116170 ASKING \$319,000



MCGREGOR BAY 3 Bedroom, 1 bath 6 Acre Island MLS#2112625







**BIG LAKE HOME** New Build. 5BR, 3Bth MLS#2114787 ASKING \$725,000

Amazing Sunsets!!

ASKING \$799,000

MLS#2115672

HONORA WATERFRONT

LITTLE CURRENT CONDO 2 Bedroom, 2 bath MLS#2114449

### LITTLE CURRENT HOME 3 Bedroom, 3 bath Pool/Patio! Must See!!

invited to submit a tender for the following work:



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Jordan Chandler, Broker of Record 705 968 0195 jordan@theislandbrokerage.ca

# Kenjgewin Teg students share construction skills in Costa Rica

by Michael Erskine M'CHIGEENG-A group of students from Kenjgewin Teg travelled to Costa Rica recently to offer their construction skills and learn about a sustainable coffee farms while engaging in a cultural exchange.

The Costa Rica Outbound Mobility Experience (Trades) was conducted in partnership with Canadore College and Canadore College's First Peoples' Centre. The group departed Toronto on February 22 and landed back in Toronto March 4.

The 10-day, once-in-alifetime experience for Kenjgewin Teg Trade students to participate in a cultural exchange and adventure in Costa Rica included a main component of sharing of cultures between the Canadian students and the indigenous peoples of Costa Rica, but this trip had a work component as well, as students were tasked with constructing some much-needed infrastructure items.

"It was an amazing trip," said Daryll Enosse, a second semester carpentry student. "We helped build shelters, outhouses, I guess you could call them," he said. "We also built showerhouses on an Island.'

Mr. Enosse explained how the students were initially shocked when they saw photographs of what



Students and guides gather at the foot of the Arenal volcano while on a mission to assist Costa Rica Indigenous groups with their carpentry skills.

the community had been using prior to the students' efforts. "They were really dishevelled, mostly made out of cardboard, I guess. So, we built one for the tribe and another for an Island—that one was a washroom and shower at their beach area."

Students had the opportunity to visit a sustainable coffee farm in the Dota region, where they learned about permaculture, organic growing techniques and agricultural land management. Students also got to work on the coffee/avocado farm that was purchased by Canadore College.

The group going on the trip consisted of four students and an instructor/chaperone. Students were Mr. Enosse, Morgan Kozeyah, Leah King and Damion Debassige. The instructor/chaperone was Anthony Pennings. "Our first days on the

trip were based around sustainable coffee farming and forestry management in the Dota region," explained Mr. explained Mr. Pennings. "Here we all learned about Permaculture, organic growing techniques and good agricultural land manage-

ment in the context of the 'Cloud Forest.' We also got to do some work on the coffee/avocado farm that Canadore College recently purchased in the valley

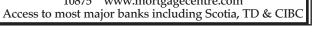
From there the group traveled to La Fortuna in the shadow of the Arenal volcano. "Here in the Rain Forest we learned about carbon offset forestry," said Mr. Pennings. "We worked two days with the Maleku peoples of the region building a washroom in the middle of the jungle at a community gathering point as well as spreading gravel on jungle trails and placing concrete benches and tables around the gathering areas. All in 30-plus degrees and 70 percent humidity!"

After another drive across another mountain range, the group visited their host, University Castro Carazo in Puntarenas, and from there took a boat across the gulf to Ilsa Venado where they spent two days in 35-plus degree heat in the 'Tropical Savanah' building a washroom/shower structure to help the island promote a tourism industry there.

"After 14 straight days of travel across the country along with working through interpersonal issues that are bound to arise with 19 students and five chaperones, including scorpions in bedrooms and the dreaded cancelled flights. "However, along with amazing sights and traditional meals and innumerable amazing conversations and growth seen in the lives of the students, I'd say all in all it was a great experience and wonderful trip of a lifetime for all who had the opportunity to go," concluded Mr. Pennings.

Mr. Enosse is now on the hunt for a construction industry gig-he currently works as a personal support worker. Employers seeking workers for their operations would do well to contact Kenjgewin Teg at 705-370-4342 or seek out Mr. Enosse directly at 705-282-7029.







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

Local Food Manitoulin!

149 Yonge Street, Kagawong **Riverfront Century Home** MLS #2112936





73 Campbell Street W, Little Current 3 Bed, 2 Bath Charmer, Great Location! MLS #2115356, \$515,000







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



Jennifer Hooper, REALTOR® 705-862-1002

Melissa Nicholson, REALTOR® 705-282-7738



#### 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®#: 2112049, \$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

0 Doc Strain Drive, Gore Bay MLS®#: 2115564, \$65,000

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

#### WATERFRONT/VACANT

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

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

Lot 12 Lake Huron Drive Spring Bay MLS®#: 2116049 \$275.000



317 Main Street, Kagawong MLS®#: 2115228, \$369,000 33 Bay Street, Mindemoya MLS®#: 2112654, \$700,000

Leanne Lewis

Realtor & Team Leader

705-261-4663



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



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



13951 Highway 542, Gore Bay

MLS®#: 2115229, \$330,000

21690 Highway 540, Silver Water MLS®#: 2114024, \$529,000





130 Thorne Street,

Mindemoya

MLS®#: 2114944, \$675,000

Mitch Paquette Realtor

705-507-5910

208 20th Side Road, Tehkummah

MLS®#: 2116078, \$687,000

5 Agnes Street, Gore Bay MLS®#: 2116076, \$334,900

WATERFRONT

75 Holmes Road, Spring Bay MLS®#: 2115461, \$869,000



FARM

Tehkummah

129 Thorne Street, Mindemoya

MLS®#: 2114887, \$667,500



**Corey McCutcheon** Realtor 705-562-3496



1030 Ice Lake Road, Gore Bay MLS®#: 2114895, \$575,000





195 Limberlost Lane, Mindemoya MLS®#: 2113337, \$649,500



1393 A & B Highway 551, Mindemoya MLS®#: 2116007, \$775,000



#### 41 Draper Street, Little Current MLS®#: 2115761, \$259,000



33 Vankoughnet Street, Little Current MLS®#: 2110672, \$489,000



35 Meredith Street, Manitowaning MLS®#: 2114689, \$3,000,000



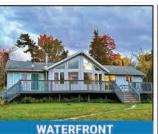


29 White Church Road, Spring Bay MLS®#: 2113525, \$345,000 MLS®#: 2114791, \$425,000



2437 Rockville Rd, Mindemoya

MLS®#: 2116154, \$497,000



10 McQuarrie Drive, Kagawong MLS®#: 2115676, \$725,000



MLS®#: 2115926 & 2115927, \$739,000

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



646 Pebble Road, Silver Water MLS®#: 2116015, \$375,000





Windfred Pasveer Realtor

289-213-4503





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

159 Main Street, Kagawong MLS®#: 2116012, \$479,000



603 H3 West Branch Road, Webbwood MLS®#: 2116318, \$499,000



38 Dominion Bay Rd, Spring Bay MLS®#: 2116310 \$399,000



3128 Government Rd. Mindemoya MLS®#: 2116317, \$269,000



6227 King Street, Mindemoya MLS®#2115895: , \$347,900



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#### Wednesday, May 1, 2024

THE MANITOULIN EXPOSITOR - PAGE 23





NEW PRICE \$55,000 | MLS 2114967 NEW PRICE \$249,000 | MLS 2115444 NEW PRICE \$49,900 | MLS 2114678

Leslie Marshall

### Our team is ready to help you navigate the Manitoulin Real Estate Market!





### Hockey fundraiser for Lyndon "Linny" Peltier brings outstanding action to M'Chigeeng FN

M'CHIGEENG—The onice action was fast and furious as hockey players from across Manitoulin gathered for a special fundraising hockey game in the M'Chigeeng Arena on Saturday, April 27.

"Tonight's game raised a total of \$5,046 to help support Lyndon and his family over the next couple of weeks as they head to Ottawa," noted organizer Dustin Peltier. "It's a beautiful thing to see the community come together to support one of our own. Chi Miigwetch to everyone for coming out and supporting my niitaawis Lyndon Peltier and his family. We hope that everyone who attended had a great time watching a neck and neck game

that had the game winner scored with 3.6 seconds left!"

Lyndon Peltier was able to attend through a livestream being cast by Gordie Odjig of Wiikwemkoong.

Meanwhile, scores of attendees kept the canteen and penny tables humming.



Team Joe included Launie Pheasant, Ethan Corbiere, Dustin Peltier, Mike Bondy, Evan Peltier, Jordan Trudeau, Jason Peltier (JP), Jalen Waindubence, Aaron Recollet, Shaun Assinewai, Tristen Hall and Lucas Gonu; while Team Quincy Peltier included Brandon Corbiere, Clint Fox, Chuck Peltier, Robert James, Darrell Assiniwe, Grant Peltier, Gregory Trudeau-Paquet, Mike Abatossaway, Steven Green, Lorne Raymond, James Agawa and Nevada Waindubence.



# **Manitoulin Sporting Life**



**Keep on, keeping on, guys!** It was nice to hear from M'Chigeeng's **Adam Debassige** who graciously invited me to their last game of the year yesterday, April 30, that I am regretfully unable to attend. I hope to take him up on his offer next year because it would be quite the experience. Adam has been playing hockey since, well, a long time!

He even played with Dad back in the old sportsmen league on the Manitowaning Federals, a group of government-type employees. The league lasted for about a decade back in the 70s and also featured such notable teams as the Tehkummah Tycoons, Mindemoya Merchants, Wiky Buzzards and Manitowaning Jets. Basically every community had one. Familiar names included Jim Smith, Danny McDonald, Rick Gjos, Bill Sims, Bill Trimmer, Ross Ward, Denzil Spence, Wendell Buie, Larry Burns, Bruce Wiggins, etc.

Adam was the Federals' captain and was/is quite the player. His love for the game has carried on while many have since hung up their blades. He has been playing with similarly durable players a couple of times a week for the last eight years. Adam the cagey veteran is not afraid to mention that he is only 76 and not the oldest! Of course, this is nothing to be ashamed of and should be a badge of honour, and suits up with Danny Mc-Donald, 78 and Doug Mitchell, 77 years young. We should all aspire to being this active when we are that age. Heck, we should all be that active now! Keep going, guys, and we will catch up with you next season!

### IIHF from Finland features local blood!

**Carter George** has removed his OHL Owen Sound Attack jersey and has proudly donned a Team Canada jersey once again. Last time it was for the Hlinka-Gretzky Cup and now for IIHF U-18 World Championships! Carter is the first-stringer for the team and has already got a couple of wins under him, including a shut-out against Czechia and a 6–3 win over powerhouse Sweden! Keep up the good work, Carter!

#### **Badminton wrap**

The newly minted Manitoulin elementary sport, badminton, was unveiled Thursday, April 18 at the 4-Directions Complex in Aundeck Omni Kaning. Seven schools participated: Pontiac, Assiginack, LCPS, Lakeview, CMPS, C.C. McLean and even St. Joseph's School in Sheshegwaning.

In the individual results, **Amber Brizuela** of C.M.P.S. took the gold in girls' singles, **Arabella Otosquaiob** of L.C.P.S. silver and **Elainah Peltier** of APS bronze. On the guys' side, gold was won by **Colin Goodfellow** of L.C.P.S., silver **Dylan Bebonang** of Lakeview and bronze **Ryley Corbiere** of C.M.P.S.

In girls' doubles play it was gold for **Nova Debassige** and **Brinley Watson** of C.M.P.S., silver **Rowyn Kasunich** and **Tessa Ense-Waabonosse** of Lakeview and bronze was won by **Myla Edralin** and **Azalea Anaya** of L.C.P.S.

The boys' pair was won by L.C.P.S. doubles **Roen Deschenes** and **Spencer Cortes**, silver was **Charles Skippen** and **Keegan Cranney** of C.M.P.S. and bronze came from **Hudson Roque** and **William Mckeown** of Assiginack.

Finally in the mixed doubles, gold was captured by the team of **Chantal Atkinson** and **Lucien Behm** of L.C.P.S., silver was **Corie Brown** and **Sean Zembal** of C.M.P.S. and bronze was the Assiginack pair of **Zoe McCarville** and **Sheldon Mandamin.** Congratulations to all participants!

A little aside about the organizer of many things active in Aundek Omni Kaning, Mark Peltier. He was one of 15 coaches selected from across Ontario for the Coaches Association of Ontario's annual Coaching Excellence Awards presented by Hydro One. He got to enjoy a VIP experience at a Toronto Blue Jays home game and received \$500 for the purchase of new equipment. The coaches ranged in a variety of sports. He got his award in recognition of being an NCCP certified coach for the Badminton Warriors of Mnidoo Mnising Club, a 2-year project funded by Sports Canada and Noojmowin Teg Health Centre. Way to go, Mark!

Longtime Wiikwemkoong media personality Gordie Odjig was livestreaming the event so that Lyndon Peltier could take part in the proceedings from his hospital bed in Toronto.

The on-ice action was fast and furious as each team kept the pressure up until the very last second.

photos by Michael Erskine

### Island hockey players selected for U-18

MANITOULIN—Several Manitoulin First Nation hockey players, as well as coaches and general managers, have been selected to the male and female Aboriginal Under-18 Ontario team for the 2024 National Aboriginal Hockey Championships.

Two Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory (WUT) players have been selected for the Team Ontario female squad, including Ava Assinewai and Mackenzie Ferguson. Sequoia Nebenionquit, who has family ties to Wiikwemkoong, has been named to the team as well. Tommie Lee Recollet of Wiikwemkoong is a coach on the team.

Kyle Ferguson of the WUT has been selected for the Team Ontario male team, along with Kohyn Eshkawkogan of M'Chigeeng First Nation. Ashton Pitawanakwat of Wiikwemkoong has been named as an alternate on the team. Head coach and assistant coach of the team are Brendan Biggers and Brent Assinewai respectively, both of Wiikwemkoong, along with Dustin Peltier who is returning as general manager of the team.

Mr. Peltier explained the players were chosen for the teams "through a combination of tryouts and recruitment. During this year's Little Native Hockey Tournament 150 male and female athletes were on hand for a two-day tryout (along with a camp in Thunder Bay). Staff of both teams have also been actively recruiting the team members.

The 2024 National Aboriginal Hockey Championships will take place May 6-12 in Grande Prairie, Alberta.



#### In service Lest We Forget

The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 514 Gore Bay held its executive elections at a meeting held in April. In photo back row left is Dan Forest, third vice-president, treasurer Leigh Major, first vice-president Trevor Wright. Front row from left Second vice-president Bev Wright, president Marilyn Clarke, secretary Annie Porter and Jim Woods.



#### Call for Applications Enaag-Dawaab-Jig Committee Members (2)

The United Chief and Councils of Manitoulin (UCCM) Anishinaabe Police Services Commission is seeking applications from positive, dedicated individuals of Anishinaabe ancestry who are members of the UCCM Member First Nations to serve on a "civilian over sight" body known as the Enaag-dawaab-jig Committee.

#### Purpose of the Enaag-dawaab-jig Committee:

The Enaag-dawaab-jig Committee is being established to improve police accountability, promote higher standards of police services and increase public confidence in the UCCM Anishnaabe Police Service and the UCCM Police Service Commission.

#### Function of the Enaag-dawaab-jig Committee:

In accordance with UCCM Anishinaabe Police Services Commission By-law No. 2, Enaag-dawaab-jig is empowered to perform five functions:

- to solicit, receive and make recommendations to the Commission on community concerns about police services of the UCCM Anishnaabe Police Service;
- to review UCCM Anishnaabe Police Service policies and make recommendations to the
- Commission on changes to these policies;
- to observe or participate in external investigations;
  to review complaints which could not be resolved by the internal complaints process; and
- to coordinate mediation and arbitration services for Police Officers of the UCCM Anishnaabe Police Service who are not satisfied with the resolution of internal employment agreement conflicts.

#### Eligibility Criteria for Enaag-dawaab-jig Committee Members:

be an individual of at least eighteen (18) years of age

- be knowledgeable or familiar with the community, culture and language of the UCCM police service area;
- not be an employee or an immediate family member of an employee of the UCCM Anishnaabe Police Service or the Commission;
- not have a criminal record of conviction for any indictable offence, or any summary conviction offence which, in the discretion of the UCCM Board of Directors, and in all of the circumstances of the conviction, is inconsistent with the proper fulfilment of the role of Enaag-dawaab-jig and the reputation of Enaag-dawaab-jig;
- not be a judge, justice of the peace, peace officer, elected member of Council of a member First Nation or a lawyer or paralegal who practices in the area of criminal law;
- be of good moral character and a respected resident of their community;
- be actively engaged in a member First Nation; and
- have a general knowledge of policing issues.

#### **Other Important Information for Applicants:**

- must be able to attend all scheduled meetings and training;
- must be have access to a vehicle and be able to travel; and
- an Oath of Confidentiality will be administered.
- successful applicants must undergo and clear a Criminal Reference Check before appointment to Enaag-Dawaab-Jig.

#### Closing date for applications is May 3, 2024 at 12:00p.m.

Please submit a Letter of Interest in the format of a covering letter, resumé, one letter of endorsement from a leader (Chief or Councillor, past/current employer) from your community to:

#### Enaag-dawaab-jig Committee Application U.CM. Anishnaabe Police Service 5926 Hwy 540, Box 332 M'Chigeeng, ON

POP 1GO

For questions or more information, please call Denis Blake, Enaag-dawaab-jig Coordinator at 705.862.2701 or visit the website at www.enaagdawaabjig.ca (for information on By-Law #2).



### **AUNDECK OMNI KANING FIRST NATION EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY BAND MANAGER**

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

#### **JOB DUTIES:**

- Provide leadership, supervision and direction to all Program Coordinators for the effective and efficient administration of the programs and services of the First Nation, 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.
- ersee and direct the infrastructure resources and systems of the First Nation. Ensure the annual



#### Welcome back to Kids in The Hall! The yearbook is back! The high school tradition of yearbooks is returning to MSS students. For the past couple of months, a group of students have been working towards putting together this memento of the 2023-24 school year. A section of the yearbook will include grade awards. This week

voting opened for students to nominate their peers for various titles including, Best Dressed, Most Involved, Best Dancer, Most Energetic, Smartest, Most Likely to Be A Millionaire, Best Hair, Best Singer, Most Likely To Become Famous, Most

Sporty, Class Clown, and Kindest. The second round of nominations will be posted later this week to select the winner out of the top-voted students from the initial election. These students will have their photos and awarded titles published in this year's yearbook.

The school dance is this Friday, May 3! To ensure that everyone has the opportunity to get dressed up, the Prom Project is now open. The Prom Proj-

ect collects donations of old prom dresses, suits, shoes, and jewellery and students who are in need of these items may take one to keep for the upcoming Spring Formal. This year's formal theme is Under The Stars, and it is sure to be out of this world.

Monday, April 22 was Earth Day. In honour of this, SHARE/Go Green



hosted an Earth Week challenge. For each day of the week, there was a different environmental challenge. Monday students picked up bags of litter, Tuesday was a waste-free lunch day, Wednesday was a vegetarian day, and Thurs-day students were asked to bring any old textiles (clothes, bedding, towels) for donation. Students who participated in one or all of these activities

Alexandra Wilson Zegil

won tickets to a movie day on Friday, April 26. With over 50 students participating in these challenges, it is safe to say that MSS is earning its title of Platinum Eco-School. Together, we can all make the world a better place!

The MSS robotics team has returned from its trip to the World Championship in Houston, Texas. After nearly a week away,

students are returning with the Team Sustainability Award and several great memories. Congratulations to Manitoulin Metal!

Grade 8 Shadow Day is this Thursday, May 2. MSS will open its doors to grade eight classes from across the Island to give students a taste of what

high school is like to prepare them for next year. Grade 8 students will trail current grade nine students to their second-period classes and explore different clubs and extracurriculars at lunch. This is a great opportunity for incoming students to ease into high school, as many can find it daunting. I know I did!

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



# Manitoulin

#### External Posting: Shelter Supervisor, Haven House 1 Full-Time, Permanent Position, Violence Family Resources Against Women Prevention Program Wage: \$28.54/hour - \$30.91/hour

Manitoulin Family Resources requires one full-time Shelter Supervisor to lead and guide the frontline team at Haven House Emergency Shelter, to meet the needs of women and children fleeing violence. The ideal candidate will have strong and compassionate leadership skills and an extensive background in delivering services in the field of gender-based violence. Responsibilities include scheduling and supervision, supporting shelter operations and ensuring the health and safety of the shelter residents and staff, and participation at local tables and in public awareness activities. Haven House Shelter, as part of the Violence Against Women Prevention Program of Manitoulin Family Resources (MFR), works within a harm reduction, feminist and intersectional framework, following the vision, mission and guiding principles of the agency.

The successful candidate will have:

- Degree in a related discipline with work experience in the field of gender-based violence or equivalent education and experience
- Registration with the OCSWSSW or CPO
- 1–3 years' experience in a management capacity or significant field of experience
- Strong interpersonal, coaching and supervisory skills
- Financial management skills
- Expertise in conflict management and creative problem-solving skills

- 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 POP 1K0

Complete job description is available at the Band Office reception desk. Deadline for applications is Friday, May 17, 2024 at 12:00 NOON. The successful candidate must provide an acceptable Police Record Check (C.P.I.C.).

- Valid First Aid/CPR certification
- Clear vulnerable sector screening check
- Valid driver's licence, reliable vehicle and insurable driver's abstract are requirements of the position and conditions of hire

Work will generally be performed from the main office, located in Mindemoya. Flexibility of hours to meet program needs is required, as is an on-call availability for emergencies in coordination with the Executive Director. Hours shall average 36.75 hours per week. Attendance at the Mindemoya location is required, though a flexible work schedule can be proposed. A comprehensive benefits and vacation package is extended to all full-time positions. This position is part of the management team of MFR and outside the bargaining unit, reporting directly to the Executive Director.

We strive to foster an organization that reflects the diversity of the community we serve and welcome applications from all qualified candidates. We encourage applications from individuals from underserved and underrepresented cultural and racial communities, from First Nations, Inuit and Metis communities, people with lived experience, Two-Spirit, LGBTQIA+ communities and people living with disabilities. If you require an accommodation, we will work with you to meet your accommodation needs to ensure your equal participation.

#### Deadline for applications: Monday, May 8, 2024, 11:59 PM

Due to the volume of applications, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

> Please forward applications to: Colleen Hill, Executive Director, Manitoulin Family Resources chill@mfresources.net

## **ANAVETS** make \$2,000 hospital donation in memory of Gary Trimmer

#### by Michael Erskine

MANITOULIN—How sweet it is! The Manitoulin North Shore ANAVETS organization were a familiar sight at the NEMI Farmers' Market over the past couple of summers as they sold cinnamon buns to raise funds. This past week members of the veteran's organization's Branch 176 Manitoulin (the oldest currently in existence) attended the Little Current site of the Manitoulin Health Centre to present a cheque in memorial of passed ANAVETS member Gary Trimmer of Little Current for \$2,000 to be split between the hospital's two



ANAVETS members Bernie Andrews, Jim Machum and Roy Eaton, join Manitoulin Health Centre President and CEO Paula Fields and MHC Board Chair Dennis McGregor, ANAVETS Brian Bird and Denis Blake in a \$2,000 cheque presentation in memory of deceased ANAVETS member Gary Trimmer. The funds were raised through cinnamon bun sales at the Little Current Farmers' Market.

#### photo by Michael Erskine

sites (Little Current and Mindemoya).

"Gary was first treated in Mindemoya, where he was well looked after, and later here in Little Current," said spokesperson Roy Eaton. "Gary said that he wanted to make sure that we divided our contribution to both sites. So, we would like to see \$1,000 of the \$2,000 go to Mindemoya and the other half, as you see fit to use it, here in Little Current."

here in Little Current." "Gary would say 'look it, we are all old, we are all going to wind up here," said Mr. Eaton, to nods and laughter of agreement from his fellow ANAVETS members. "We are donating this money in memory of Gary, but also for every veteran who depends on this hospital for its services. This is in gratitude for all that you do in the service of others."

"On behalf of the board of directors, thank you for all of your efforts," said board chair Dennis McGregor, who noted he had the pleasure of knowing Mr. Trimmer well over the years. "This is just like him—thank you for the donation to the two sites. We can certainly use the money; we don't get any funding for capital expenses."

"Small rural hospitals need community support to keep supporting the community," agreed MHC pres-



The Municipality of Central Manitoulin is seeking a 1-year (52 weeks) **Museum Curator Intern** to analyze, assemble and catalogue historical pieces throughout the Municipality.

The **main duties** are as follows:

ident and CEO Paula Fields, who noted she too had known Mr. Trimmer (a friend of her father) all her life.

The ANAVETS are currently seeking new members for 176 Manitoulin. "If you have served in the military, police, fire, Ministry of Natural Resources or as a first responder, we would like you to consider becoming a member or just letting us know who you are," said ANAVETS member Denis Blake. "Maybe you have special needs we may be able to assist you with or just to honour your service. Our main goal is to help our veterans and to give back to our community."

For further information contact Brian Bird at 705-368-3976.

### ARE YOU LOOKING FOR CHANGE OR WORKING TOWARDS PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL GROWTH? CONSIDER JOINING OUR TEAM! EDUCATIONAL SERVICES NAVIGATOR FULL-TIME CONTRACTUAL (TO FEBRUARY 2026)

• We offer Anishinaabe Aadziwin and Anishinaabemowin learning opportunities for employees to support personal wellness and growth.

- We contribute to employee benefits.
- We match employee retirement savings plan contributions up to a maximum.
- We participate in the Ontario Teacher Pension Plan.
- There is a two-week paid winter closure in December annually.
- Work a 4-day work week in the months of July and August annually.

If these benefits interest you and you want to join a team that creates a place of learning that supports and inspires students through lifelong learning opportunities, call us today! We are seeking a valuable team member for the position of Educational Services Navigator.

Classification: Specialist SP2 Program/Service Delivery Specialist – Salary Grade Band E Qualified Level Salary Range: \$46,731 - \$51,922 - \$57,114 Advanced Qualification Salary Range: \$52,804 - \$58,671 - \$64,539

#### **Position Objective:**

The Educational Systems Navigator will support and guide prospective students in Post-Secondary Education and Pathways Programs. This position will be the main point of contact for prospective students and support them daily as they move through the admissions journey, applying to one of the Post-Secondary Education and/or Pathways programs.

#### **Qualifications:**

- A minimum diploma from a recognized post-secondary institution in Business, Public Relations or Administration.
- Minimum three years of office and administrative work experience in a fast-paced, high-volume environment.
- Current CPR and First Aid.
- High level of proficiency with Microsoft Office/Office 365 environment.

#### Job Knowledge and Skills:

- Experience in working with a Student Information System is an asset.
- Possess high level customer service to a diverse population.
- Good organizational and time management skills, as well as proficiency in a variety of computer applications including word processing, spreadsheets, e-mail, internet search and web applications are also required.
- Experience working with a Learning Management System is an asset.
- Demonstrated ability to contribute to a positive learning culture and facilitate the achievement of evidence-based nursing and applied to the learning environment.
- The role requires self-motivation, flexibility and the ability to work independently.
- Excellent problem-solving skills: ability to troubleshoot and resolve conflict, exercising tact, discretion and sound judgment; ability to prioritize.
- Excellent organizational and time management skills; ability to cope under pressure associated with the management of numerous high-volume tasks in a busy service environment; high level of accuracy and attention to detail.
- Strong interpersonal skills and ability to communicate clearly with applicants, students, faculty and staff, verbally and in writing.
- Ability to maintain professional and positive attitude when speaking with applicants, employees and the public.
  Must have an appreciation of the Anishnabek culture, principles, values, language, history and customs; and be
- Must have an appreciation of the Anishnabek culture, principles, values, language, history and customs; and be supportive of Anishnabek Practices, language revitalization and protocols.
- Must be willing to flex work schedule, at times, to meet students during their approved program scheduled timeslots (evenings/weekends).

## Interested applicants are encouraged to contact the Human Resources Department at humanresources@kenjgewinteg.ca\_for a FULL job description to provide the scope and an understanding of this position's responsibilities.

Please note that the successful candidate must be willing to travel when required, possess a valid Ontario

- Research and compile historical information.
- Learn much about Central Manitoulin's history.
- Collect and catalogue historic pieces.
- Plan and prepare exhibits and displays.

The Municipality of Central Manitoulin is rich in history. The mission of this year-long internship is to preserve what has already been established and build upon it.

#### Salary:

Pay will range from \$20.00-26.00 per hour. This depends on the applicant's experience.

The hours of operations are Monday-Friday with some weekends/long weekends to be expected during high volume seasonal times.

#### Expected hours: 35 per week.

Please apply at: <a href="https://www.hnicklasson@centralmanitoulin.ca">hnicklasson@centralmanitoulin.ca</a> Applications are ongoing until the position is filled. driver's licence and have access to a reliable vehicle.

#### Application Deadline: Thursday, May 9, 2024 at 4:00 PM

#### Interested individuals can send a complete application package that consists of:

Cover letter, a detailed resumé, three (3) <u>current</u> (within one year) references listed, two of which must be professional, and written permission to contact references. The successful candidate will be required to provide a current Vulnerable Sector Check.

Applications can be received marked confidential through email at: humanresources@kenjgewinteg.ca, or by mail to: Kenjgewin Teg, "HR – Educational Services Navigator" c/o Director of Human Resources 374A Hwy. 551, P.O. Box 328, M'Chigeeng, ON P0P 1G0

#### Late applications and incomplete application packages will not be considered. While we thank all applicants, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

**Please note**: Kenjgewin Teg's Fitness for Duty Program is implemented and designed to promote developing and maintaining the highest possible levels of worker health and safety in an efficient and productive workplace.

**<u>Please note</u>**: Kenjgewin Teg has taken steps to ensure the organization is inclusive within the school community. This includes the shared practice of the First Nation tradition of smudging.

Personal information contained in applications will be used for recruitment purposes and collected as per <u>Freedom</u> <u>Of Information (F.O.I.) And Protection Of Privacy Act, 1987</u>.

## Gordon/Barrie Island township plants symbolic Earth Day apple tree

**by Tom Sasvari** GORDON/BARRIE IS-LAND-To promote and encourage others in the township, Manitoulin, and the world to help take care of our environment, Gordon/Barrie Island township planted an apple tree at its Earth Day celebrations held April 19.

"We welcomed everyone here today to celebrate Earth Day, and as a symbol of the day we are planting an apple tree," said Lee Hayden, reeve of Gordon/Barrie Island to township staff members and about 17 local residents who took part.

Earth Day Canada is an environmental organization that helps individuals, municipalities and organizations reduce their impact on the environment by taking concrete action not only on Earth Day but every day of the year, said Reeve Hayden.

In addition to a largescale awareness campaign on April 22, Earth

is to encourage people to compost waste. This is a biggie but is something that is simple and that we all can do."

"For 2024 we are here to plant this apple tree as a symbol of our commitment to the environment," said Reeve Hayden. "Furthermore, we will be handing out garbage bags for community clean up beginning today. We hope our residents will volunteer to pick up trash all weekend. Earth Day 2024 is on Monday, April 22."

"Furthermore, on May 24 we will be planting a line of pine trees along the northern border of our property here to enhance the beauty of our municipal office and to protect against the northwest winds. This event is part of the Canada-wide tree planting relay. Check our website and our Facebook page for more details," said Reeve Hayden. Gordon/Barrie Island

Gordon/Barrie Island councillor Isobel Harry and Reeve Lee Hayden take part in planting an apple tree at the Earth Day celebrations held in the community on April 19.

#### photos by Tom Sasvari



Councillor Isobel Harry explained that Earth Day is an annual event held on April 22 to demonstrate support for environmental protection. It was first proposed as a day to honour the earth and the concept of peace. The first Earth Day was held on April 22, 1970, and is now coordinated globally in more than 193 countries. "We are planting a tree

today for many reasons," said Councillor Harry. of today will become the landmarks of the future,' continued Councillor Harry.

Trees are a natural solution to climate change, Councillor Harry said.

"One way in which trees reduce the severity of climate change is through carbon sequestration. A tree that lives to 100 years old in a typical Canadian forest can capture a huge

amount of carbon." Hayden Reeve and Councillor Harry took part in planting the apple tree. Everyone then gathered in the community centre for cookies and

tea, and to pick up Earth Day t-shirts, seeds and baseball caps, and garbage bags for community clean-up.

#### **ARE YOU LOOKING FOR CHANGE OR KENJGEWIN TEG** WORKING TOWARDS PERSONAL AND **PROFESSIONAL GROWTH? CONSIDER JOINING OUR TEAM!**

#### LIFELONG LEARNING TEAM ASSISTANT PERMANENT FULL-TIME STATUS

- We offer Anishinaabe Aadziwin and Anishinaabemowin learning opportunities for employees to support personal wellness and growth.
- We contribute to employee benefits.
- We match employee retirement savings plan contributions up to a maximum.
- We participate in the Ontario Teacher Pension Plan.
- There is a two-week paid winter closure in December annually.
- Work a 4-day work week in the months of July and August annually.

If these benefits interest you and you want to join a team that creates a place of learning that supports and inspires students through lifelong learning opportunities, call us today! We are seeking a valuable team member for the Lifelong Learning Team Assistant position.

#### Classification: Organizational Support Services – O4 Administrative Services/Salary Grade Band D Qualified Level Salary Range: \$41,412 - \$46,012 - \$50,613 Advanced Qualification Salary Range: \$46,795 - \$51,993 - \$57,194

#### **Position Objective:**

The Lifelong Learning Team Assistant participates as an integral team member to assist the Dean of Pathways, Dean of Post-Secondary Education and Training, and the Director of Student Wellness and Services with administrative and technical support that contributes to the overall operations of the Lifelong Learning programs, training and service delivery for Kenjgewin Teg.

#### Qualifications:

- Diploma in Business Administration.
- Minimum of three (3) years direct work experience in an administrative capacity.
- High level of proficiency with Microsoft Office/Office 365 environment.

#### Job Knowledge and Skills:

- Preference given to applicants demonstrating Anishinabek traditional knowledge: Kendmoowin -Anishnabemowin miinwaa Anishnaabe bmaadziwin.
- Ability to write and format moderately complex correspondence (memos, letters, proposals and reports).
- Strong knowledge of general office and administrative procedures involving procurement, meeting and/or event coordination, planning, budgeting and report writing.
- Strong knowledge of, with preferred experience in, the education sector and the various learning paths/ opportunities for students (i.e., pathways to post-secondary, post-secondary, micro-credentials, skills development/training).
- Strong time management skills, multi-tasking skills and prioritizing tasks with minimal supervision.
- Strong customer/student service orientation.
- Ability to record meeting minutes.
- Ability to maintain filing systems.
- Ability to, or willingness to learn, maneuver learning and/or student management systems.
- Ability to adapt and be flexible in a challenging environment.
- Maintain a high level of security, privacy and confidentiality.

#### Interested applicants are encouraged to contact the Human Resources Department, at humanresources@kenjgewinteg.ca for a FULL job description to provide the scope and an understanding of this position's responsibilities.

#### Application Deadline: Thursday, May 9, 2024 at 4:00 PM

Please note: the successful candidate must be willing to travel when required, possess a valid Ontario driver's licence and have access to a reliable vehicle.

Gordon/Barrie Island councillor Isobel Harry, left in photo, and Reeve Lee Hayden take part in a tree planting ceremony held as part of the township's Earth Day celebrations on April 19.

Day Canada continues to roll our environmental programs and projects with proven positive impacts in areas such as waste management, tree planting, food waste and sustainable mobility.

"We here at Gordon/ Barrie Island support these endeavours and hope to inspire and facilitate actions for individuals and organizations to reduce their environmen-tal impact," said Reeve Hayden. "Some ways we do this as a municipality

"Trees bring communities together. Trees are a focal point and identify meeting spots in our neighbourhoods and our memories. Trees nourish us; trees not only offer us shade, beauty or habitat for wildlife, but they can also offer the bounty of food! This tree will grow apples for humans and some animals and birds."

"Trees are an investment with compounding benefits," said Councillor Harry. "As the tree grows in size, it captures more and more carbon, intercepts more sunlight and gives an ever-expanding amount of space for people and animals to live and enjoy."

"Trees are gifts for the future. As we plant a new tree, imagine what it will become in 50 years. Remember that the trees

#### Interested individuals can send a complete application package that consists of:

Cover letter, a detailed resumé, three (3) current (within one year) references listed, two of which must be professional, and written permission to contact references. The successful candidate will be required to provide a current Vulnerable Sector Check.

> Applications can be received marked confidential through email at: humanresources@kenjgewinteg.ca, or by mail to: Kenjgewin Teg "HR – Lifelong Learning Team Assistant" c/o Director of Human Resources 374A Hwy. 551, P.O. Box 328, M'Chigeeng, ON POP 1G0

#### Late applications and incomplete application packages will not be considered. While we thank all applicants, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

**Please note:** Kenjgewin Teg's Fitness for Duty Program is implemented and designed to promote developing and maintaining the highest possible levels of worker health and safety in an efficient and productive workplace.

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Personal information contained in applications will be used for recruitment purposes and collected as per Freedom Of Information (F.O.I.) And Protection Of Privacy Act, 1987.

### Anishinaabek elders and environmentalists unite to call for halt on herbicide use in Ontario forests

#### by Jacqueline M. St.Pierre,

Local Journalism Initiative reporter TORONTO—On Earth Day, a powerful coalition of voices representing the Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) Elders in the Robinson-Huron Treaty Territory gathered at Queen's Park to advocate for the cessation of herbicide spraying in Ontario's forests. Led by Elder Caroline Recollet of the Wahnapitae First Nation and Jo Bissaillion of the Serpent River First Nation, the group was joined by environmental advocates Joel Theriault of Stop the Spray Ontario, Mary Lou MacDonald from Safe Food Matters and Jessica Murray from Sierra Club.

While the area currently affected is the North Shore, due to the large swaths of Crown Land, Anishinaabe elders from Manitoulin Island such as Evelyn Roy of M'Chigeeng First Nation have joined the fight. "They are killing the animals; they are killing everything. Us too, and our medicines! Even some of our trees are dying. Trees are medicine too," Ms.

our Treaty rights," said Elder Caroline Recollet. "When forests are converted to plantations, all life is affected-we share these lands with all of Creation."

Elders have witnessed firsthand the devastating impact of herbicide use on the region's biodiversity. As Jack pine plantations replace diverse forests, wildlife populations, including moose, deer, muskrat and countless others have suffered. "Ontario has an obligation to respect our Treaty rights," emphasized Elder Caroline Recollet. "When forests are altered, it disrupts the balance of life for all beings with whom we share these lands."

Nickel Belt MPP France Gélinas echoed the Elders' concerns by formally presenting the petition in the legislature. The petition, which garnered thousands of signatures, was spearheaded by Joel Theriault of Stop the Spray Ontario, a bush pilot who has witnessed the alarming transformation of Ontario's forests firsthand. "You can see it from the air, you can also see it from the



From left are: Mary Lou MacDonald (Safe Food Matters), Jessica Murray (Sierra Club), Joel Theriault (Bush plane pilot), Caroline Recollet (Elder/Anishinaabe lead of TEK Elders), Dan Beaton (Elder, Mohawk Turtle Clan) and Nickel Belt MPP France Gelina.

Roy, Anishnaabemowin language keep-

er, said. "The propagation of monocultures on the nearby North Shore can cause issues with pests and diseases that could become problematic to adjacent ecosystems, so this conversion to plantations is opening issues for all forests in the region," Jodi Koberinski, assistant to Elder Recollet, told The Expositor.

Their collective mission was to deliver a resounding message to Ontario policymakers: it's time to "Stop the Spray." At the heart of their campaign is a plea to end the use of glyphosate-based herbicides, which have been wreaking havoc on the delicate ecosystems of Anishinaabek forests along the north shore of Lake Ontario for over a decade.

"Ontario has an obligation to respect

ground. Everything's dead except for the pine trees," Mr. Theriault lamented.

Mary Lou MacDonald of Safe Food Matters added a legal perspective to the discussion, highlighting their ongoing court battles against the re-authorization of glyphosate-based herbicides. As a lawyer, MacDonald emphasized the lack of scientific basis for forest spraying and the inherent risks it poses to the safety of forest foods.

The gathering at Queen's Park symbolizes a united front in the fight to protect Ontario's forests and uphold the rights of Indigenous communities. With voices from diverse backgrounds joining forces, the call to "Stop the Spray" grows louder, resonating across the province and beyond.



### HEALTH MANAGER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Salary: Negotiable (including group pension and health benefits) \*Subject to education and experience or a combination of both

The ideal candidate should have senior management experience working in the First Nation field and outstanding organizational, communication and leadership skills. This is a rewarding opportunity if you have an appreciation for First Nation culture and a desire to participate in the enhancement and growth of Whitefish River First Nation.

The Health Manager will continually ensure that the Whitefish River First Nation (WRFN) community members can access efficient, quality healthcare services. This position reports to the Band Manager and is responsible for the operation and management of the WRFN Health Centre. It requires substantial operational and planning oversight and planning and health care service delivery to the WRFN community.

#### **Key Responsibilities:**

Develop and coordinate continual access to efficient and quality healthcare services and programs for the Whitefish River First Nation community by:

- Providing leadership and direction for the Health Centre and staff to meet the goals and objectives continually.
- Promoting and emphasizing people-centered care in partnership with the patient, family and healthcare team.
- Devéloping, implementing and maintaining an active human resources plan.
- Plan, organize and monitor the programs and health services to ensure all activities are consistent with legislation, standards, regulations and needs.
- Develop and review program indicators, goals and outcome measures.
- Develop, coordinate and provide training for the Health Unit, particularly the health staff.

#### **Relationships and Team Building:**

 Works collaboratively and cooperatively at all levels to support the use of strength-based, community-focused practices while assisting team members in building their capacity to provide safe and nurturing environments for the WRFN members.

#### Human Resources:

- Provide guidance, direction and support to staff:
- Supervise, coach and direct staff.
- Monitor and address employee performance and conduct performance reviews.
- Coordinate staff professional development and address any training needs.

#### Financial Management:

- To assist in the preparation and monitoring of the Health Unit Budget:
- Assist in developing the yearly Health Budget and review, monitor, coordinate and plan the allocation of resources for staff within the authority limit.
- Review, monitor and approve financial expenditures for health staff.
- Apply for funding opportunities and complete funding requirements.

#### **Interagency Participation:**

To actively participate in internal, external or local committees or groups in support of coordinating health programs and services to the WRFN community:

- Actively participate in the Health Team, WRFN Management and other internal committees supporting all WRFN programs and services.
- Collaborate with internal and external agencies to monitor and assist in developing the Health Unit's program and services.

#### Administration:

To complete administrative functions and adhere to all WRFN policies, procedures and standards of practice:

- Develop and submit a yearly work plan with goals, objectives and measurable indicators of success.
- Review and approve various forms to be used, i.e., Monthly Report Forms, Intake Forms, Medical Forms, Liability Forms, etc.
- Prepare and submit comprehensive monthly and guarterly reports to the Band Manager and Leadership (when requested).
- Ensure confidentiality and safekeeping of all WRFN files and records.

#### **Oualifications:**

- Degree in Health Sciences, Public Health, Public Administration or a related field.
- A Master's in Public Health would be an asset.
- Minimum of three to five years of managerial experience, preferably in the healthcare field, including staff supervision.
- Must understand and adhere to General Accepted Accounting Practices (GAAP) and Funding Contribution Funding Agreements.
- Strong proposal writing skills.
- Working experience working with First Nation people, organizations and communities would be an asset.

#### Knowledge Requirements:

- Knowledge of First Nation communities and structures and the ability to integrate traditional and mainstream practices as a central and vital part of health service delivery.
- Knowledge of local services available to the WRFN community. • Knowledge and understanding of the Canada Health Act, Non-Insured Health Benefits Program and Indian Act. • In-depth knowledge of health/wellness challenges, relevant historical factors and trauma, e.g., residential schools, intergenerational trauma, colonization, etc. • Knowledge, understanding, respect and sensitivity of the Anishinabek culture, language and traditions.

## LOOKING FOR A JOB?

join 3 Cows & A Cone AND 3 Cows Fries

WHETHER you're looking for Full-Time / Part-Time work or are a Student looking for a Summer Job we are interviewing (see details below) we also have openings for mature counter staff, cooks, & kitchen staff



if you can't make any of the dates, call 705-368-3524 to set up an interview COME BE A PART OF OUR TEAM

offering: competitive salary, flexible hours, free uniforms, meal benefits, fun team





\*For a detailed job description, please email hrmanager@whitefishriver.ca

#### Applications must be submitted by May 10, 2024, at 12:00 p.m.

Interested applicants must submit a current resumé, cover letter, three (3) work-related references (with contact information) and applicable education diplomas/certifications to:

#### **CONFIDENTIAL: HEALTH MANAGER**

Whitefish River First Nation c/o Human Resources 17-A Rainbow Ridge Road, P.O. Box 188 Birch Island, ON POP 1A0 Email: jobapplications@whitefishriver.ca Fax: (705)285-4532

Miigwetch to all who apply; however, only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted

### Manitoulin Health Centre Auxiliary donates funds for new vital signs monitor

**by Michael Erskine** LITTLE CURRENT—Rocking their way to a better world. Members of the Manitoulin Health Centre (MHC) Auxiliary gathered at the hospital's Little Current site to present a cheque for \$7,607.96 to the hospital for a new vital signs monitor—the funds represent the proceeds from the auxiliary's Rocka-Thon, supplemented with monies from the In-Memorium Fund

"We of the hospital auxiliary are really excited to be able to do this," said MHC Auxiliary spokesperson Laila Kiviaho, who was seconded from delivering headsets and other items to patients on the floor in order to take part in the presentation. "This vital signs monitor is something that can affect you, your family, your friends, everyone in the community. We would not be able to have this without the support of everyone in the community."

"It is a vital signs monitor,

it takes your blood pressure, pulse, monitors your oxygen levels," explained Ms. Fields. While the machine might be familiar to those attending hospital as 'the machine that goes beep,' Ms. Fields notes it does far more than simply emitting regular sounds. "It makes nursing more efficient in the care we provide and helps keep up with digital health and changes in technology." As that technology tends to move forward in leaps and bounds, MHC must regularly upgrade and replace that equipment.

"The fact that the hospital does not receive money for capital purchases, donations such as these go a long way toward helping us provide safe patient care," said Ms. Fields.

"On behalf of the board of directors I would like to thank the MHC Auxiliary for all of their hard work and efforts and dedication to MHC," said Board Chair Dennis McGregor.



Manitoulin Health Centre (MHC) board chair Dennis McGregor, volunteer Shirley McGregor, MHC Auxiliary spokesperson Laila Kiviaho and MHC President and CEO Paula Fields take part in a \$7,607.96 cheque presentation. The funds will be used to purchase a new vital signs monitor for the hospital.

photo by Michael Erskine



Members of the two hospital auxiliaries gather for a photo

### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY – MULTIPLE POSTINGS Gwekwaadziwin Miikan –



Withdrawal Management/Harm Reduction

Gwekwaadziwin Miikan is expanding its continuum of care and looking for motivated individuals to join our multidisciplinary team to support the development and implementation of our Withdrawal Management and Harm Reduction program.

Please visit www.gwek.ca or email mmaracle@gwek.ca for details.

#### **Program Description**

The Gwekwaadziwin Miikan program provides a person-centered model of mental health and addiction treatment for youth and young adults. It supports a community of healthy young people working towards wellness, education, and economic prosperity for First Nations individuals and communities. Gwekwaadziwin Miikan meets program participants on the spectrum of care, from stabilization through treatment, live-in aftercare, outpatient aftercare and transition back into community. The Seven Grandfathers program is designed for young adults aged 19+ and consists of four phases: Land Based Treatment, Live-in Aftercare, Community Aftercare and the new Withdrawal Management and Harm Reduction Program.

#### **Position Descriptions**

### **Manitoulin Health Centre brings two** auxiliaries together in appreciation

#### by Margery Frisch

TEHKUMMAH—On Monday, April 22 the Manitoulin Health Centre (MHC) gathered its auxiliaries, Little Current and Mindemoya, together for a joint volunteer appreciation lunch. JD's Manitoulin Garden Centre was bright, sunny and warm and lunch in their restaurant, the Saucy Apple, was enjoyed by all the volunteers who were able to attend.

Hospital Board Chair, Denis McGre-

gor, welcomed everyone. "If we had planned a little bit ahead, we would have had place settings for you. We wanted both auxiliaries to mingle and get to know each other. That didn't happen today, but next year," he said, and ev-eryone laughed, "we're going to make it happen next year."

After a delicious lunch, each volunteer was given a bright coloured Berger daisy, and all gathered for a photo opp.



Community Living Manitoulin is looking for dedicated staff with a passion for working with adult individuals with developmental disabilities.

Do you want to play a vital role in inspiring possibilities and creating an environment that fosters meaningful living for all supported individuals?

There are part-time employment opportunities available within one of our many programs:

#### **Two (2) Permanent Part-time positions** Three (3) Temporary Part-time positions

#### Withdrawal Management/Harm Reduction Team Leader (1 Contract Position with opportunity for extension)

A full-time contract position (1 year with opportunity for extension), responsible for the development, coordination, and implementation of acute withdrawal, distribution of harm reduction supplies, safe/flex beds, and Opioid Agonist Tapering services as part of the Gwekwaadziwin Mijkan continuum of services. This is a management level position and will involve scheduling, case management, cultural knowledge, and clinical expertise.

#### Withdrawal Management/Harm Reduction Support Workers (4 Contract Positions with opportunity for extension)

A full-time contract position (1 year with possibility of extension), 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.

Salary: Commensurate with Qualifications Closing Date: May 3, 2024 @ 4:30pm

To Apply: Please complete the application online at gwek.bamboohr.com/careers Incomplete packages will not be accepted. Current Vulnerable Sector Screening and Drivers Abstract required as a condition of employment.

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

These unionized part-time positions are guaranteed at a minimum of 30 hours bi-weekly and can be scheduled a maximum of 32 hours weekly with a starting wage of \$27.49.

#### You are qualified if you have:

- 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.

### CC McLean students recognized in public speaking

GORE BAY—Several students at Charles C. Mc-Lean Public School (C.C. McLean) in Gore Bay have been recognized for their efforts in the Royal Canadian Legion (RCL) annual poster, poem and essay contest this year by the RCL Branch 514 in Gore Bay.

"You all should be proud of your accomplishments," said Jim Woods of RCL Branch 514, who along with fellow Legion member Michael Lalonde presented certificates to the students. Mr. Lalonde explained he is an ordinary RCL member, meaning he served in the military. Mr. Woods, who did not serve in the military, but whose father Marv served in the military, is an associate Legion member.

Both Mr. Woods and Mr. Lalonde are co-chairs of the poppy committee at RCL Branch 514.

"We are here today to present awards to the students whose poster, poem or essay won the school competition and went on to the zone and district levels," said Mr. Woods.

In the Zone H-3 primary division, black and white poster, Naomi Bond finished in second place. In



The Western Manitoulin Branch 514 of the Royal Canadian Legion presented awards to students from C.C. McLean Public School for their award winning entries in the annual poster, poem and essay contest. In photo from left is Mike Lalonde co-chair of the Legion poppy committee, C.C. McLean students Naomi Bond, Emma Chaytor, Lily Wiwchar, Kane Noble, Emily Deremo, Legion poppy committee co-chair Jim Woods and C.C. McLean teacher April Patterson.

the junior H-3 division black and white poster, Emma Chaytor was first, while Kane Noble in the junior essay contest and Emily Deremo in the junior poem contest both finished in first place. Lily Wiwchar was third in the junior division coloured poster category. The RCL zone area includes the area from Elliot Lake, Chapleau to Sudbury and Manitoulin Island.

At the district H Level, Emma Chaytor placed third in the junior division poster black and white category, with second place going to Kane Noble in the junior essay category and Emily Deremo third in the junior poem category division. The District H-3 area takes in Sault Ste. Marie to North Bay and Chapleau to Parry Sound.

C.C. McLean teacher

April Patterson was the main organizer for the school for the contest. "It is remarkable how well all of you did in the other levels of the contest. It is obvious a lot of work went into your entries for the contest," she said.

"We appreciate the school entering the contest and representing our legion," added Mr. Woods.

### Public Health Sudbury and District issues drug poisonings warning

SUDBURY DISTRICT— The Community Drug Strategies have received reports of an increase in the number of drug poisonings (overdoses) and unexpected reactions from the use of substances in the Sudbury and district area.

"While we cannot confirm the substance(s) causing the overdoses, this situation serves as an important reminder to the community that street drugs may be cut or mixed with substances such as benzos (benzodiazepines), xylazine, fentanyl, or carfentanil," Pub-lic Health Sudbury and Districts (PHSD) explains in a release. "Frontline workers warn that more toxic substances may be circulating locally."

An overdose occurs when a person uses a substance, and their body is unable to handle the effects. As a result, the brain is unable to control basic life functions. The person might pass out, stop breathing, or experience a seizure. Overdoses can be fatal and non-fatal. "Some of the drug poisonings reported recently have been resistant to naloxone," says PHSD. "We would like to stress the importance of giving naloxone, calling for help, and providing CPR and rescue breathing until help arrives if you suspect an overdose. Naloxone will help reverse an opioid overdose and will do no harm if the overdose is not related to opioids." Prevent overdoses to save lives: carry a naloxone kit, call 911 if vou suspect an overdose, avoid mixing drugs, includ-ing prescribed, over the counter and illegal drugs. Avoid drinking alcohol while using other drugs. Use caution when switchsubstances; start ing

with a lower dose than you usually would. If you have not used in a while, start with a lower dose. Your tolerance may be lower. Avoid using drugs when you are alone. Have a trusted person with you who can provide support as needed. If you must use alone, consider the following options: connect with the National Overdose Response Service at 1-888-688-6677 (NORS line). NORS is a virtual safe consumption line available 24/7 that provides nonjudgemental confidential support, whenever and wherever you use drugs. Access the Brave App. The Brave App is a virtual safe consumption app available 24/7 that will anonymously and privately connect to a Brave Supporter before you use drugs alone.

Opioid overdose symptoms include fingernails and lips turn blue or purplish black, skin turns bluish purple, grayish, or ashen, depending on skin tone. The person can experience dizziness and confusion, can't be woken up, they make choking, gurgling or snoring sounds, they have slow, weak or no breathing, and experience drowsiness or difficulty staying awake.

Stimulant overdose systems include: seizures, drooling or frothing from the mouth, limb spasms or rigidity, tightening or pain in the chest, not breathing or shallow breathing, show signs of a stroke such as the inability to talk clearly, losing feeling in the face, arms, or legs on one side of the body.

Due to benzodiazepine's (benzos) toxicity, an overdose may last for hours and look like: extreme sleepiness or passing out, poor balance and movement control, slurred speech, blackouts and memory loss.

PHSD recommends that when responding to an overdose: give naloxone. This will help reverse an opioid overdose and will do no harm if the overdose is not due to opioids. This may improve breathing, but the person may not regain consciousness due to sedation. Additional doses may be needed. Call 911 to get medical help and keep monitoring breathing. Stay with the person until help arrives. If a stimulant overdose

If a stimulant overdose is suspected: try to keep the person awake. If they are anxious, try to get them to slow down and relax. Cool the person down with a damp washcloth on their forehead. If the person is having a seizure, remove any sharp or dangerous items around them. If the person is unconscious, place them in the recovery position.

For a free naloxone kit, contact The Point at PHSD, Reseau Access Network, or ask your local hospital or pharmacy. Or visit www.ontario.ca/ page/get-naloxone-kitsfree.



#### EMERY WATSON

From the trails to the track, from the court to the arena, Emery can be found constantly on the move with a smile on her face! As a second year Mustang, Emery brings a positive attitude and enthusiasm to all of her athletic endeavours. Her involvement in sports from a young age has instilled a love for athletics that is evident in every minute of gameplay. Emery has already established herself as an excellent all around player, creating a promising athletic future for her time at MSS!

Prior to becoming a Mustang, Emery was a student at Walden Public School/Lively Secondary School for the majority of her elementary school experience. For her eighth grade year, she moved to Mindemoya, where she competed as an Eagle for Central Manitoulin Public School. Even at a young age, Emery capitalized on every opportunity to play school sports, signing up for volleyball, basketball, hockey, soccer and badminton. Her team spirit shines as she reminisces on her elementary years, noting that her best memories were of watching her friends compete and travelling to other schools with her team.

Last year, Emery wasted no time in transitioning to high school sports. She was eager to test out the trails as a member of the cross country team, making a NOSSA appearance. She quickly switched her spikes out for court shoes as she joined the junior girls' volleyball team, playing in the setter and left side position. She helped her team to achieve a perfect season of gameplay, take the NSSSA title and earn a silver medal at NOSSA. She kept with the court theme for another season, dominating the badminton season with another NSSSA gold medal and NOSSA appearance. Then, it was on to tennis and track and field. Playing in the open doubles category, Emery and her partner, Aspen Debassige, punched their ticket to OFSAA only being in Grade nine and ten! Emery played on the provincial stage in Toronto before travelling to OFSAA track and field in Ottawa, in the same week! This year, Emery marked a third tally of OFSAA appearances as her junior girls' cross country team took gold at NOSSA. She then played on the senior girls' volleyball team as a setter, helping her team to achieve a perfect season of gameplay once again, taking the NSSSA title! She is now into the badminton season, looking forward to tennis and track and field!

Growing up playing ringette, Emery has a special attachment to the sport that provided her with great friendships and memories over the years. Once she moved to the Island, she traded her ringette stick for a hockey stick, quickly jumping into the house league action. She didn't miss a beat, helping her team, Mindemoya Thunder, secure the playoff win. Emery has a special love for hockey because of the opportunities it provides to meet new people, learn new skills and engage in a fun team sport. This year, Emery wore the Lady Panthers jersey, with a C on the front! She helped her team to qualify for the Ontario Provincial Championships, where they recently competed in Toronto.

When Emery takes the black and gold jersey off, she can be found staying active while caring for her two horses (Duke and Archer) or walking her dogs (Maverick and Marley). Emery finds that they are great motivation for her to continue to be active and enjoy beautiful weather. When the warm weather finally forces her to hang up her skates, Emery loves to bike, swim and go for walks. She can also be spotted in the community working at the Mindemoya pharmacy.

In the classroom, Emery is as dedicated to her academics as her athletics. She earned the highest academic achievement award for Grade nine students last year, achieving a 97% average. She thrives through brainstorming and problem solving, pushing her to especially enjoy math. However, science and English are also among Emery's favourite subjects as she finds them interesting and engaging. Despite the business of sports and school, Emery found time this year to volunteer for Halloween for Hunger.

One reason why Emery excels in athletics and academics may be because of her mom. Emery notes that her mom inspires her. She has always supported and encouraged Emery through more competitive levels of ringette and in each step of her schooling. Emery has learned from her mom that it is important to be the best you can mentally, and taking breaks is important in maintaining a balanced lifestyle.

### Manitoulin Hotel Oconference Centre Now Hiring! Food & Beverage Servers Bartenders Laundry Attendant Housekeeping Line Cooks Please apply in person at the front desk with a resumé and be prepared for an interview. Wages are negotiable. Manitoulin Hotel & Conference Centre 66 Meredith St. E. Little Current, ON POP IKO

Although Emery still has two more years rocking the black and gold, she is interested in a career in medicine following her graduation. She finds health fascinating and important, recognizing that it creates a great outlet to help people.

With Emery's hard work and dedication, she is sure to continue to be a standout Mustang on and off the court!



Proud Supporter of our MSS Mustangs

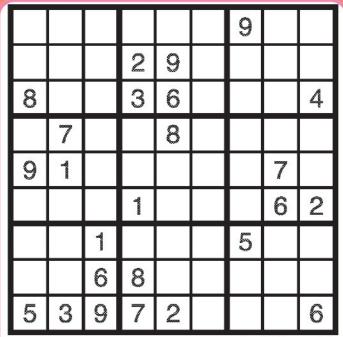
BMO Investing Today in Tomorrow's

Future

#### PAGE 8A — MANITOULIN LIFESTYLES

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## SUDOKU

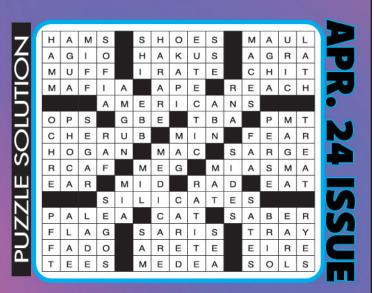


Level: Intermediate

#### Here's how it works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1-9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle !





#### TANK

39. Outer walls of castles

#### ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20 Aries, your friends have stepped up to support you, and it is time to get together and enjoy one another's company. Think about an

14. Benedictine monk

activity that everyone can get behind.

#### TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, the people around you may work more slowly than you, so you will likely need to be patient this week while working on a particular project. Eventually things will work out.

#### GEMINI – May 22/Jun 21

Gemini, exercise caution when dealing with people who promise big returns on your investments right now. Avoid financial dealings with anyone you have not fully vetted.

#### CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22

58. MLBer Gordon

TANK

Cancer, some people around you would like to use flattery to get you to do what they want. However, you are too savvy to fall for people who may be guiding you in the wrong direction.

#### LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23 Loved ones and friends in your life deserve your time and energy right now, Leo. Figure out a way to cut down on hours spent on the job this week.

VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22 Virgo, things going on in your life right now may be a bit more confusing than you anticipated. It can be stressful, but with some assistance from others you will get through the situation.

#### LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23

Someone in your life who has not always been on your side has been changing his or her ways lately, Libra. You may want to reevaluate the relationship soon.

#### SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, you have been working hard to avoid conflict with someone close to you, but it could start to feel like more effort than you can care to keep up.

#### SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21

An interesting travel opportunity is coming your way, Sagittarius. When the news arrives, take advantage of it and start planning your itinerary.

#### CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20

TANK

Capricorn, is your schedule flexible right now? Try to rearrange things to take advantage of some last-minute recreational opportunities. You deserve to have more fun.

#### AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18

Aquarius, you may be feeling moody and introspective right now. Take time to evaluate your dreams and the thoughts going through your head. There may be common threads.

#### PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20

Don't let some ambiguous feedback adversely affect your mood, Pisces. You will never be able to please everyone, so focus on those people who are on your side.