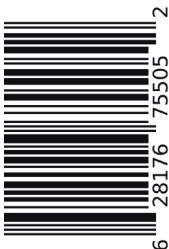


Manitowaning Fall Fair marks 148 years!

See Pages
3 and 15!



The MANITOULIN EXPOSITOR



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Little Current, Ontario

Wednesday, September 4, 2024



OUT FOR A RIP—Katie Dopson, left, a Community Living Manitoulin client, got to ride a motorcycle owned by 'Root' at the annual Pennies from Heaven event. **FOR MORE PHOTOS AND STORY, PLEASE SEE PAGE 12.**

photo by Tom Sasvari

Cywink family marks 30th memorial for sister Sonya, found murdered near London, Ontario

Family continues to seek justice for beloved BI woman

by Tom Sasvari

IONA, ONTARIO—A sacred fire and pipe ceremony was held to honour the #MMIW-GT25 and the 30th Memorial for Sonya Nadine Mae Baa Cywink on August 30 at the Southwold Earthworks National Historical Site in Shedden, Ontario.

Sonya Cywink was originally from Whitefish River First Nation. She was found deceased in August 1994 just outside London. "We are holding the media scrum and memorial tomorrow (August 30) on the 30th anniversary of Sonya's death, an unsolved homicide," said her sister Meggie, who lives in Little Current.

A statement from the Cywink family reads, "Thirty years ago, on August 30, 1994, Sonya was taken in a senseless, unsolved



Sonya Nadine Cywink was found dead near London, Ontario in August 1994. Her killer has never been caught.

act of violence that has left an indelible mark on her family, friends, and community."

...continued on page 7

Rainbow Board survey shows cell ban supported by students

by Tom Sasvari

SUDBURY—The Rainbow District School Board (RDSB) is hoping that new rules designed to keep students off their cell-phones will allow the students to focus on learning while they are in class. A local teachers' union president said the guidelines put in place by the board

is a good balanced approach.

"Eliminating distractions will protect instructional time and enable educators and students to focus on teaching and learning, student achievement and well-being," stated Bruce Bourget, director of education for the RDSB. He told the board at a meeting August 27,

"as directed by the Ministry of Education, RDSB's new administrative procedure on personal mobile devices comes into effect when classes resume on Tuesday, September 3."

Mr. Bourget said that the measures taken are supported by parents, staff, students and community members based on a survey taken by the board in June. "We had over 2,000 respondents to our survey, which is a really good number," he told The Expositor. He explained one of the questions was whether cell phones and social media use at school is a concern, with 84.5 percent of respondents saying yes. Eighty-seven percent are concerned with the impact of moderate time students spend on social media contributing to poor mental health. The third survey question asked if there are concerns with distract-

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Boating community fetes 20 years of 'Cruiser's Net'

Popular VHF broadcast for North Channel visitors

by Michael Erskine

LITTLE CURRENT—For the past two decades, Roy Eaton and the Little Current Yacht Club's Cruiser's Net have been connecting boaters in the North Channel and helping to enhance the community to the benefit of the Port of Little Current and businesses across Manitoulin Island through the popular VHF radio program broadcast from the Anchor Inn.

This season the program recorded call-ins from 4,159 boaters on a variety of vessels, large and small.

The Expositor caught up with Mr. Eaton as he was finishing up the season to chat about the past 20 years and what has kept him and his supporters going strong for so long.

Mr. Eaton related how, more than 20 years ago, he and his wife Margaret travelled to the Abaco Islands in the Bahamas where he discovered there was

a VHF radio program that serviced boaters called The Cruisers' Net.

Upon returning home and taking part in the creation of the Little Current Yacht Club, Mr. Eaton regaled the group looking to set up a yacht club in Little Current about his experi-

...continued on page 8

London firm fined \$125,000 in 2020 M'Chigeeng fatality

by Michael Erskine

GORE BAY—A London-based company, Integrated Solutions Inc., was handed down a fine of \$100,000 following a guilty plea in the fatal injury of a worker at a M'Chigeeng residence in 2020 while installing a satellite dish—the fine was subject to a 25 percent victim fine surcharge bringing the total levied against the company to \$125,000.

The plea was entered before Justice of the Peace Lori-Ann Toulouse at the Provincial Offenses Court in Gore Bay and the company was convicted on July 29, 2024.

According to the facts of the case, a worker had been installing a satellite dish near the edge of the roof of a M'Chigeeng residence. The company

pleaded guilty to "not ensuring the worker used fall protection while on the roof and failing to take every precaution reasonable in the circumstances for the protection of the worker"

...continued on page 10

Drug strategy warns of increase in overdoses on

Manitoulin Island

MANITOULIN—The Community Drug Strategies of Manitoulin and Lacloche Foothills have received reports of an increase in the number of drug poisonings (overdoses) and unexpected reactions from the use of substances in the Manitoulin and Lacloche Foothills areas.

"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," the drug strategy group writes. "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

...continued on page 10

Prov Bay Post Office celebrates 150 years of service

by Michael Erskine

PROVIDENCE BAY—A sizable group of local residents dropped into the dining room of the Huron Sands Motel and Restaurant in Providence Bay during one of the last days of August to commemorate 150 years of the Canada Post office serving the community.

The commemoration took place on Friday, August 30 from 2 to 3 pm and featured coffee, cake and an opportunity to



A party was held at Huron Sands last Friday to mark the 150th anniversary of the Providence Bay Post Office.

learn about the storied history of the post office in a presentation provided by local historian Lyle Dewar.

Central Manitoulin Mayor Richard Stephens presented postmaster Pamela Schieckoff with a certificate recognizing the historic occasion.

"This is a very needed establishment that's been here for 150 years," said Mayor Stephens,

...continued on page 11

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The Manitoulin *West* Recorder



Joseph Caulfield rode his bicycle from Manitowaning to the Manitoulin Food Bank in Mindemoya this past Saturday to deliver 275 non-perishable food items that had been donated by Island residents who dropped off the food items at six food bins within the two communities. In photo from left is Katharine Caulfield, Dave Banks, Joseph Caulfield, Ray Corbiere.

First inter-community cycle for MFR Food Bank deemed a success

by Tom Sasvari

MINDEMOYA—With the success of this year’s bicycle ride he took to encouraging local and seasonal residents to provide non-perishable food items for the Manitoulin Food Bank, Joseph Caulfield, a resident of Manitowaning already has plans for next year’s event, which will be held on an annual basis.

“Awesome,” stated Mr. Caulfield to the 275 non-perishable food items that were collected for the Manitoulin Food Bank. “I was hoping for four hundred, but I am certainly happy with what we got this year. We are very grateful to the Island community for its support.”

As was reported previously, Mr. Caulfield and his wife Katharine are new residents to the Island, having moved to Manitowaning in May. He encouraged local residents on the Island, both permanent and seasonal, to put non-perishable cans of food in six locations along a bicycle route he took from Manitowaning to Mindemoya (ending

at the Manitoulin Food Bank) this past Saturday.

Mr. Caulfield, who owns a bicycle company on the Island, Bike Whizzards, grew up in London, England. When he and his wife moved into their home in Manitowaning, they found that the previous owners had left many good items like kayaks and food, which they donated to the food bank. With the support of those involved, food bins were located at the Home Hardware (which donated all the bins), Guardian Pharmacy and Canada Post Office buildings in both Manitowaning and Mindemoya for people to donate non-perishable food items for the Food Bank. The bins were in place for about a week on a 24-hour a day basis.

As well, residents could leave the food items by their mailbox on the day of the ride to be picked up. Mr. Caulfield was accompanied on the ride by cyclist Ray Corbiere, of M’Chigeeng First Nation, while Dave Banks (a neighbour of the Caulfields) and Ms. Caulfield drove the truck to pick up the

...continued on page 14

Alexandra Wilson-Zegil, MSS student, named Rainbow Board student trustee

by Tom Sasvari

SUDBURY—Manitoulin Secondary School (MSS) student Alexandra Wilson-Zegil and Tia Nootchtaï of Lockerby Composite School in Sudbury have both been appointed as student trustees of the Rainbow District School Board (RDSB) for the 2024-2025 school year.

“We are very honoured to have our two student trustees here tonight,” said David Farrow, chair of the RDSB board at a meeting last week. The



Manitoulin Secondary School student Alexandra Wilson-Zegil (in photo) has been appointed as student trustee of the Rainbow District School Board for the 2024-2025 school year.

board trustees unanimously voted in favour of appointing the two new trustees on a motion put forward by trustees Bob Clement and Judy Hunda. “On behalf of the board of trustees, I extend a warm welcome to Tai Nootchtaï and Alexandra Wilson-Zegil. They will have an opportunity to experience the decision-making process and learn more about public education locally and provincially. More importantly, they will represent the student voice at the board table and contribute to our collective focus on student achievement and well-being.”

Ms. Wilson-Zegil and Ms. Nootchtaï then took and read the RDSB declaration of office and oath of allegiance.

Bruce Bourget, RDSB director of education said, “I would like to extend a warm welcome to both trustees, Tia Nootchtaï and Alexandra Wilson-Zegil. They are both very humble, but we have to brag about their accomplishments a little bit,” he said, reading their biographies.

“Alexandra Wilson-Zegil will play a provincial role as well this year. She has been selected as the Northern Schools Regional Representative for the Ontario Student Trust-

...continued on page 16

Nine Island Anishinaabe recognized with Lifetime Achievement Awards

by Tom Sasvari

RAMA, ONTARIO—Nine residents of the Manitoulin Island and area First Nations were recognized with 2024 Anishinabek Lifetime Achievement Awards at a ceremony held at Casino Rama Resort in Rama on Thursday, August 29.

“We presented a total of 19 recipients with awards,” said Jason Restoule, of the Anishinabek Nation 7th Generation Charity. Each year the Anishinabek Nation 7th Generation Charity proudly hosts a celebration to acknowledge and recognize Anishinaabe citizens who have made a lifetime commitment to improving the quality of life for our First Nations.”

“This year, we will be honouring individuals who have made a lifetime commitment to career, community and the advancement of the Anishinabek Nation,” said Mr. Restoule.

The first award recipient was Dr. Deborah McGregor

Whitefish River First Nation (WRFN) in the category of environment. “Dr. McGregor has made significant contributions to the WRFN community through formal and informal engagements over the years. She has also been a conduit to external resources and expertise providing valuable advice on research, health, lands/environment, and water issues. Additionally, her participation in ceremonies and support for local initiatives demonstrates a deep commitment to the cultural and social aspects of the community, establishing a trusted and respected presence.”

“Dr. McGregor has significantly contributed to First Nations communities in Ontario through impactful projects,” Mr. Restoule continued. “She helped conduct a Traditional Land Use Study Review to document and preserve cultural connections to the land. She

...continued on page 16

Glen Hare named executive director of Ojibwe Cultural Foundation

by Tom Sasvari

M’CHIGEENG—After a long career in politics locally and provincially, Glen Hare has been hired for the position of executive director of the Ojibwe Cultural Foundation (OCF).

“I’m excited to be taking over this position,” said Mr. Hare, who took on the position of OCF executive director as of Monday, August 26. “Yeah, it’s different, I spent 39 years in politics, but I am really looking forward to this.”

“I think it was a good decision to hire Glen,” said Aundeck Omni First Nation Chief Patsy Corbiere, who is a member of the OCF board. “He knows the language and has a lot of connections through the government and potential funders. Because of his experience he has many connections with government funders and has been involved with the OCF since its beginning, knows and speaks the language fluently, culture and traditions. He will be a very

strong advocate for the OCF.” “Glen is a knowledge keeper and will bring a lot of good things to the OCF,” said Chief Corbiere. “And I think this job was like a calling for him to come back to Manitoulin Island and take on this position.”

Morgan Hare, chief of M’Chigeeng First Nation is also chair of the OCF board and a brother to Glen Hare. “As chair of the board I had to declare a conflict of interest (while the process of hiring the new executive director took place). A number of candidates applied for the position and Glen was chosen after putting his name and resume forward and being interviewed for the position.”

The hiring committee included several Island First Nation chiefs, the executive director of the United Chiefs and Councils of Mnidoo Mnising and a staff person with the OCF. “As chair of the board after the election

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Central Manitoulin to host public works, farm show September 13

by Tom Sasvari

MINDEMOYA—The municipality of Central Manitoulin is hosting a municipal public works and farm show on September 13.

“Our roads superintendent Ron (Klingenberg) said that a couple of larger municipalities in southern Ontario have held this type of municipal public works and farm show, but that he has never heard of anything like this in Northern Ontario,” said Alison Sloss, events coordinator for Central Manitoulin, last week. “He said he would love to have this type of event in the North to network.”

“The event will be like a trade fair, but specifically for local municipalities’ public works to come in and visit, as well as farmers, and is open to the public,” said Ms. Sloss. “We are bringing in equipment sales and suppliers with many vendors on hand to showcase municipal roads and building and farm equipment, products and services.”

“The goal is to get information out there as to services and equipment out there and available to municipalities and farm operations,” continued Ms. Sloss. “We are hoping it will be an event

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Plans heat up for the 148th edition of the Manitowaning Fall Fair

by Michael Erskine

MANITOWANING—As Northern Ontario’s longest continuously running agricultural fair, the Manitowaning Fall Fair, has quite a reputation to uphold but if plans are any indication, maintaining that cred won’t be much of a challenge.

The Manitowaning Fall Fair’s theme this year is ‘Growing from Generation to Generation’ and, judging from the significant number of events and activities to be found on Page 15 of this edition of The Expositor, grow it has.

“Our group of directors and dedicated volunteers hope you enjoy the events,” the Manitowaning Agricultural Society says. “We welcome suggestions on how to better entertain you. Volunteers are always needed to plan and run our fair.”

The fair kicks off at 8:30 am to 11:30 am on Friday, September 6 with the submission of exhibits. There is still time to download the fair booklet from the society’s spanking new webpage located online at Manitowaningas.ca and get your submission in to collect bragging rights and some modest cash prizes. Judging who will be named best at the fair takes place at 12:30 pm that same day—but the curious will have to wait for the doors to open at 6:30 pm to see.

Opening ceremonies take place in the Providence Bay arena at 7 pm, followed by a demonstration by the Manitoulin Secondary School Robotics team at 7:15 pm. Friday’s activities will include a

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opinion

editorial

Latest populist dog whistle injection site closures will cost lives

The recent decision by the Ford government to close 10 safe injection sites in the province and placing a hold on any new sites will cost lives—plain and simple. The data is clear and unequivocal. The number of deaths due to overdoses drop dramatically when a safe injection site can be accessed. That fact is backed up by study after study, in country after country, and in decade after decade. Safe injections sites save lives.

It can logically be deduced that ideological and populist dog whistle closures of safe injection sites will result in more deaths due to overdoses.

Those deaths cause immeasurable pain and suffering to the families and friends of those individuals suffering from the illness of addiction, often through little or no fault of their own, contrary to the cherished beliefs of those whose deregulation and poor oversight of the pharmaceutical industry has led to the current opioid epidemic.

But that's okay in the Doug Ford and Tory playbook. It plays well to the conservative mindset that too often blames the victim instead of taking aim at the corporate greed that largely put us in this predicament in the first place. Faced with intense acute and chronic pain, sufferers were offered what was then touted as a non-addictive option, Oxycotin, which proved to be anything but. Some, it is fair to say, began taking opioids as a recreational drug, or an escape from hopelessness, abuse and not knowing the full dangers of what they were getting into.

Many supposedly "safe" recreational drugs have been adulterated with opioids by drug dealers intent on cheaply upping the buzz of their product—thanks to the steady supply coming into this country from China or other rogue authoritarian regimes.

Contrary to all-too-popular belief, safe injection sites do not lead to an increase in crime or addictions. The data on that is clear. Nor do they contribute to the proliferation of discarded needles and other drug paraphernalia—which, if one stops and thinks about it, makes perfect sense. The needles are captured in the sharps containers located at the injection sites instead of being tossed aside by the unsupervised drug user. Counterintuitively to what the Ford acolytes believe, the closure of the sites make the chances of a child stumbling upon the needles on their way to and from school all the more likely.

letters

Concerns raised, again, on MTO Island glyphosate spraying

"And the glyphosate keeps marching on"

To the Expositor:

I was encouraged to read about the Traditional Ecological Knowledge Elders pushing back about aerial glyphosate spraying in The Expositor August 21 (Page 3). However, this optimism was short lived.

Since then, in just a week's span, there have been three separate incidences exemplifying of how much this carcinogenic and ecologically destructive compound are still pervasive in our environment.

First, I had a lovely visit from my nephew. He has worked for a major nationwide reforestation (aka tree planting) company. Sounds completely positive. However, this industry has a dark side. The year before tree planters go into their various locations across Canada, these locations are aerial sprayed with glyphosate to kill off the deciduous trees that would compete with the 'cash crop' of coniferous trees. This is exactly what the TEK Elders are fighting and another gentleman, Joel Theriault, a Northern Ontario bush pilot, of "Stop the Spray." Our northern forest locations literally get annual glyphosate rain.

Second, EMCOM, under the orders of our provincial MTO, sprayed the ditches of the east end of the Island with a glyphosate compound. Of particular note, I noticed all the plastic 'pesticide' signs located right around Big Lake and near an Amish garden plot. Interestingly, this stretch of Hwy 542 was not marked on their map when asked to have access to it several times (and only receiving it via another concerned taxpayer). Take note: The same company will be repeating another round of glyphosate spray in our ditches in another one to two weeks. However, transparency and forthcoming information from both EMCOM and the MTO is rather difficult. Again, this is our taxpaying dollars that is funding the wide dispersment of these chemicals that simply do not degrade in a day (soil half-life is from 2-197 days and water half-life is 2-91 days).

Third, after I personally suffered devastating bee colony losses last year and confirmed glyphosate to be the agent, the agricultural side of Manitoulin has begun their late summer round of glyphosate spray. This again is being done to hayfields to 'refresh' their yields as GMO/Round Up Ready alfalfa will be planted, and for the dry-down (or desiccation) of the cash crops such as soybean, corn, and canola prior to harvest. No 'pesticide' signs will ever be post-

What closing the sites will do is make it far more likely that someone's loved one will die.

These are families that have already been buffeted by the pain of watching their children, siblings, parents or friends descend into the hell of addiction. These are families who live in hope that, one day, their loved ones will be able to climb out of the abyss of drug addiction hell and return to them as productive members of society.

That can't happen if the person suffering from addiction is dead. What these closures will do is heighten the anxiety of those families who have already suffered enough. To anyone who has travelled to downtown Sudbury can attest, the number of white crosses commemorating drug overdose deaths in that community is growing at an alarming rate. Many of those crosses bear the names of people from Manitoulin Island and stand in silent sentinel to the suffering and dashed those hopes irrevocably.

Governments of all stripes and partisan flavours are complicit in the current opioid epidemic, having allowed this crisis to build to its current levels and profiting from the revenues implicit in its building.

The addition of new "hubs" aimed at transitioning addicts away from homelessness and providing supports to those seeking to find a path to recovery are laudable in themselves—but this is not an either-or dichotomy. Those hubs should have been long in place to complement the safe injection sites, not being offered up as a public sop to help cover the ills that will come from this decision.

Coupling populism and dog whistle politics with a humanitarian program is not a real solution.

Balancing the books by knowingly dealing in death should not be either.

With this announcement, the Ford government has said it loud and clear—garnering a few more votes from their base is far more valuable to them than saving the lives of our loved ones. There are few families across this great nation who have not been impacted by the opioid crisis and this decision will do little, if anything to make things better. You have to be alive to access addiction counselling and/or move into a shelter or affordable housing.

We are one of the most prosperous and well-educated nations in the world. We can and must do better.

ed, and it is only through friendly farmer neighbours that one is alerted. My bees that survived last year will be exposed again and it remains to be seen if I will sustain another loss like last year. My bees, being somewhat domesticated and studied, are a reflection of the wild pollinators, and it was this week noted in a headline reported in EcoWatch, 'Global Food Production Limited by Lack of Pollinators Is 'Cause for Concern and Optimism,' Researchers Say.' Just take a quick look at a satellite view of Google Earth of Southern Ontario and take a note of the farmland...that you can bet is a massive chemical pea soup...and it's happening here now too on Manitoulin.

As TEK elder Raymond Owl stated, "the time for meetings has come and gone. Action is required to protect the forest for future generations." Raymond Owl, who I may add was featured in a CBC documentary in 2022 titled 'Into The Weeds,' a powerful story of a former California Bay Area groundskeeper who took on Monsanto after a terminal cancer diagnosis.

Two years later and countless research articles supporting how these 'chemicals' are 'cidal' for many species, and what are we doing? What can we do? First, demand that our governments do not spend our taxpayer dollars on these compounds. Contact your MPP, contact the MTO and EMCOM, support groups like "Stop the Spray" on Facebook, support the TEK Elders, ask that retail shops do not carry these compounds. Wiikwemkoong has banned glyphosate altogether from their territory. It can be done. Second, demand and support for more organic products...use your money to push your vote. If we all went out today, and insisted on and purchased organic grains including flour and oats, dairy, vegetables, fruit....the money behind this grinding machine would slow and preferably halt, and your personal health and health of the ecosystem would improve. And for all those who think "NIMBY" (or not in my backyard), when one considers the massive farmland development in the south and now happening here, the boreal forests, the roadside ditches, the neighbours who innocently want rid of poison ivy or dandelions...the cumulative effect of these compounds is completely unknown. But the 'silent springs' are slowly happening and it is for up to each of us to decide which direction we wish to go.

Janice Mitchell
Tehkummah

The eternal question of why does the bridge swing

Is it the have nots paying for the have yachts?

To the Expositor:

At the Gore Bay farmers' market, I asked a lady why there is a swing bridge. Her immediate response was "the tall boats."

Is this the correct answer? If this is the right answer, who will pay for a swing bridge to access Killarney? The "have nots or the have yachts," a phrase coined by a Canadian politician.

Tommy Lough
Tehkummah

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Manitoulin swing bridge at Little Current is in place due to the North Channel being a "navigatable waterway" and swings on demand for commercial vessels as well as the usual hourly swings.

Father George Gardner fondly recalled at annual Lafarge fish fry

by Michael Erskine

BIRCH ISLAND—The threat of rain forced the annual Lafarge Community Fish Fry to move to the Whitefish River First Nation (WRFN) Community Centre from its idyllic location below the Lafarge terminal, but the change in venue and rain did nothing to dampen the spirits or the appetites in play.

Terminal manager Howie Scruton acted as master of ceremonies for the fish fry and a host of Lafarge luminaries, among them Lafarge Eastern District CEO David Redfern and Vice President Andrew Stewart, who oversees the company's many cement plants.

Mr. Scruton and the entire Lafarge management team on hand were effusive in their praise of their former plant manager, the late Father George Gardner, who remained an active liaison between Lafarge and the WRFN community, as was WRFN Ogimaa Rodney Nahwegahbow.

Ogimaa Nahwegahbow spoke of the many years Fr. George worked in the community both before and after his retirement from Lafarge, truly engaging with the community and channeling Santa for the children every Christmas.

"It's really a pleasure to have everybody here for such a great event," said Ogimaa Nahwegahbow. "I want to just say thank you to our elders, our community members, of course the Lafarge team who have been sponsoring this event."

"I also want to recognize George Gardner who initiated this event," said Ogimaa Nahwegahbow, before also invoking the memories of the many people in the community who have begun their spirit journeys over the past year. (Whitefish River has lost 29 community members, on and off reserve, since the end of last March.)

Lafarge CEO David Redfern was invited to the microphone to deliver comments on behalf of the company.

"It's a real pleasure to be here," said Mr. Redfern. "Thank you, Howie, for putting this together. This doesn't happen everywhere. This is a really special event that happens for the park and is really an example of what can be done in partnership with yourself, chief, and the elders and everyone here."

"It's only my second event," noted Mr. Redfern, whose previous visit was for the 50th anniversary of the formation of the partnership with WRFN. "I was fortunate to have the first event with George still there and get to share it with him."

Mr. Redfern said the fish fry is an enjoyable event, and "I really enjoy coming and meeting people, it's also about building trust and I want to thank everyone for



Chief Rodney Nahwegahbow joins Fr. George Gardner's family member Wayne Huska, Lafarge CEO David Redfern and vice-president Andrew Stewart as terminal manager Howie Scruton addresses the annual Lafarge Fish Fry gathering.

coming out and I thank everyone for supporting us in the community and really looking forward to growing together. Thank you."

"I want to bring Wayne Huska up to speak," said Mr. Scruton. "I don't know if many of you know, but George was married to his wife Mary, and Mary Gardner's son Wayne is going to say a few words on behalf of George who we lost in early January. I know that last year when we were at the fish fry he was a little bit under the weather."

Mr. Huska described his grandfather as being more than just a grandfather, citing his amazing personality. "He loved people," said Mr. Huska. "He loved and respected God and he loved this community. This was his family and he truly loved it."

Mr. Gardner lost his beloved wife Mary and, at the urging of friends who were priests, and despite being over 65, he undertook the studies to enter the priesthood.

He recalled being dismayed when his grandfather sold the cottage that had been Mr. Huska's go-to place each summer in his youth, and then going on to buy property near where the terminal was being built. He soon came to love the area as well, however. When Mr. Huska first came to visit the terminal location, Ogimaa Nahwegahbow's father Adam was one of the first employees and each of the original employees have gone on to become close friends.

"I remember walking out to the site, we couldn't drive all the way to the terminal and the surveyors couldn't get there with their trucks, but we parked George's car

halfway and we had to walk up. I remember the survey flags were all in one area and it looked like a field of rape wheat. I was mesmerized by the LaCloche mountain range and the water. George was explaining everything, and then he looks over, he goes 'wait, what the hell are you doing over there? Look over here,'" laughed Mr. Huska. "Here he is trying to explain what was going on and I'm just looking at the lake, the water—it's just so beautiful."

"I said 'okay,' and I walk over," recalled Mr. Huska. "He's going on and on and my head was just drifting back to the view. I couldn't pass it up and he'd get mad again and I said, 'George this is absolutely gorgeous.'"

The terminal was Fr. Gardner's passion from day one and he would not fail to regale anyone who would stand still about its virtues.

"When he was done working, he couldn't leave," noted Mr. Huska. "He had to stay here and he said, 'this is my family and I'm going to stay here. I'm going to live where my cottage is and I can be here with my family.' And that's just what he did. I miss him and I know from talking to a few of you here today you do too."

"George had an Indian name provided to him," said Ogimaa Nahwegahbow. "That was Wassegijig, 'the light of day,' and that was given to him because of what he represented—he was the light of day. Those of you will remember how he participated and did things. I think that's how we engage life and he really put a lot of life in everything he did. If you remember, he was our Santa Claus up until this last year. He did a good job."

The fish fry was also a great opportunity to honour and award the terminal employees for the amazing feat of more than 50 years without a lost time accident. Receiving the awards from Lafarge VP Stewart were Jeff McGregor, Gaston Paibomsai, Jessica Paibomsai and Patrick Snowden.

"This is one of the biggest records that we have in North America," said Mr. Scruton before calling the terminal employees up to the front of the hall. "Fifty-three years without a lost time accident at the terminal is quite an accomplishment."

"This is an award for the employees for working very consciously on their jobs and we really want to appreciate all their hard efforts," said Mr. Stewart. "It's nice to make new cement, sell it and build things with it, but doing it safely is by far better. Yours is an incredible history of working safely."

The pavilion where the Lafarge Fish Fry is usually held is located just a few yards from Fr. George's beloved terminal on Whitefish Bay and bears a large sign memorializing the beloved priest.

more letters

Letter writer expresses concerns over "editing" of letter to The Expositor

Call for substantive changes to be cleared with writer before publishing

To the Expositor:

I recently submitted a letter-to-the-editor to The Manitoulin Expositor. I've submitted numerous letters over the last decade. Most have been published. I've also seen many stories published that I have been involved in. There have also been a number of stories that I participated in and believed to be of community importance that weren't reported on. This is just how it goes.

I generally spend much time preparing and wording my letters. This most recent letter was no exception.

The last letter I submitted regarded geoenvironment, more specifically the role of forest fires in geoenvironment. The letter I submitted was not the letter that was printed.

Two paragraphs were removed, along with a question, and most significantly, the wording of one paragraph was changed. I believe this effectively changed the intent and character of the letter.

I contacted the editor at the Expositor to voice my concern. I was told that the letter was shortened in order to fit in the paper. He wasn't concerned with that at all. In regards to having someone changing the text of my letter, he voiced concern and said he would speak to the person who did that. No corrective action was offered.

I suggested that changing a letter-to-the-editor could call into question the integrity of the paper, and that perhaps this was a more common practice. He assured me that it hadn't happened in years.

I appreciate that a newspaper won't always print everything that is submitted.

My suggestion was that if the paper wants to make substantive changes to a letter that perhaps they could communicate with the author first. I also suggested that in the future, if they felt the need to substantially alter my submission without speaking to me beforehand, that I would prefer the letter not be printed at all. The editor found that very interesting and encouraged me to continue writing letters.

Sincerely,

Zak Nicholls
Little Current

Northeast Town mayor addresses recent swing bridge breakdowns

The municipality continues to work with other municipalities and First Nations seeking priority

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is an open letter addressed to the residents of Little Current, Manitoulin and beyond on the issue of recent breakdowns of the swing bridge at Little Current and is reprinted here for broader distribution.

To the Expositor:

In the month of August there were at least three instances when the swing bridge, located in Little Current, required repairs and was unavailable to vehicular traffic in either direction on Highway 6. The latest breakdown also prevented marine traffic from passing through the North Channel for a 24-hour period. These events are happening more frequently and we are all frustrated.

The bridge is owned by the Province of Ontario and managed and operated by the Ministry of Transportation. The municipality has repeatedly met with senior staff and ministers regarding these mechanical failures to emphasize the need to ensure the reliable flow of traffic on and off Manitoulin Island. Our concerns have been acknowledged, and the meetings cordial, but the process to replace the existing structure has been painfully slow.

In the summer of 2023, Minister Rickford announced the Treasury Board had set

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following excerpts from Mr. Nicholls' letter of August 7 were excised from the original in order to facilitate publishing. The Expositor maintains that the editing did not substantively change the message being proffered by the writer as the first instance was largely expressed in a previous letter to The Expositor. The excerpts are published below in order to allow the reader to judge for themselves. The Expositor prides itself on publishing opinions that diverge from this newspaper's editorial stance unless they contain libelous or blatant misinformation—this sometimes involves judgement calls that writers do not always agree with.

"Was 911 possibly a giant experiment to test and justify the effects of geoenvironmenting? Following the attacks that provided George Bush the side benefit and perfect opportunity to reclaim US oil buried under the sands of Iraq and prop up the welfare of the military industrial complex, the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater took the opportunity to grab temperature data from immediately before the attack, and the three days of grounded flights. They say the change in the temperature difference was plus 1.8°Celsius."

"What can be done when a corporation and the governments that serve them want to exploit resources when there is a pesky boreal forest and so-called environmentalists in the way? There is an easy solution that provides easy access to elements needed for EVs and smart phones. Burn that forest down, but label it as climate change. Blame it on and demand concessions from the peasants. Never let a good crisis go to waste."

aside the funds for the replacement of the bridge and that the next step in the process was to move to detail design. Detail design is required prior to going to tender for construction, as it provides the engineered drawings required for tender purposes.

As a result of the latest bridge failures many community members have undertaken various initiatives to encourage the Ontario government to move this project forward. These initiatives have included, but not been limited to lobbying, fund raising, signing petitions and contacting the Premier's Office. The municipality will continue to work with other Island communities and First Nations to encourage the province to prioritize this project, recognizing its importance as a vital link on a provincial highway that enables the flow of people, emergency vehicles and goods and services for the citizens of Manitoulin Island.

For additional information contact:

Mayor Al MacNevin
amacnevin@townofnemi.on.ca
(705) 348-1951

Friends and Neighbours

Providence Bay Alexia Hannigan

Alexia here with your friendly fly! Labour Day is a labour movement promotion and celebration of labourers and the working class and I reflect on that with great respect. I also emphatically believe that parents and teachers have earned their right to be celebrated under this day as well. Why? Because preparing and stocking students for back-to-school supplies, snacks, schedules, signed consents and style, council and sports, team worthy clothing hauls remains one of the most exhausting and labourious tasks under God's good earth. Despite being a seasoned mother and former teacher, this time of year always leaves me an anxiety-ridden, hot-lunch mess. The flip? I will soon get more REM sleep, more space and be able to see the entrance hallway floor again less all the sand, summer shoes and baseball gloves. Despite the chill in the air, fall harbours warm memories in my heart. Here we turn into the final chapter of 2024. As we carve, catapult and slide our way into the silly seasons of sugar, pumpkin spice and everything nice. Halloween haunts, hayrides, hunt camps, turkey supper and Christmas parties' beckon with all the bells, whistles, howls and hoopla of seasons past and the promise of new adventures, memories and Manitoulin milestones.

Here's what's happening: Providence Bay Arena and Fairgrounds: Family Rec Nite continues Friday night from 7 to 9 pm through September. Drop-in and join the fun! Drop in to play pickleball, badminton, basketball, cornhole, ping pong and air hockey with friends, family and neighbours.

Providence Bay: exercise class, adults age 55+ from 10:30 to 11:30 am starting Friday, September 20. It is a 12-week program. For information contact Alison, 705-377-5726 asloss@centralmanitoulin.ca.

Spring Bay/Providence Bay Lions Club are looking forward to their golf tournament and fundraiser on September 21. For more information contact: chris_bryan84@outlook.com.

Lions Bottle Drive: Drop off your empties next to the arena for a good cause, this helps keep our township clean and helps us give back to the community.

Providence Bay Boardwalk and Discovery Centre: That's a wrap! Sunset Music Series is finished for the season. Thank you to all the incredible talent who graced our Sunset Series stages and to Lance who brought music to the masses.

The Discovery Centre had a fun season and run; thanks to Tom, Jacob and Garrett, wishing you all a great year ahead! Lance and crew worked their hides off keeping everyone well fed and watered, thank you all! Huron Island Time will remain open through the early fall season. Be sure to drop by for a smoothie, ice cream, and savoury food and Island souvenirs! Stroll along the beach and boardwalk, enjoy the spectacular views along Lake Huron and the Mindemoya River. Be sure to visit our local eateries and cafés for some good eats, great inspiration and good company before they all close for the season.

Dear beachcombers, visitors, friends and neighbours, please keep our beaches and waterways clean and safe for our kids and pets!

Providence Bay Community of Christ Church Sunday meeting is at 10:30 am; Sunday service at 11 am; Youth Group is Wednesdays at 6 pm with a September 18 start date.

Reminder: Harvest Glory Days deadline is, corner-so now is a great time to get those creative hay bales rolling!

The Heavens: September is packed with exciting astronomical events including a partial Lunar eclipse, Saturn at opposition, a full harvest Super Moon on Tuesday, September 17 and the autumn equinox on Sunday, September 22. The word equinox means equal night, meaning night and day are roughly the same amount of time. Equinox marks the start of the fall season in the northern hemisphere.

Mentions: Happy 150 years of postal service to the Providence Bay Post Office. Thank you, Pam and the Canada Post staff, for all that you do. Remembering all the amazing posties of the bygone years including Ceilidh's great-grandpa Andrew Beaudin!

"May the last four BER months hold the happiness, the dreams, the peace of mind we've all been searching for."

Kagawong Team Fergmeijer

Yours truly adore the summer months (suns out, puns out as far as we are concerned), but September holds a special place in our hearts, too. The excitement of back to school (for kids AND for parents) is in the air, though it can be intimidating for some. Just remember to keep an ion the chemistry teacher, but the geometry teacher usually has acute sense of humour. All joking aside, drivers are reminded to watch for little ones getting on and off buses around the Island this week.

We want to wish a hearty happy birthday to Diane L and to our Manitoulin Mom who both turned 29 recently. These Kagawong stalwarts aren't getting older; like any good antique, they are just increasing in value!

Pinkies up! The Township of Billings is hosting a Seniors' Tea on Friday, September 6 at 10 am at the Park Centre. Stop in and share ideas for senior-focused events and activities in the community.

NorthWords and 4e's Elemental Festival are partnering to bring an amazing weekend of fun for the whole family! Friday, September 20 starts with workshops in the afternoon for adults and kids and in the evening is the popular 'Book & Brew' at SplitRail brewery. Enjoy complimentary small bites, purchase a drink (including non-alcoholic options), and get up close and personal with featured authors Coltrane Seesequasis, Mike Strobel, and returning favourite, poet Vera Constantineau. Tickets are \$15 per person and can be purchased at Billings Library or at the door.

Carol Pasternak, the "Monarch Crusader", is this year's keynote speaker (Saturday at 1pm). She has authored multiple books on the iconic local pollinators. Saturday also has workshops galore with family-friendly sessions in the morning (including children's author Sahar Golshan), and author-led writing workshops for adults in the afternoon. Saturday evening come out to experience Melody Johnson's dramatic reading of her fantastic show, "Person of Interest" (admission by donation). Check out the festival ad in this edition of the Expositor for full details of all events, as well as online (Fb.com/NorthWordsFest & Fb.com/4eelementalfestival), or you can email NorthWordsFest@gmail.com for more information. Pre-registration for workshops is recommended.

The Manitoulin Tennis Club would like to thank everyone who came out for the end-of-the-summer tennis tournament last Saturday. Drop-in tennis continues 6 pm on Wednesdays and 10 am on Sundays at the Manitoulin Secondary School courts. All are welcome!

The new bridge span rolled through the village this past week, and rumour has it the new bridge will be completed by the end of September. We're not sure yet just how smooth or bumpy it will be when finished. We'll just have to cross that bridge when we get to it.

Today is your last chance to explore Kagawong's Wednesday market! Browse vendors galore and pick up a little something special at the rink and surrounding area from 10 am until 3 pm.

The township has posted an Administrative Assistant - Finance position and is accepting resumes via e-mail or snail mail to Véronique Dion, CAO/Clerk, Township of Billings, 15 Old Mill Road, Kagawong, ON P0P 1J0 or cao@billingstwp.ca until 12 noon. Friday, September 6 is the deadline for applications. Get full details on the township Facebook or web page.

The library has officially returned to its regular 'winter' hours (Tuesday and Thursday from 4 to 7 pm; Saturday from 10 to 1 pm). The board would like to thank summer librarian Rock for the fantastic job they did again this year and wish them good luck at school this fall!

Team Fergmeijer's back to school advice is: the best way to get straight as is with a ruler. Have a great week!

Meldrum Bay Elaine Bradley

On Sunday evening, August 25, the Meldrum Bay Church hosted a potluck at the community hall. The food was scrumptious and there was a large variety of deserts. The best part was sitting and visiting with locals and visitors. It turned out very nice. Afterwards we had a water themed service at the church which was mainly musical punctuated with readings and short expansions on the readings by Janice. It was well put together and really lovely. There was also a display of quilts made through the Kits and Quilts Program and baby outfits which were just darling. We also had a dedication of a prayer shawl.

Monday night was a community get-together that I missed due to getting together with my son and his family in Providence Bay. We had fish and chips followed by ice cream.

Tuesday was Kits and Quilts at the hall. It is wonderful to think that these items might bring a bit of joy to people undergoing unbelievable tragedies.

There are a lot of campers here at the waterfront. We had some come on bicycles and they slept in small domed tents. The large boats seem to be getting fewer, another sign that fall is approaching. I must admit, I don't like seeing the reddened leaves on the maple trees.

I am now writing this on Thursday and my brother and sister-in-law are busy baking for a dinner tonight. I have bread rising. My son and family will be coming to their place for dinner. But Rose is also busy in her kitchen as she has family coming this weekend and there will be lots of good food there as well. Peggy's company was out to the Sunday dinner, but they have now left. This Sunday is a baby christening at the waterfront. Bear, the youngest member of our community, will be baptized on Sunday. Congratulations to Diane Jones and family. We are so happy for you.

Friday night at cards, August 23, there were three full tables and one sit out. High lady was Karen Noble with 72; high man was Tom Rumley with 73; ladies' lone hands went to Natasha McVey with four; men's lone hands went to Doug Carter with five; most euchres went to Lisa Townsend with eight; Natasha took home the juice; the money jar is safe for another week;

Brenda Carter won the 50/50 draw and Myra Duncanson took home the door prize. Euchre is Friday nights at 7:30 pm. Come on out and have a good time!

Barrie Island Enid Runnalls

Please join me in congratulating Lillian Greenman on her retirement from many years as the reporter of the Barrie Island News to the Manitoulin West Recorder and The Manitoulin Expositor. Lillian was handed the task by her neighbour, the late Evelyn Lane, over 25 years ago who took over the job from her mother Clara Lane. Now the duty has fallen into my hands! I am looking forward to sharing the news of this special place each week, so Barrie Island people, please keep me in the loop!

Thank you to all who came out to the Barrie Island Causeway last Friday evening. Over 50 people (locals, seasonal residents and guests alike) gathered there for the annual Beach Barbecue sponsored by Gordon/Barrie Island Township! Burt Farm hot dogs were provided and everyone contributed a salad or dessert. It was a warm and breezy evening at the beach and a good time was had by all as we pulled up our lawn chairs to listen to Chris Walker sing and strum his 12-string guitar. Special thanks to the Gordon Barrie Island Township Councilor Isobel Harry (and team), Deputy Clerk Pam Fogal and maintenance staff Logan for all they did!

Barrie Islanders have enjoyed many visitors this week.

Dawn Calback and her son from Garson were here to see family for a few days.

Scott and Enid Runnalls had cousins from Berlin, Germany. Katie Runnalls visited for a few days during their stay.

Fiona and Ben Perry and their son Griff journeyed from Ottawa to visit Jim and Sandy Miller at their cottage and then were joined by Ben's parents, Bill and Sue Perry of Kingston.

Carolyn Lane-Rock had a visit from Bonnie Depencier. They enjoyed golfing and kayaking.

Silver Water Karen Noble

Albert Meijer and I went to Gore Bay for the market and café on Friday, August 23. The three church groups provided the treats and beverages together. They had a successful day.

On our way home from town, we had the excitement of seeing a bear lope across the road.

I went to euchre in Meldrum Bay with Myra Duncanson, DonnaKay McDonald and Lois Wismer on Friday night. We had a good time.

On Saturday morning, my niece Larissa headed back to Peterborough for her fourth year of university. She had a busy summer working at the Watersedge.

On Sunday evening there was a potluck supper in Meldrum Bay. There was a church service after.

On Monday, I went to work in Mindemoya for the whole day. On my way home, I did the grocery shopping for the funeral on Wednesday.

On Tuesday, Albert went to Sudbury to do some shopping.

Wednesday morning, four UCW ladies met at the Silver Water Hall to prepare all the food for the funeral luncheon in Gore Bay. Myra Duncanson and I went to the funeral home where Marie Leeney joined us to help set up and serve.

Blake Duncanson and his daughters, Willow and Shelby, spent last weekend with his parents Murray and Gladys Duncanson. They did a lot of fishing and spent a day in Kagawong.

Alysha McDonald and her daughters Kinley and Everly were at the cottage of her parents Randy and Lori Walker.

Lynn and Mike Tyler are at their cottage. They took Anne Boyd with them on Wednesday to the Kagawong Market and for a tour of the town.

Colleen and Eric Julseth spent a few days vacationing on Lake Superior last week.

Penny Addison and Debbie Addison Brawn are at their parents' home for a few days.

Julie Meredith is here with Joe Addison at his camp until school starts when she will go home to drive a school bus.

We saw lots of deer last week on our travels and in our yard. Some of them still have spots and some have new antlers.

Gladys and I are still swimming almost every day. The water has not warmed up much, but it is still nice enough to use. We call it refreshing.

The UCW meeting is Thursday, September 5 at St Andrew's United Church in Silver Water.

Tehkummah has a euchre tournament on Sunday, September 8 starting at 1:30 pm.

The UCW hosts a fashion show on Saturday, September 21 in the afternoon at the Silver Water Hall.

There will be a luncheon followed by a euchre tournament on Sunday, September 29 at the Silver Water Hall.

Condolences to the family of Aldeen Crate.

...30th memorial for Sonya Nadine Cywink

...continued from page 1

“On the 30th anniversary of Sonya Cywink’s tragic murder, the Cywink family commemorates her life, and the deep loss felt by all who knew and loved her,” the statement reads. “Sonya was more than a victim, she was a beloved member of a strong Indigenous community, and a daughter, sister and friend. Her vibrant spirit, compassion, and kindness continue to inspire those who knew her. Despite the passage of time, the pain of her loss remains as poignant as ever.”

It was three decades ago that Sonya Cywink’s body was found southwest of London, near Iona. Originally from Whitefish River First Nation, she lived in the east end of London at the time of her death. She was last seen on August 26, 1994, at the intersection of Lyle and Dundas streets in London.

Her body was found four days later, showing signs of blunt force trauma, and wearing only a t-shirt and socks at Southwold Earthworks, a former Indigenous community on Iona Road in Elgin County. When she was found she was 24 months pregnant.

“Sonya was a really kind person,” Meggie Cywink told The Expositor in a previous interview. “She had a great sense of humour and loved to write poetry.” And in talking to her friends,



A sacred fire and pipe ceremony 30th Memorial was held at the Southwold Earthworks National Historical Site in Shedden, Ontario to mark the 30th anniversary of the death of Sonya Cywink in August 1994. Ms. Cywink, originally from Whitefish River First Nation, was found deceased just outside of London 30 years ago. Her death was an unsolved homicide.

they always said, ‘she was always a giver, always helping others.’

However, “she also had a high-risk lifestyle, and yes there were bad characters in her life,” Ms. Cywink shared. She had moved to London for substance abuse treatment, her sister said, adding she was clean for 10 months before relapsing.

In marking the 30th anniversary, the Cywink family invited those interested to attend a sacred fire and pipe ceremony in memorial for Sonya and to also honour Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, Trans and Two-Spirited. The event was held at Southwold Earthworks National Historical Site, Iona Station.

“The family also wishes to express deep gratitude to those who have worked and advocated over the

years to seek justice for Sonya. Their dedication and support have been a source of strength for the family,” the statement continues. “The Cywink family has never given up on its call for justice in Sonya’s case. The family, with the help of counsel Jessica Zita of Lockyer Zaduk Zeeh, continues to seek closure and accountability.”

“We urge anyone with information, no matter how insignificant it may seem, to come forward,” the statement continues. “The government of the province of Ontario together with the Cywink family are offering a reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person(s) responsible for her murder. In an effort to encourage efforts, the Cywink family has increased

the reward to \$75,000.”

Anyone with information regarding the person(s) responsible for Sonya’s death is asked to contact the OPP at 1-888-310-1122 or the nearest police authority. Should you wish to remain anonymous, you may contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or ontariocrimestoppers.ca, where you may be eligible to receive a cash reward of up to \$2,000.

“After three decades, it is time to bring peace to Sonya’s loved ones by holding those responsible for this heinous crime accountable,” the family states. “The Cywink family remains hopeful that justice will prevail, and that Sonya’s memory will be honoured through the pursuit of truth and accountability.”

...survey shows cell ban supported by students

...continued from page 1

tions between teachers and learners with unapproved cell phone and social media use, with 85.5 percent of respondents saying yes to this.

“The ministry made the requirement for administrative procedures and the survey demonstrated the overwhelming majority see having students focus on learning and having less distractions in the classroom is important,” said Mr. Bourget. “So, we are asking students unless approached by their teacher permitting cellphone use for educational purposes, to keep their cellphones in their locker during class instructional time.”

“We want teachers to be able to teach without being disturbed by students viewing their cell phones, and for students to remain focused on what is being taught in the classroom,” said Mr. Bourget. He said as far as the possibility of having phones stored in one location in a class, at the beginning of class and handing them out again at the end of each class, “storing phones is not a good use of instructional time. Even if you are looking at five minutes at the start of class for the storing of phones and five minutes at the end of each class, (times four classes per day), students would be losing 40 minutes of teaching and learning storing phones.”

“Eliminating distractions will protect instructional time and enable educators and students to focus on teaching and learning,” said Mr. Bourget. “We thank our parents/guardians and students for their continued support as we work together to foster positive school climates for student achievement and well-being.”

“There has always been a cellphone policy provincially,” said Eric Laberge, district president for the Ontario Secondary School Teachers Federation (OSSTF). “It didn’t just start this year. But what the board has put in place as outlined by the ministry (of education) is the expected minimum guidelines of enforcement is what has been put in place. That policy has not changed much for the classroom teacher. The premise is that cellphones and all mobile devices are to be put out of site and on silent mode was already the practice. But now students are to put their cellphones in their locker and leave them there.”

“Absolutely, we are in support of the measures taken,” said Mr. Laberge. “There will be growing pains, parents and students will have to get used to, but it is designed so that students are fo-

cused on learning and teachers on teaching.”

“Non-compliance will now be dealt with by the school office administration,” said Mr. Laberge. “The (RDSB) has struck a good balance of meeting the provincial objectives and taken the onus on enforcement off the front-line teachers. It is a commonsense approach.”

For students in Grade 6 and below, personal mobile devices are to be stored in lockers or assigned personal spaces out of view and powered off or set to silent/do not disturb mode throughout the full instructional day.

For all Grade 7 to 12 students, personal mobile devices are to be stored in lockers or assigned personal spaces out of view and powered off or set to silent/do not disturb mode during the instructional period.

Access to social media sites will also be restricted throughout the school day.

Cellphone use will be permitted for educational purposes, as directed by an educator, and, in specific situations, for health and medical purposes and to support special education needs.

Mobile device use in secondary schools will be permitted before the start of the school day, at

lunch and after school.

Mr. Bourget noted, “mobile devices can be used at lunch and outside school. And of course, if a parent needs to get in touch with their children they can call the main office at the school.”

“We also heard that many students feel the guidelines will help them focus and keep the pressure off to respond to social media in class,” said Mr. Bourget.

The changes are outlined in the RDSB Guide for Students and Parents/ Guardians for the 2024-2025 School Year, which includes an updated Code of Conduct and a video.

“We do think as the survey respondents have agreed, that these restrictions are a very good thing to have in place,” continued Mr. Bourget. “We support staff and students and feel this will prove to be a very good thing over time.”



Pet Save Manitoulin

Those Sweet Faces

These boys are 2 of the many kittens rescued from Little Current last month. They love to play and are looking for a home of their own. To adopt one (or all!), please call or text us at 705-918-2879.

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

...Boating community fetes 20 years of 'Cruiser's Net' broadcast

...continued from page 1

ences in the Bahamas.

"We really didn't have anything to offer at that time," noted Mr. Eaton. Of course, since then the LCYC has instituted youth and adult sailing programs, hosted a plethora of local and international races, held its popular WD-40 for the Mind lecture series at the Anchor Inn in Little Current and many gatherings aimed at fostering links among the boating community in the North Channel. "But we were just starting out back then."

LCYC Commodore Bruce O'Hare, then proprietor of The Anchor Inn along with his wife Kelly, recalls, "Roy was telling us all about this Cruiser's Net thing, but to be

perfectly honest, I really didn't understand what he was talking about."

Mr. O'Hare and his wife wound up taking a trip to the Abacos themselves the next year and he got the opportunity to experience the Cruiser's Net for himself—and he was sold.

"When we came back the Anchor Inn bought all the stuff, radios and antenna, to set up the Little Current Yacht Club Cruiser's Net," he said. "But it was really Roy who did all the heavy lifting. Since then, the Anchor upgraded the equipment with better radios and antennas when needed." The Anchor Inn also provided a venue for the daily summer broadcasts and LCYC Cruiser's Net gatherings (albeit for a very short period the broadcasts took place at



Margaret and Roy Eaton celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Cruiser's Net with a special cake baked by Joanne Wade of Sheguiandah.

Mr. Eaton's North Channel home due to a temporary technical glitch).

Mr. O'Hare said that once they got underway, the LCYC Cruiser's Net broadcasts soon took on a life of their own.

Denise Lytle, current owner of the Anchor Inn along with her husband Chris has continued that tradition of support for the program when they took over the hotel and restaurant a few years ago.

"Roy is amazing," said Ms. Lytle. "We were happy to continue to host him and the LCYC Cruiser's Net when we bought the hotel and restaurant. We've had to move him around occasionally, but he has always been so graceful and grateful for everything. The LCYC Cruiser's Net is a great asset to us and the entire Island community."

It is a sentiment shared by Mr. O'Hare, who was equally effusive in his praise for Mr. Eaton and his volunteer efforts. "He has been a big asset to the Port of Little Current," he said. "As a dedicated volunteer the boating community owes him a lot."

For the uninitiated, the LCYC Cruiser's Net broadcasts on VHF Channel 71, reporting each morning during July and August. Among the subjects relayed by Mr. Eaton are the marine weather, world and local news, sports and community events, but one of the most important aspects is providing connections between boaters.

"Boaters are among the most community-minded people you will find anywhere in the world," said Mr. Eaton. "When someone calls in and are in need of assistance with anything, it is only a matter of a few seconds before



Roy Eaton during a live broadcast of Cruiser's Net from the upstairs of the Anchor Inn.

Expositor file photo

a nearby boater has come to help."

From medical emergencies to simply a request from family members for the boaters to call home those connections can be an important lifeline.

The boating community does not stop there. Mr. Eaton cites recent campaigns that raised a whopping \$10,000 for a children's hospital and another at the same amount for a young girl battling cancer. "To be part of that is something really special," he said.

These days, Mr. Eaton does a dual broadcast.

"In the beginning we were just on VHF radio," he said, "but now I also broadcast online."

Thanks to efforts by the North Channel Marine Tourism Council and the local marina and other business communities, Mr. Eaton also gives out "boater bags." The bags are made of resilient material suitable for a life on-board a vessel and feature the names of the sponsoring businesses on their sides.

Among Mr. Eaton's volunteer efforts (especially since the onset of the pandemic) is the solicitation of business brochures, maps and other items donated to the cause. That is no small job. "I gave out 230 bags this year," said Mr. Eaton.

As to what has kept him going all these many years, the radio host barely hesitated to draw breath. "I enjoy it," he said. "I enjoy helping boaters to help boaters

and meeting people."

Mr. Eaton's morning sessions are usually accompanied by a (sometimes quite substantial) number of boaters who drop by in person to his broadcast booth (actually a commandeered meeting room) at the Anchor Inn. It can be a bit of a challenge to hear what is being broadcast over the radio by the boaters calling in and despite the large number of folks often in the room, it would not be untoward to hear a pin drop.

Mr. Eaton also often interviews boaters and some non-boaters who drop in. Ontario NDP leader Marit Stiles being one of the more recent. Those interviews can be found by searching for LCYC Cruisers Net on Facebook.

The LCYC Cruiser's Net host admits that he had given some consideration to hanging up his microphone as the 20th anniversary loomed on the horizon. But after consideration (and serious consultation with his wife Margaret) he has decided to keep on "as long as my health holds out."

Those Islanders who are not "boaters" per say may not have been previously aware of just how much Island businesses have benefited from Mr. Eaton's efforts over the past two decades—but those benefits have been substantial.



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Natural materials will be used to create a pollinator-themed work. The painting will happen across three afternoons.

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No experience is necessary – instruction and materials will be provided. This workshop is suitable for adults.

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SOLAR INSTALLATION AVAILABLE

...Glen Hare named executive director of Ojibwe Cultural Foundation

...continued from page 3

process had taken place it was brought to my attention Glen had been selected. He is definitely an excellent choice for the OCF. As we all know he has been in politics for about 40 years and he has been involved in the OCF since it was started."

"Glen helped and worked with executive director Mary Lou Fox for many years while he was chief in M'Chigeeng," said Chief Hare. "Glen has a solid understanding of the organization through his personal involvement and working as chief of M'Chigeeng."

...MSS student named trustee

...continued from page 3

ees' Association. This role includes being a liaison between students in the North as well as planning a conference."

"A proud Haweater, Alexandra has been involved in many extra-curricular activities at Manitoulin Secondary School," said Mr. Bourget. "She is captain of the robotics team, has taken on leadership roles in the Student Council and SHARE/Go Green, and writes a weekly column about school events in The Manitoulin Expositor."

"Enrolled in the school's Specialist High Skills Major in Arts and Culture, she also authored a children's book, 'Robofriends and the Mowzone,' that promotes robotics and environmental sustainability. A second book is in the works. This summer, she attended the prestigious SHAD Canada program," said Mr. Bourget.

"Alexandra plans to continue her school involvement in Grade 12 as she assumes her second year on the (RDSB) Student Senate," continued Mr. Bourget. "She is also involved in community clean-ups, book drives, dances and hockey. She has been playing hockey for the Gore Bay Bruins since she was four years old."

Tia Nootchtai will also serve as Chair of the Indigenous Student Trustees' Council in Ontario, said Mr. Bourget. "Made up of Indigenous student trustees from across Ontario, the Council seeks to support indigenous Student Trustees while incorporating Indigenous voices in the work of the organization. As well, it aims to educate student trustees surrounding the topics of indigenous lived experiences, ways of knowing, and education."

"Tia Nootchtai, who lives on the traditional territory of Atikameksheng Anishinawbek, is enrolled in the Science Technology Education program (STEP) at Lockerby Composite School," continued Mr. Bourget. "When she enters Grade 12 this fall, she will continue to contribute to the student council, which she co-chaired last year, the athletic association and the planning committee. She will also remain a prominent ally with the schools Gay Straight Alliance."

Mr. Bourget noted Ms. Nootchtai, "has been involved in a number of sports, including cross-country running, track and field, badminton and volleyball. She served on the (RDSB) student senate last year as Lockerby's Indigenous student senator. A former Miss Teen Greater Sudbury and Miss Ontario Regional Canada, she has hosted multiple confidence and leadership building workshops for girls across Ontario."

The two students will co-chair the student senate which includes representatives from the board's secondary schools in Sudbury, Espanola and Manitoulin Island.

"I would like to extend a warm thank you to everyone here. I am so happy to be part of this school board organization," said Ms. Nootchtai. "School involvement is so important because it allows students to be part of a community. Being involved in your school community creates relationships among peers and develop life skills. Education is what empowers the next generation of leaders. Student voice, therefore, is the voice of the future."

Ms. Wilson-Zegil said, "I am very excited to be here and am looking forward to working with the members of the board and the students who we serve." She said in a release, "Involvement in school and school life enriches the student experience and provides a broader platform for learning. Joining extracurriculars, exploring new concepts in class, and actively developing learning strategies have kept me invested in my education and motivated me to make a difference. Being engaged in teams teaches students invaluable transferable skills like teamwork, commitment and responsibility."

RDSB trustee Judy Hunda said, "congratulations to both of our student trustees. I am excited to be working with both of you as we worked together on student senate last year. I know both of you will be terrific additions to the board."

Chief Hare said that with Mr. Hare's experience as Grand Council Chief, and in his other capacities, he has gained a lot of knowledge, experience and has built up relationships with many different government organizations.

"I can remember I was chief of M'Chigeeng and Mary Lou Fox was the executive director and when the sod was turned for the new building," said Glen Hare. "I work for the six First Nation community shareholders."

"I've already left a message for Gordon Waindubence for his help in



Glen Hare has been named executive director of Ojibwe Cultural Foundation.

getting together eagle feathers for an eagle staff here at the OCF, as it represents our language, culture and traditions. And we want to expand and promote our education, language and culture.

That is the goal."

Mr. Hare said currently the OCF, "We have bus tours ready to come here, and we need magnets and promotional materials to help bring them here. We will be meeting three different ministers face to face in the near future and I'm reaching out to them to come here to visit the OCF and to see what we have here and how we want to expand our services. I'm looking forward to the coming days."

"Currently the funding we receive is from one source and it only gets us by in terms of yearly operations," said Mr. Hare.

"This means we can't do anything exceptional in terms of events and activities to take place. We are limited with funding, just like everyone else these days. We need more assistance to promote and get people here."

Mr. Hare said along with needing to get more activity groups and events into the OCF building the building itself needs some tender loving care as well. "There needs to be work done on the building itself. It is aging. We will have an engineer come in to look at it and what needs to be done."

Morgan Hare said the

OCF needs, "capital and infrastructure ideas. We need to see a facelift and retrofit of the building and expansion of the language and cultural aspects. There are six of us (chiefs) around the board table that oversee OCF. We all think Glen will do a fantastic job in working on promoting and developing the OCF and working with the chiefs in enhancing the building, programs, services and infrastructure. We are fortunate to have been able to hire a person of Glen's calibre."

Billings Library and 4elements Living Arts present



NORTH WORDS

and

ELEMENTAL FESTIVAL

SEPTEMBER 20-21, 2024

KAGAWONG & GORE BAY, ONTARIO

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

WORKSHOPS Kagawong Park Centre

1:00 - 4:00 pm "Treelines - Crochet a Tree" with Gwen MacGregor

4:00 - 5:30 pm "Flower Feelings" with Jenn Mezei & Candice Irwin

BOOK & BREW Split Rail Brewing Co., Gore Bay | Tickets \$15.00

8:00 - 10:00 pm Featuring Coltrane Seesequasis, Mike Strobel, & Vera Constantineau
With live music by Jon Best & Elora Miller

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

KEYNOTE SPEAKER Kagawong Park Centre

1:00 pm Opening remarks; M'Chigeeng Lady Drummers
With Carol Pasternak "The Monarch Crusader"

WORKSHOPS Kagawong

10:30 am "So Loud! Stories from the Sounds from My Trip Outside"
with children's author Sahar Golshan | RiverBend Stage

11:45 am "Be Your Own Wild Robot"
Youth Workshop with Jenn Mezei | Park Centre, lower

2:30 pm "Writing: finding your recipe for success"
with Coltrane Seesequasis | Billings Library

2:30 pm "Writing the Rhu" Turning a Manitoulin tragedy into a book
with Mike Strobel | Park Centre, lower

2:30 pm "Monarch Workshop" with Carol Pasternak | Park Centre, upper

PERFORMANCE Kagawong Park Centre | Admission by donation

7:00 pm "Person of Interest" a dramatic reading by Melody Johnson

ART EXHIBIT

All weekend Art exhibits featuring Gwen MacGregor and Jacqueline St. Pierre

For more information and to pre-register for events contact NorthWordsFest@gmail.com or visit onculturedays.ca/festival-hubs/manitoulin-island-festival-hub

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...London firm fined in M'Chigeeng fatality

...continued from page 1

as required under the provisions of the Occupational Health and Safety Act.

The deceased worker was contracted by Integrated Solutions to install satellite dishes and was working near the bottom of a sloped roof on October 21, 2020, when they fell and suffered fatal injuries.

Charges were laid following an investigation by the Ontario Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development.

The victim surcharge was levied under the Provincial Offences Act and is credited to a provincial government fund aimed at assisting victims of crime.



MANITOULIN LEGAL CLINIC

Invitation to the **35th Anniversary** of the Manitoulin Legal Clinic
 on September 18, 2024 from 1 - 3 pm
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 RSVP 705-368-3333 or info@mlc.clcj.ca
Refreshments

Postponed Whitefish River Powwow to take place Sept. 21

by Michael Erskine

WHITEFISH RIVER—Whitefish River First Nation has had a rough year losing 29 community members to the Spirit World since March. The traditional powwow was first moved to a new temporary location and then postponed. The community has announced a truncated powwow to a single day version to take place on September 21.

Ogimaa Rodney Nahwegahbow confirmed the new date and time for the powwow during the annual Lafarge Fish Fry. As to the new location on the soccer fields below Shawanosowe School instead of Sunshine Alley below Dreamer's Rock, Ogimaa Nahwegahbow

noted that the new location is currently temporary as the community considers all the options.

One of the main bonuses of the new location is that it is much more easily accessible for youth and elders to reach. The Sunshine Alley location, though idyllic, suffered from challenging parking, as anyone who has attended can attest. Those challenges could be especially daunting for those with mobility issues.

This year's powwow will follow the unveiling of the community's new subdivision—a development that will provide much needed new housing lots in a location that minimally impacts sacred medicine harvesting locations and greenspaces.

...Drug strategy warns of increase in overdoses on Manitoulin

...continued from page 1

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.

Prevent overdoses to save lives:

- Carry a naloxone kit. Know how to use it.
- Call 911 if you suspect an overdose.
- Avoid mixing drugs,



Be prepared, carry a naloxone kit, available free at pharmacies across Manitoulin.

including prescribed, over the counter and street drugs.

- Avoid drinking alcohol while using other drugs.
- Use caution when switching substances: start 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 (NORS) at 1-888-688-6677. NORS is a virtual safe consumption line

available 24/7 that provides confidential and non-judgmental 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.
- Dizziness and confusion.
- The person can't be woken up.

- Choking, gurgling, or snoring sounds.
- Slow, weak, or no breathing.
- Drowsiness or difficulty staying awake.


How to respond 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 the person is unconscious, place them in the recovery position.

Where to get naloxone?

For a free naloxone kit, contact Public Health Sudbury and Districts or ask your local hospital or pharmacy.

Be cautious if using drugs and please distribute this information widely to help save lives.



NOTICE BOARD

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


NOTICE OF MEETINGS

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

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

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

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



Public Reminder

When school bus lights are flashing you are required to stop in all directions.

The Corporation of the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin & the Islands

2023 Financial Statements

The public is advised that the Financial Statements as audited and prepared by KPMG LLP are now available.

Complimentary copies can be obtained by contacting the Municipal Office at:

14 Water St, Little Current, Ontario POP 1K0
 Phone: (705) 368-3500, Fax: (705) 368-2245

Email : swilkin@townofnemi.on.ca


Sheryl Wilkin, Treasurer

Centennial Museum Activities

MFAA Members Art Show
 August 17th to September 7th. Amazing local art is on display in the gallery.

Sheguiandah Fall Fair at the museum
 September 14th, viewing from 10:00 am - 3:00 pm
 BBQ starts at 11:00 am

Sheguiandah Fall Fair Books at the Town office and the museum. There is still time to get your entries ready!



ALTERNATIVE BUILDS PROJECT

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 September 11, 2024 - 8:30 AM to 7:30 PM

Presentations:

- Becky Big Canoe, Straw-bale Homes
- Bertha Cormier, Indigenous Women-led Modular Factory
- Smoke architecture
- Oshkaabewis Engineering and Consulting, Inc.
- Joshua Baldwin, naturalbuild.ca
- Michelle Hrynyk, Hemp-crete Build

Workshops:

- What does "home" mean to us?
- What did we used to do traditionally to create homes?
- What are alternative building materials for homes?
- How do we learn how to make our own homes again?

Special Event: Tour of a Hemp-crete Build on Manitoulin Island!

Registration is free! To register, please contact: tr.fletcher@keepersofthecircle.com

We look forward to seeing you at "Chat-and-Chew!"



Keepers of the Circle



...Providence Bay Post Office celebrates 150 years of service

...continued from page 1

noting the post office's function as a vital community hub. "I hope it continues that way. When there was a break in the management (retirement of former postmaster Eleanor Lentir) they did consider closing it, but with discussions and good intentions at Canada Post we still have it and we are thankful for that."

Postmaster Schieckoff agreed with Mayor Stephens, noting that one of the favourite parts of her job is the opportunity to interact with members of the community.

"It's wonderful," she said. "You get to know lots of people and since I've been here, I've really been happy to see how many people come in and support the post office. And because that's a lot of chit chatting in a small town like this," smiled Ms. Schieckoff.

Ms. Schieckoff admits that, while she has served at a number of Island post office locations over the years, she really did not know a lot about the history of the Providence Bay Post Office before taking on the role of postmaster. She was looking forward to hearing Mr. Dewar's presentation.

Central Manitoulin events coordinator Allison Sloss brought an innovative cupcake cake she had commissioned from Island Foodland. The tops of the cupcakes were placed close together and an icing top laid over it was fittingly in the form of an addressed



Central Manitoulin Mayor Richard Stephens, events coordinator Allison Sloss, postmaster Pamela Schieckoff, Pioneer Museum curator Mnawaate Gordon-Corbiere and Providence Bay historian Lyle Dewar pose for a group photo on the occasion of the post office's 150th anniversary.



LEFT: Francis "Fanny" Ogle was Providence Bay's first postmistress from 1903 until her death in 1941.

envelope. The individual cupcakes located below could be picked up by visitors without the need for a knife or cutting.

Mr. Dewar's presentation began with a large grey original mailbox he had brought with him and a hilarious story of an early replacement postal worker's experience with the horse and trap borrowed from the postal delivery person he was filling in for. Mr. Dewar opened and closed the door of the mailbox, producing a loud squealing sound. "This sound will be

important later," he said.

Mr. Dewar recalled the story of mail deliverer Andrew Bowden. "He did the mail route for many years, but he usually walked it because he didn't like horses," said Mr. Dewar. "One day his brother-in-law Art Sterling said, 'Why don't you take my horse and cutter?' Well, he really didn't like horses, but he took it anyway."

The cutter had a cabin with a door and Mr. Bowden had to get out to put the mail in the mailbox. The horse, it seems,

in households across the nation, but the arrival of those massive tomes was dreaded by those who had to deliver them—hundreds of pages of print weigh far more than the digital bits and bytes that made the catalogues obsolete.

"It was so heavy that he would have to take them in different days," said Mr. Dewar.

Among the items Mr. Dewar brought to the event was a mail tube of the sort

newspapers would be delivered to the mailbox—a vital link to all the news in those days before radio, television or the internet began to compete. Mr. Dewar demonstrated the instructions contained on the outside of the tube on how to remove the paper from inside the tube without ripping the contents.

The very first postmaster was John R. McNiven, who took up his appointment on January 1, 1874.

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Manitowaning Mill Home
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Annual Penny Ride brings smiles for miles to biker and Community Living Manitoulin clients

by Tom Sasvari

MINDEMOYA—You can see it on the faces of the Brothers of the Blade (BOTB) and the Brothers of the Wheel (BOTW) motorcycle clubs members, not to mention Community Living clients and staff at the annual Pennies from Heaven event; everyone is extremely excited and happy to be able to see, greet and hug each other.

This year's example of how the world should all get along was again held at Timberlane Rustic Lodge this past Saturday.

"For me, this is the third year I have attended this event," said Adrienne Farquhar, executive director of Community Living Manitoulin (CLM). "It never ceases to amaze me, the feeling you get being here. Each year is like the first time, the sights and sounds of everyone



Gary Meads, of the 'Brothers of the Blade' is presented with a replica motorcycle by Community Living Manitoulin client Arthur Haines.

photos by Tom Sasvari so happy and excited to be seeing each other again. It is truly an amazing feeling, and it feels new every year."

"Our clients look forward to this day, all year, and it is great that Community Living Wiikwemkoong will be taking part along with us and Espanola," said Ms. Farquhar.

CLM client Arthur Haines was almost giddy with excitement when he handed over a miniature motorcycle ornament he had put together and presented to Gary Meads, one of the main organizers of the event, along with Chris Crash. "This means

more than anything," said Mr. Meads, who told Mr. Haines that his gift would be placed prominently into his motorcycle group's clubhouse. He could also be seen eagerly showing the rest of the bikers on hand the gift that had been given to them.

Mr. Crash then presented Mr. Haines with a hat with his motorcycle club's logo on it.

"To me there is nothing more gratifying than helping to organize and put on this event. It is the most gratifying thing I do personally and the rest of our clubs' members

pointed out.

"It is part of the biker facade that we are all big, tough people," said Mr. Crash. "But we all have families, kids, wives, grandchildren, parents, brothers and sisters. When everyone leaves today, we all have tears in our eyes."

The two motorcycle clubs raise between \$4,000-\$5,000 every year, which they donate equally among the Community Living groups for their 'wish list' needs.

"Adrienne Farquhar is one of the amazing people that work at these community living organiza-

time, and we look forward to it all year. It makes us feel good to have a day with them every year. I remember last year when the clients from the Espanola group home couldn't make it because their van had broken down. When we left here, we went and visited them, took pictures and presented them with medals. We all had a great time."

"I can remember when this event was first held at Bill Arrowsmith's home in Sheguiandah, then we went to Widgawa Lodge for many years after that," said Mr. Meads. "And for many years now Bill (Wall) and Mark (Varrey) have put this event on here at Timberlane. They do an excellent job, and anything we need they are there."

The bikers and clients of Manitoulin, Wiikwemkoong and Espanola enjoyed several great hours together, playing games and enjoying a fabulous lunch. Among the games the bikers host for the clients include the egg race, potato hunt and weenie bite. However, the event where the smiles come out in full takes place when the bikers take the clients on a short ride on their motorcycles.

"It is a beautiful thing, this event," said Johnny, one of the bikers. "We have to get back to that in the world these days. We have to get back to where people help and enjoy each other's company."



Gary Meads and Chris Crash, both members of the 'Brothers of the Blade' enjoy a laugh with Community Living Manitoulin client Arthur Haines.

agree." He pointed out 60 members of the two motorcycle clubs were on hand this year, from Ohio, West Virginia, Tennessee, Uxbridge and Muskoka. "It can take 21-24 hours for someone to travel here from Tennessee," he

tions. It is all these people that work for these organizations that are amazing," said Mr. Crash.

"I have been coming to this event for the past 30 years," said Mr. Meads. "The clients that come here always have a great

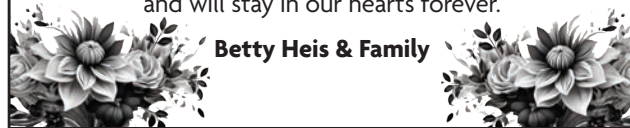
Thank You

We would like to thank everyone who attended the celebration of life for Doug. Thanks also to those who sent messages.

Special thanks to Bill Reid for his comforting words, to George Williamson for his music, and to those who shared their memories. Thanks also to the Big Lake Women's Institute for providing the food and drinks, Sharon Watson and the others who supported the event despite the power outage.

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M'Chigeeng celebrates last Island powwow of the summer

by Michael Erskine

M'CHIGEENG—The grand entry on Saturday afternoon may have started fashionably late, but the weekend provided near perfect weather for the two days of this year's M'Chigeeng Traditional Powwow.

The powwow opened with an invocation to the Four Directions delivered by Elder Norma Jean Migwans and welcoming remarks by M'Chigeeng Councillors Ross Arm-



Members of the Redrum Spirit Island Chapter gather for a blanket dance with head dancers Matthew and Sophie Pheasant on behalf of a young person battling cancer.



This young grass dancer catches plenty of air.



Champion in the making. They say he was dancing before he could walk.



Champion hoop dancer Celina Cada-Matasawagon wowed the crowd.



Indigenous Tourism Ontario's Steven Radulovich and Stephen Debassige at the travelling Science North collaboration exhibit.

the Saturday special performances was provided by special guest Celina Cada-Matasawagon, a champion hoop dancer.

This may have been the last powwow on the Island for the summer (Whitefish River will be hosting their delayed powwow with a one-day event later in September), but the weekend lacked for noth-

ing, with all of the usual dancers in their finest regalia, artisan vendors and purveyors of some of the best powwow eats to be had anywhere.

A special treat this year was Anishinaabewin Maaminendimowin: Pane Gii-Bite (Indigenous



Young kwe dancers take a blanket around the dance arena to collect donations for a youth battling cancer.

strong and Kevin Eshkawkogan following the grand entry.

This year's event was co-ecceed by the incomparable Darren McGregor and Gordie Odjig, who kept the action rolling smoothly throughout the weekend with the aid of arena director Dave Trudeau. Head dancers were Matthew and Sophie Pheasant and youth

head dancers were Maria Cheechoo and Noah Hare. Head elders were Marilyn Debassige and Clarence Pangowish. Head veteran was Ogimaa Morgan Hare. Host drum was Warpaint Singers, ably assisted in their duties by co-host Young Biisneh. Jason Manitowabi was on hand to ensure the sound system did its job flawlessly.

One of the highlights of



Jingle dress dancer channel the healing spirit with their graceful and stately dance moves.

Ingenuity: Timeless Interventions), a collaborative display hosted by Science North and Indigenous Tourism Ontario and partner organizations. This travelling exhibit will also be visiting 17 other communities across the

North. Sudbury will be the last stop of the exhibit this fall, so if you missed it at the M'Chigeeng Powwow, it will be open to visitors for free once it returns to Science North's facility in that community.

THE WEEKLY WORD SEARCH

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...cycle for Food Bank

...continued from page 3

bins and items left on the bicycle route.

"The whole idea is that it is the end of summer, and many people will be going home from camp for the season and leaving the Island," Mr. Caulfield said. "We asked that before leaving camp for the season for them to look in their food cupboards and donate non-perishable food items toward the cause, before they leave. What is collected could help the food bank stock up food items for the winter." He pointed out the Food Bank spends about \$15,000 a month to buy food items.

"We will be holding this annual ride on the same date every year, Saturday of the Labour Day long weekend, and next year we will have the food bins set out for two weeks instead of one week," explained Mr. Caulfield.

Mr. Caulfield also donated two children's bikes to the food bank.

A volunteer with the Manitowulin Food Bank, upon receiving all the items that had been collected by Mr. Caulfield last Saturday said, "it is with extreme gratitude that we receive this donation to the food bank. It is awesome."

Rainbow Bd. will continue to invest in school libraries

by Tom Sasvari
SUDBURY—The Rainbow District School Board (RDSB) is continuing its investment for library services in all of its schools.

"RDSB continues to maintain its investment for library services in its schools," said Nicole Charette, senior advisor corporate communications and strategic planning with RDSB in an email to The Expositor August 27. "Ensuring that students have access to books for reading at school and at home supplement what's taught in the classroom."

"Developing strong skills in reading and

writing is fundamental to student success," continued Ms. Charette. "In the younger years, students learn to read. As they progress in grades, students read to learn. Avid readers also become better writers. Students enhance their ability to communicate."

Ms. Charette added, "we value our library services and will continue to make these important resources available to students."

This comes after the story in the August 28 edition of The Expositor that indicated the Ontario Library Association (OLA) is looking for support of its petition to make sure school libraries throughout the province continue to receive the funding it needs.

"This past April, the Ministry of Education introduced a new funding model that eliminated protected funding

for school libraries and library staff, as well as accountability measures that were implemented in 2021," an OLA website states. "This new education funding model now adds additional pressure to already at-risk school libraries and their staff. Without accountability, or enveloped funding, school boards (could) continue to cut school library funding in response to growing budgetary challenges province-wide."

Esteban Dorado of OLA had told The Expositor, "My understanding is that the province put in place a new funding model. Previously an amount the boards received for school libraries was specifically to be used for them (school libraries). However, with the changes made by the province using the funds in the school library envelope and us-

ing the funds specifically for school libraries is no longer a requirement for school boards. There have already been issues where the funding is going, and now with the government changes there is no way to make sure school libraries are where the funds are going."

Mr. Dorado stressed, "there are a lot of the vast majority of school administrators that care and make sure the funds provided to school board goes into the right place."

"But school boards can, if they want, spend the funding for libraries on other things," said Mr. Dorado. "Money for libraries and staffing can now be used on everything. We are hearing stories of people working in school libraries feeling under resourced."

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...148th edition of the Manitowaning Fall Fair

...continued from page 3

cake walk, spike driving and a fish pond, with local entertainment starting at 8 pm.

Saturday the fun continues bright and early with a breakfast at 9 am before the assembly of the floats and parade at 11 am. At 12 pm the arena opens for a day chockablock of exciting things to see and do. One of the highlights of this year's fair will be a performance by Alyssa Remanda, a Grit and Glitter trick rider.

The crowds will assemble at the outdoor track beside the Assiginack Arena for the ever-popular horse pull at 2 pm.

Be sure to get your bids in at the silent auction before it ends at 3 pm.

The 2024 Manitowaning Agricultural Society list of directors include Ms. Pennie, Keith Flaherty, Barbara Flaherty, Lisa Hallaert, Brenda Newman, the late Lori Case, Burke Pennie, Susan Holmes, Hugh Moggy, Sylvia Moggy, the late

Jacqueline Bryant and Wilfred Holmes. Associate directors include: Debra Goetz, Freda Bond, John Pennie, Delbert Sousa, Greg Pyette, Katie Cyr, Dorothy Glasby, Jane Moggy, Les Fields, Evelyn Russell-Baehr, Joan Wood, Maimie Sim, Marilyn Smith, Rachel Skippen, Marilyn Sparham and Sheila Armstrong. Junior directors are: Ben Pangowish, Grace Pennie, Brodie Pennie, Jack Pennie, Danika Skippen, Rylan Pennie and Elizabeth Moggy.

Folks are encouraged to become members of the Manitowaning Agricultural Society (a membership form can be found online at Manitowaningas.ca and only costs a \$6 membership fee). Sponsors are heartily welcomed as well. Contact Ms. Pennie at 705-859-3670 or Barbara Flaherty at 705-859-3555 to find out how you can support Northern Ontario's longest running agricultural fair and become part of making rural history.



The always anticipated Manitowaning Fall Fair parade gets underway at 11 am on Saturday. Expositor file photo



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7:30 pm	Cake Walk, Spike Driving
8:00 pm	Live Entertainment

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9:00 am	Pancake Breakfast at Knox Church, Horse Halter Class Judging, Assembling and Judging of Parade Floats
10:30 am	Parade
11:00 am	Arena Opens, Alyssa Remenda Grit and Glitter Trick Rider, Livestock and 4H Judging, World's Strongest Farm Hand, Canteen Opens, Classic Car Show
12:00 pm	Horse Show
12:30 pm	Children's Activities, Fish Pond, Face Painting
12:00 - 3:30 pm	World's Strongest Farm Hand Competition, Black Smith Demo
1:00 pm	MSS Robotics Demo
1:45 pm	Baby Photo Contest Winners, Horse Pull
2:00 pm	Silent Auction Ends
3:00 pm	Pick Up Exhibits
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...Nine Island Anishinaabe recognized with Lifetime Achievement Awards

...continued from page 3

also spearheaded an education review to enhance educational frameworks as well as implemented source water protection planning and training across various communities to ensure safe drinking water. Additionally,

healthcare delivery, and formulated an environmental management action plan to address environmental challenges. Her numerous studies and reports have significantly influenced water and environmental policies, advocating for the sustainability and

foundly impacted the lives and ways of Anishinabek people," Mr. Restoule said. "Her work has strengthened the connection between Indigenous knowledge and contemporary issues, promoted cultural revitalization and reconciliation, empowered commu-

culture, traditions, and storytelling are shared," the citation continues. "She also worked as a primary grade teacher in the Wikwemikong Board of Education system."

A selfless act of faith, she has also been a DOS for several years, performing functions such

mental in his economic development work for his community," the citation states. "He has invested his life work of over 40 years in helping his community achieve economic advancement. Over the years, he has assisted local business entrepreneurs with economic ini-

conomic Development Committee.

"Congratulations to Grant Taibossigai for his Anishinabek Lifetime Achievement Award in the category of public service.

Gertie Manitowabi was presented with the lifetime achievement award



Gloria Oshkabewisens-McGregor and Ron McGregor Sr., both of Whitefish River First Nation were presented with Anishinabek Lifetime Achievement Awards by Linda Debassige Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Chief.

she developed traditional knowledge policies and protocols to safeguard traditional knowledge, evaluated health transfer policies to enhance

well-being of First Nations communities across Ontario."

"Overall, her lifetime achievements have pro-



Marjorie Trudeau of Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory is presented with an Anishinabek Lifetime Achievement Award in Culture by Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Chief Linda Debassige.

nities through education, and served as a role model for future generations."

Marjorie Trudeau of Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory received an Anishinabek Lifetime Achievement Award in the category of culture. Her award citation reads, "serving as a volunteer board director for Debajehmujig Theatre Group for over 40 years, she has been instrumental in the growth of the theatre group, from their start as a seasonal operator in a church basement to being a full-time operation in a facility. Not only has she worked tirelessly behind the scenes, but she has also performed in several productions."

"As a community member, Ms. Trudeau has been identified as a cultural emancipator, ensuring Anishinaabe identify,



Grant Taibossigai of M'Chigeeng First Nation is presented with an Anishinabek Lifetime Achievement Award in the category of public service by Linda Debassige, Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Chief.

as presiding at communion services, leading wake services and minister for the sick—a resource for families in need of comfort and grace.

She is held in high esteem within her family and her community.

"Our next award recipient is Grant Taibossigai of M'Chigeeng First Nation," Mr. Restoule said. "He is a firm believer that economic development can change a community's destiny and help it prosper as a First Nation. Thanks to much of his hard work, leadership, determination and dedication, M'Chigeeng First Nation has made great strides in building a sustainable economic base and has become a leading First Nation community for business development and entrepreneurship."

"He has been instru-



Christina Taibossigai of M'Chigeeng was presented with an Anishinabek Lifetime Achievement Award in the category of health, by Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Chief Linda Debassige.

tiatives by helping them develop business plans and obtaining financial support. His intent was to stimulate the local economy and provide opportunities for his community, including band-owned business ventures such as the Mother Earth Renewable Energy wind farm project, the Solar Energy Project which is a business venture with other Island First Nations, and the community's owned grocery store, M'Chigeeng Freshmart."

He has recently retired but remains involved in economic development. He sits on the Ontario First Nations Economic Developers Association as an active member and is involved in his own community initiatives as a board member and chairperson of the M'Chigeeng First Nation Eco-



Dr. Deborah McGregor of Whitefish River First Nation was presented with an Anishinabek Lifetime Achievement Award in the category of environment by Linda Debassige, Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Chief.

in the category of public service.

"Ms. Manitowabi, of Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory, has for the past 20 years served as a volunteer board of director for Debajehmujig Theatre Group, helping it to grow into the impressive arts centre it is today," Ms. Manitowabi's citation states.

Professionally, she has served as the community court worker for many years. She has assisted with vulnerable community members who require support and assistance while maneuvering through the justice system. She believes that having a support system, helping individuals to be seen, and not judged, has a direct positive impact and sets examples of how to treat people."

"As a fluent language speaker, Ms. Manitowabi speaks and encourages others to speak Anishinaabemowin. She helps with language teachings and cultural artistry revitalization at Osawamick G'Tigaaning, which is an Anishinaabemowin hub in Wiikwemkoong," the citation reads. "She attends ceremony, social functions, rain dances, and also shares the language in her travel across the Anishinabek Nation,

...continued on page 17

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...public works, farm show September 13

...continued from page 3

filled day featuring exhibit booths, product demonstrations and information presentations from organizations and suppliers across Ontario," she said, noting that "we are hoping to have tables and vendors that will fill the inside of the (Mindemoya) arenas, and outside alongside the arena."

Ms. Sloss pointed out as well there will be presentations during the day, with the Ministry of Transportation providing information on road maintenance and presentations being made by Manitoulin Streams Improvement Associa-

tion as well as others.

"We will have local and some off island vendors showcasing municipal and farm equipment, products and services," said Ms. Sloss. Agro Mart in Gore Bay will be there as well as Manitoulin Chrysler which will have a booth with a display of its pickup trucks for sale.

There is no charge to attend the event which will take place on September 13 from 10 am to 3 pm at the JH Burt Memorial Arena in Mindemoya. For more information, please contact the Central Manitoulin municipal office at 705-377-5726 or asloss@centralmanitoulin.ca

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...Nine Island Anishinaabe recognized with Lifetime Achievement Awards

...continued from page 16

attending powwows and sharing her skills in creating traditional crafts.”

Ms. Manitowabi has been married for 50 years to her husband Max. The secret, she says, is teamwork, negotiations, respect and communica-

on Anishinaabemowin cannot be overstated. Her efforts have not only preserved the language but have also revitalized it, instilling pride and cultural identity in younger generations. Through her tireless efforts and work, she ensured that Anishinaabemowin remains a

tor in the health centre for many years, developing and coordinating several programs that were offered to community members, from weight loss groups, prenatal education, smoking cessation initiatives, to advocating for Elders, especially those in palliative

and spiritual wellness was available.

“And today, even with her own health struggles, she continues to selflessly help others on their healing journey, mentoring health staff and community members as well as counselling at WRFN Health Services. She is known as a great ambassador for her community and Anishnaabe people as a whole.”

“Our next award recipient is Ron McGregor of Whitefish River First Nation. He enjoyed a career spanning over 30 years working as the plant manager at Lafarge Canada Whitefish River First Nations terminal. With safety as a priority, he was responsible for many safety practices that are still in place today and was key in employees winning awards for exemplary service.

In his retirement, he has devoted his life to his family and community, sharing his experiences as an elder and traditional knowledge keeper. He has worked at Lakehead University’s Native Language Instructor Program and at Wabnode Cambrian College, providing cultural teachings and one-on-one traditional counselling to staff and students. Years back he helped with Kenjegin Teg Educational Institute’s Anishinabek

Identity, Mind and Spirit Essential Skills Pilot Project and continues to be one of their esteemed Traditional Knowledge Faculty members today.

He is an active member of the Northern Ontario School of Medicine Indigenous Elders Advisory Circle, the Ojibwe Cultural Foundation Elders Council, as well as the Traditional Healing Advisory Circle for the Indigenous Primary Health Care Council.

He is known in his community as a role model for those who are seeking help on their healing journey and is recognized as a community helper sharing cultural knowledge and traditions for the benefit of all Anishinaabe people.

Mr. McGregor received his Anishinabek Lifetime achieve award in the category of health and culture.

Gloria Oshkabewisens-McGregor of Whitefish River First Nation was recognized for her Anishinabek Lifetime Achievement Award in the category of culture. “She began her career by spending over 19 years serving her community as a primary school educator, providing cultural language-based curriculum.

“Following this, she had gone on to serve as an Elder in Residence for

both Lakehead University and Wabnode Cambrian College, providing cultural teachings and traditional counselling to staff and students for seven years.”

Ms. Oshkabewisens-McGregor is currently an active member of the Northern Ontario School of Medicine Indigenous Elders Advisory Circle as well as the Ojibwe Cultural Foundations Elders Council. Most recently she has become a member of the Traditional Healing Advisory Circle for the Indigenous Primary Health Care Council, an Indigenous governed, culturally based organization that supports the advancement and evolution of Indigenous Primary Health Care.

“She continues to service the people in her territory and considers herself a helper to her people and community by utilizing the strengths of Indigenous knowledge and gifts while working with the strengths of western knowledge.”

“She passes on knowledge that will continue for generations. She is known as selfless in her work and as a devoted mother, grandmother, and great grandmother to her family. True example of a woman who walks the path.”



Gertie Manitowabi of Wiikwemkoong is presented with an Anishinabek Lifetime Achievement Award in the category of public service by Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Chief Linda Debassige.



Genevieve Jacko of Whitefish River Nation received a health and culture Anishinabek Lifetime Achievement Award. She is presented her award by Linda Debassige, Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Chief.



Elaine F. Debassige of M’Chigeeng First Nation received an Anishinabek Lifetime Achievement Award in the category of Education. Linda Debassige, Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Chief presented the award.

tion.

Elaine F. Debassige of M’Chigeeng First Nation received a lifetime achievement award in the category of education.

“She is a true champion of education and our language, Anishinaabemowin.”

“A fluent speaker herself, she is dedicated to the promotion and preservation of our language,” Ms. Debassige’s citation reads. “Over the past 33 years she has been a qualified teacher, developing various curricula that promotes language and culture. She has created resource materials that engage and assess students, she has worked alongside Indigenous scholars and researchers focusing on the immersion model of language acquisition and has mentored and guided a new generation of linguistics and language enthusiasts. She has organized and led several language immersion camps to engage and inspire community members in the application of Anishinaabemowin.”

More recently, in collaboration with the Ontario College of Teachers, she has been teaching an accredited additional qualification course for teachers called Teaching Ojibwe.

The impact of her work

vibrant and integral part of our cultural heritage. She is well respected by her colleagues, families, and especially the students she works with every day.

Throughout her lifetime, she has demonstrated unwavering commitment, dedication, and passion to ensure that Anishinaabemowin not only survives, but thrives for future generations.

Christina Taibossigai of M’Chigeeng First Nation won an Anishinabek Lifetime Achievement Award in the category of health.

“Recently retired, she started her professional career working with Health Canada many years ago where there were only 1-2 nurses servicing the five First Nation communities on Manitoulin Island.”

“She spent 25 years as a community health nurse for M’Chigeeng First Nation,” the citation reads. “Always advocating for a healthier community, she was instrumental in establishing M’Chigeeng Health Services as an independent service under health transfer, in addition to playing an integral role in developing and establishing the M’Chigeeng Wellness Centre.”

She took on a leadership role as the coordina-

care. She spent time with medical students, including them in community events and provided guidance on what it was like to be a community health nurse in a First Nation community.”

“Always passionate about her staff and clients, she provided a kindness and caring approach to her nursing duties,” the citation continues. “More recently, in her retirement, she has co-designed her own grief support groups and offers this program within the community. She walks her talk and leads the way with grace, humour and dignity.”

Genevieve Jacko of Whitefish River First Nation received an Anishinabek Lifetime Achievement Award in the category of health and culture.

“Ms. Jacko is a traditional knowledge keeper and elder, taking on the responsibility of sharing the teachings as a natural way of restoring the identity of our people.

“She serves her community with strong cultural awareness, ethics, and pride. For many years she has worked as a mental health and addictions counsellor, providing services to her community, ensuring that the option for mental, emotional, physical,

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Manitoulin Plein Air Festival celebrates second season of outdoor art creation

by Tom Sasvari

GORE BAY—For Kendra Jackson, the second annual Manitoulin Plein Air Festival provided her the opportunity to explore a new type of art this summer.

Ms. Jackson, of Sudbury, took first place in the 'New to Plein Air' category at the festival awards ceremony, which concluded on August 3 at Studio 6 Gallery in Gore Bay. "I was talking to someone in Gore Bay about art and they said you need to go to the Harbour Centre and meet Helen Siksek (one of the main organizers of event along with Sharon Alkenbrack)."

"After meeting Helen and learning about plein air art I decided I would take part in this festival. I have always wanted to try this type of art. And I love meeting other artists," said Ms. Jackson who will be taking the four-year fine arts program at the University of Western Ontario in London this fall.

The second annual Manitoulin Plein Air festival took place at Studio 6. The festival celebrates the art of painting outdoors by inviting local artists to paint in the open air across Manitoulin Island. Artists painted Manitoulin landmarks, out in nature, from observation as opposed to reference photos.

Participating artists had a grace period of four weeks to paint, explained Ms. Siksek. They could join weekly organized 'paint outs' with other artists or paint on their own and send a picture of themselves on location to the organizers. The group scheduled 'paint outs' all over the over the Island once or twice a week and on different days, to provide opportunities for the artists to paint together.

"These 'paint outs' were fun because artists could spend time talking together about art or sharing and learning from each other," continued Ms. Siksek. She pointed out favourite painting locations included McLean's Mountain Lookout Point in Little Current, the rocky trail in Providence Bay, the boardwalk in Gore Bay and the Swing Bridge in Little Current. The group enjoyed painting and submitted their finished works for the exhibition at the end of the four-week painting period.

"I would like to welcome everyone to the second annual Manitoulin Plein Air Festival," stated Ms. Siksek,



The second annual Manitoulin Plein Air (Art) Festival took place over the summer. Artists who took part in the final exhibition and awards ceremony included Sally Assinewai, Kendra Jackson, Cliff Jewell, Susan Lampinen, Sylvie Landry, Helen Siksek, Paulette Stewart, Denise Zappel.

at the award ceremony. "I am so proud of what everyone is doing, we love plein air and doing this work outdoors."

Twelve artists registered for the event but only eight made it to the final exhibition due to other commitments. The exhibiting artists this year included Sally Assinewai, Kendra Jackson, Cliff Jewell, Susan Lampinen, Sylvie Landry, Helen Siksek, Paulette Stewart and Denise Zappel.

Artists were allowed to submit up to four of their best paintings to the exhibition. Two experienced jurors, Cliff Jewell and Helen Siksek, both plein air painters, selected outstanding paintings for the awards.

Kendra Jackson took first place in the new to plein air division for her painting of the Kagawong trail, with Denise Zappel second for her painting of McLeans Mountain lookout point. Third place went to Sally Assinewai for her painting of flowers at the Centennial Museum in Sheguiandah.

Taking First place in the experienced plein air artist category for her painting of the view from McLean Mountains Skyline trail was Paulette Stewart, followed by Susan Lampinen for her painting of the dock building at the Austin Hunt Marina in Kagawong, and Paulette Stewart, third, for her painting of the abandoned house at Ten Mile Point in Sheguiandah.

Ms. Assinewai received two honourable mentions, for her painting of a building and a painting of Turner Park, both in Little Current.

The Lampinen Fine Art award went to Sylvie Landry for her painting of flowers at the Centennial Museum in Sheguiandah.

Sylvie Landry won the People's Choice award for her painting of the Swing Bridge, painted from the trail.

Festival juror Cliff Jewell donated one of his paintings for the draw prize among all visitors at the awards ceremony. The winner of the draw was Leigh Major of Gore Bay.

First Annual Art in the Maples Festival a smash hit with people who love good art and artists

Jacqueline M. St. Pierre,
Local Journalism Initiative reporter

EVANSVILLE—Artist and Manitoulin resident Gail Andrews loves good art and the people who make it. What began as a dream to utilize her Evansville property to host the art community and welcome visitors came true this past weekend. The event ran from 10 am to 4 pm on August 10 and 11. The site of the festival is also a seasonal glamping resort, with bell tents and a communal cooking space, outdoor shower, washrooms and sea shanty themed wifi and charging hut.

The configuration was intentionally organic with booths set up along the sprawling waterfront property, nestled in woods of maple trees with winding paths. "I wanted everyone to spread out at their leisure so visitors could discover the artists and their work. Rather than straight rows of booths, where people just walk by, we wanted to create an atmosphere that encourages



Blacksmith Adam Lapell of The Angry Owl Smithy gives a demonstration of his art.

engagement between artists and visitors. We have had incredible feedback about the event," Ms. Andrews told The Expositor.

"At one time I thought I was going to put them out here in the sunshine together, and then when the weather was questionable and we have space, I mixed everybody up," she continued. "And that's the ticket. You mix them up. I'm going for an atmosphere where people to want to come and stay, experience the place, have some food, like everything is here that you need. And all the artists, I encourage, whatever your art medium is, take enough space to create while you're here, because it inspires people."

When asked about her vision for future festivals Ms. Andrews said, "I'm just trying to better it. So, the glamping betters the festival. The festival betters the glamping. We're already brainstorming all of the things to do. I don't want to charge an entry fee, ever. It's just not my thing. First goal was to be able to get it off the ground and move it forward that its successful enough to do it again. And it's clear that it is," she says, motioning to the busy grounds.



Wayne Malleau began making pottery to house his bonsai and has been at it since 2016. Mr. Malleau utilizes clay from Manitoulin Island.



Festival founder Gail Andrews joins Ted Smith and Miriam Wailes enjoy a good laugh while comparing camera lenses.

6 Foot Festival Call out to Artists

15th Annual Six-Foot Festival (Land Art Food)
September 27-28, 2024

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Debajehmujig is looking for Artists to explore, document and present at this year's 6 foot festival. Are you a musician, painter, writer, sculpture, performer? This will be a great time to reconnect with a 6x6 foot piece of land to explore The Preservation of Humanity.

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Gore Bay plays host to Grand Banks 2024 rendezvous

by Tom Sasvari

GORE BAY—Members of the Great Lakes Grand Banks Association (GLG-BA) held their 2024 summer rendezvous in Gore Bay last week and had nothing but praise for the town and the North Channel area.

“Gore Bay is one of the jewels of the North Channel for cruising and in terms of hosting our rendezvous it is tremendous. The harbour has all the amenities and accommodations needed and everyone in town is very welcoming,” said Lauren Phinney, of Kitchener, who is president of GLG-BA. “We have members who have their boats here and some members who have travelled here and are renting boats while they are here. The whole idea is to provide an opportunity for our members to experience the North Channel which is among the best cruising grounds in the world.”

“The North Channel is known as one of the best areas for boat cruising in the world,” said Bill Wilcox of Cobourg, who was co-organizer of the rendezvous along with GLG-BA local member Robby Colwell. “The GLG-BA has met every year since 1996, and we are an international club with members from the US and Canada.”

Mr. Wilcox noted the rendezvous returned to Gore Bay this year, having previously been held here in 2016. “We average about 21-25 boats for each year’s rendezvous. This year we have a total of 22 boats and 53 club members on hand.”

“Our club has about 82 members, mostly from Northern Michigan, Ohio and Ontario,” said Mr. Wilcox. There are also similar clubs established on the west and east coasts.



The Great Lakes Grand Banks Association held their annual rendezvous in Gore Bay last month. Members of the association pose for a photo on the steps of the Waters Edge Restaurant in Gore Bay.

“The first rendezvous we held in Gore Bay was in 2016,” said Mr. Wilcox. “We love it here, and our American members love coming up here.”

“We will be spending three days in Gore Bay, from Thursday to Saturday,” said Mr. Wilcox.

The group met up early Thursday evening by the town’s main boat launch, with piper Dave Beaton leading them in a parade to Purvis Fish and Chips where they held their dinner and opening reception.

With everyone gathered at Purvis Fish and Chips for dinner, Mr. Colwell thanked Mr. Beaton for piping the group in. “Thanks to Robby for having me here this evening,” said Mr. Beaton. “Everyone is going to have a really good dinner and a great visit to Gore Bay.”

Mr. Colwell introduced GLG-BA president Phinney at the dinner. Ms. Phinney is serving the second year of her second



Piper Dave Beaton leads Gore Bay town manager Harry Schlange and members of the Great Lakes Grand Banks Association on a parade of the Gore Bay boardwalk to officially open the GLG-BA rendezvous.

two-year term as president and will be turning over these duties to Deb Davis of Kingsford, Michigan next year. Ms. Phinney has been with GLG-BA since 2010 when she

bought her Grand Banks Company boat.

“I would like to welcome everyone to our 27th rendezvous,” said Ms. Phinney. “Our first rendezvous was held in

1996, and one year we split the rendezvous into one in Canada and one in the US because of COVID. It is so nice to see so many of you having travelled to be here. Gore Bay is incredible and is sitting in the middle of the jewel called the North Channel,” she said in encouraging everyone to provide a round of applause in appreciation for Mr. Colwell and Mr. Wilcox for organizing this year’s rendezvous.

“Hopefully we will see the majority of you at Benjamin Islands after our visit to Gore Bay,” said Ms. Phinney.

Mr. Colwell noted that he had received notice from Gore Bay Mayor Ron Lane that he would be able to attend the opening reception due to family commitments. However, “we do have

Gore Bay,” said Mr. Schlange, who noted he had met some of the members earlier that day. “I know Robby has a great program of events set up for you over the next few days, including the opportunity see a production from the award-winning Gore Bay Theatre, and a barbecue taking place at our new pavilion, and a visit to Split Rail Brewing.”

“I have worked in towns with 700,000 people and I have never seen a town come together like Gore Bay to host events like this rendezvous,” said Mr. Schlange.

“I know you will all have a great time during your visit here,” said Mr. Schlange. “I have only worked with Robby for a short period of time, but I know he is an amazing organizer.”

Mr. Colwell welcomed special guests for the evening, Norm and Diane Fogal. “We have two great guests with us this evening. They are our (town) boat storage, boat repair people. They keep our boaters happy. They are awesome.” Mr. Colwell then referred to some of the highlights of the town that the GLG-BA members could visit, including many of the businesses and attractions. “I would encourage everyone to explore the town and all the services, and attractions we have here in town.” He also thanked Purvis Fish and Chips for hosting the opening reception dinner.

Mr. Wilcox explained, “we will have three days of programs and activities here in Gore Bay over the three days, then we will be cruising to the Benjamin Islands for a two day stay there. Everyone will have a great trip.”

town manager Harry Schlange in attendance here tonight.”

“On behalf of the town we would like to welcome all of you to the Town of

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 Every Saturday 9 AM to NOON
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 Downtown, Little Current
 on the Waterfront at the
 Market Garden Pavilion
 See you Saturday!

lost

LOST—"Little old lady" in a wheelchair lost a Kindle reader on Wednesday, August 28 at the grocery store in Mindemoya, maybe in the parking lot. If found please call 705-368-2523.

16c

pets

Aussie-doodle puppies for sale. Call 1-437-425-8641.

16-17p

marine

Heavy duty marine railway for sale. Weight capacity is approximately for a two-ton boat. Asking \$1,850. Can help with transport. Call 705-929-0003 or 705-929-5435.

16-17c

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 Renovations complete

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MANITOULIN SNOWDUSTERS FISH SUPPER

Saturday, September 7, 2024
 at Rockville Hall, 5 pm to 7 pm
 \$25/person and \$10 (12 and under)

Whitefish, potatoes, coleslaw, coffee, tea, strawberries and ice cream

Take-out available at 4:30 pm
 To order call Linda at 705-368-2735



Legion events

Little Current Legion, Branch 177, Wing Night from 5:30 to 10 pm on: Thursday, September 12 and 26; Thursday, October 10 and 24. Call 705-368-2661 after 4 pm to place your order. Take-out is available. Serving wings and mozza sticks, six for \$9 or 12 for \$18; cheeseballs, 12 for \$9 or 24 for \$18. Choices of sauces are honey garlic, 1st, 2nd, 3rd degree, sweet chill heat, sweet and sour, parm and pepper, salt and pepper, barbecue and Frank's dry rub. Ranch or blue cheese sides.

9tfn

\$ for sale

Hand-peeled cedar posts and poles, any size, any length. Near Manitowaning. Call 1-548-882-9478.

14-17c

Hay for sale, 4' x 53" bales, no rain and stored inside. Call 705-859-1301.

16-18c

coming events

Boardwalk and coffee walk, Saturdays from 11 am to 2 pm. Start at Cenotaph Park, Little Current, then walk the boardwalk, then to Tim Hortons. Register at lahayef425@gmail.com.

8tfn

FOMOS annual birthday bash and barbecue is Saturday, August 10 at the Mindemoya Arena from 10 am to 2 pm, rain or shine. Vendors, entertainment, games, food and raffles. Last chance to bid in the online art auction. The 50/50 winner will be announced. For more information go to www.mindemoyaldschool.ca.

10-12c

Knox United Church Rummage Sale in Manitowaning will reopen on Wednesday, August 14. Open Wednesdays to Saturdays from 10 am to 3 pm. Clothing, household and miscellaneous items.

12p

SCOTT WOODS, champion fiddler, is coming back to Manitoulin by popular demand together with his "Yee Haw" show that features Canadian champion stepdancer Leo Stock, guitar virtuoso Steve Pitocco champion fiddler Kendra Norris and more. The show is Saturday, September 14 at 7 pm at the NEMI Recreation Centre, 9001 Highway 6 in Little Current. Tickets are \$45 and are available locally (cash only) at The Expositor Office in Little Current or by calling Gail at 705-368-2589. They can be purchased online, using a credit card at www.scottwoods.ca or by calling direct to 1-855-726-8896 (toll free).

12-17p

services

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

Tfn

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

Tfn

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Garage Sale
 Extremely large indoor garage and house sale
 for Karen and Dan Lieberman
 409 Lighthouse Rd., Gore Bay, 1/2 mile past the Harbour Centre
September 7th and 8th | 9 am - 3 pm each day

This is a sale not to be missed. Massive sale of almost a complete household of furnishings, ATV with trailer and tools, top quality furniture including bedroom furniture with dressers, end tables with queen and single beds, living room sofas with removable covers, coffee and end tables, office furniture, curio cabinet, kitchen appliances and wares, 8-foot leaning mirror, antique rabbit weathervane, silver and pewter items, Royal Doultons, small fridge, jewellery, antiques, dehumidifier, exercise equipment, clothes steamer, local paintings, Polaris quad (with 5 foot blade, winch, chains and 10' trailer), Dewalt tablesaw, Milwaukee tools, Stihl chain saw, blower and weed eater, lg. rolling tool chest with snap on tools, lg. generator, outdoor patio heater, lg. assortment of top end tools, lumber and a cord of wood, extension and step ladders, chopsaw, shop vac, air compressor and air tools, Yeti cooler, snow shoes, power washer, patio furniture, bbq, deck chairs, fire pit, lawn mower, etc.

Cash only! Park on road. Bring help to move items. Watch for signs. Can pick up next day.
 Text 905-691-7355, email rrtarp@hotmail.com pictures will be on Facebook.

notice

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

Tfn

rental

October 1 to May 1, waterfront one and two bedroom executive units in Little Current. All inclusive with Starlink internet, satellite TV and fully furnished. Call 705-368-6240 or email manitoulinrental@gmail.com for details and viewing appointment.

11tfn

wanted

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

17tfn


Collector wanting to buy comics, pre-1990; sports cards, pre-1985; coins, pre-1967. Call Fred, 519-596-2822.

15-17c

yard sale

Yard sale at 146 Nelson Road, Ice Lake on Saturday, September 7 from 9 am to 1 pm. No childrens toys.

16c




Kina Gbezhgomi Child and Family Services
33RD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Our Children Our Responsibility

PLEASE JOIN US
WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 18, 2024
SHESEHWANING FIRST NATION
10:00AM-2:00PM
VIRTUAL LINK:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8766331772>

Sunrise Ceremony at 6:30AM
 Breakfast served after ceremony at main venue


AGM beginning at 10:00AM
 Lunch served following meeting
 Sheshegwaning FN Complex Hall
 1079A Sheshegwaning Rd.

JOIN IN PERSON
 To RSVP or for more information: CALL 705-370-2100 ext 2011 or EMAIL: hkriegere@gcfs.org



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

Overeaters Anonymous- Do you have an eating disorder? Is food a problem for you in any way? We can help. Tuesdays at 7 pm at the Anchor Inn in the basement, 1 Water St. E, Little Current. Knock loudly.
 Tfn

pets in memory


HARASYM—In loving memory of Doris Mary Elizabeth, May 30, 2005 to September 5, 2021. I know that you must miss me, By the tears rolling down your face. But believe me when I tell you that, I'm in a very good place. There are meadows here to run in, And plenty of rabbits to chase. There are other dogs to play with, To frolic with and race. So please don't worry about me, My spirit feels light as can be. There's no more pain to plague me, I'm young again and free. And I'll be watching over you still, Of that you can be sure. I'm your canine guardian angel, And my love for you remains pure. Always remembered and loved forever by Mom and Dad
 16p

services
Are you a cancer patient undergoing or recovering from treatment? Are you a cancer survivor, a family caregiver or supporting someone with cancer? The Manitoulin Cancer Support Group may provide you with resources and opportunities to share experiences as well as give or receive support with others who have travelled this similar cancer journey. This group is open to anyone with any type of cancer, is free to join and will be rotated to different parts of the Island. This group will alternate meetings on weekdays and weekends. The schedule is as follows: Sunday, August 25 at the Manitowaning Family Health Team 2 to 4 pm. For more information please contact: Terry Mackenzie, 705-507-0433, tandjmackenzie@hotmail.com; Bonnie Young, 705-377-4998; Ann Cranston, 705-282-7531, bnannc@gmail.com.
 tfn

I would like to thank everyone who came to support me in the celebration of life for my husband Dale and my son Stephen. Thank you for the food, flowers, cards of sympathy and Facebook messages as well as the donations made in memory of Dale and Stephen. Also, a huge thank you for my daughter-in-law Crystal and husband Les who helped plan and organize the celebration of life. I couldn't have done it without you. It was a pleasure to hear all the memories and experiences while they were with us. Good memories to keep. Your kindness and thoughtfulness has helped me through this sad time.
 Carol McCauley and family
 16c

thank you


services
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-Anon Group: Espanola Al-Anon, Tuesdays at 7 pm, Anglican Church, 213 Tudhope Street, Espanola, 705-869-6595. For more information call 1-888-4Al-Anon (1-888-425-2666, M-F, 8 am - 6 pm ET) http://www.al-anon.org. For meetings including electronic in Northern Ontario go to OntarioNorthAl-Anon.com. Please note the only Alateen meetings available in Northern Ontario are on a mobile app. Look for the app under Al-Anon Family Groups.
 Tfn

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.
 Tfn

Two Island public schools see new principals

by Tom Sasvari
 MANITOULIN—There have been changes made in the principal position at a couple of Manitoulin Island elementary schools this fall. Bruce Bourget, director of education for the Rainbow District School Board (RDSB), outlined all the changes being made at schools within the school-board at a board meeting last week.

At Assiginack Public School (APS) in Manitowaning, Julie Balen has taken over the position of principal of the

school. Ms. Balen began her career at the Wikwemikong Board of Education where she taught various grades at the secondary level in English and literacy and garnered a wealth of knowledge in creating blended learning classrooms.

Ms. Balen joined the RDSB in 2024 as vice-principal of Little Current Public School (LCPS). Principal Balen is thrilled to bring her experience to her home community of Assiginack.

At Little Current Public School, Tracey Chapman is back as principal of the school with Sherri Toope taking over the reins of vice-principal

this school year. Since joining the board in 1995, Ms. Chapman has taught various grades from Kindergarten to Grade 12 in both Sudbury and Manitoulin Island. She has been an administrator on Manitoulin Island since 2002, having served as principal of Central Manitoulin Public School in Mindemoya, Charles C. McLean Public School in Gore Bay and, for the last three years, Assiginack Public School. She previously taught at Little Current Public School and is looking forward to returning to the school as principal.

church services

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

KJV Bible Study, every Monday night, 7 to 9 pm in Providence Bay. For more information, call 705-348-2229 or email kjc.manitoulin@gmail.com. All welcome.
 4tfn

The Mortgage Centre

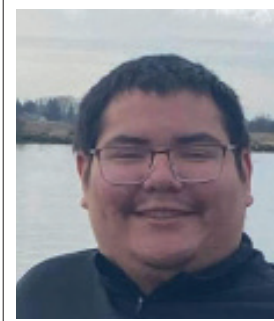
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Death Notices

MOSES KENNETH PITAWANAKWAT SHAWANA

March 27, 1999 - August 26, 2024



In loving memory of Moses Kenneth Pitawanakwat Shawana who passed away at the Mindemoya Hospital on Monday, August 26, 2024 at the age of 25. Cherished son of Mildred and Ken Shawana; loving brother of Melanie Pitawanakwat, Vanessa Pitawanakwat (predeceased) and Jamie Friday. Proud uncle of Amira Pitawanakwat, Christopher Louie Naokwegijig Gonawabi, Lillianna Manitowabi, Ablius Pitawanakwat and Jamie-Lynn Pitawanakwat. Grandson of Henry and Agnes Shawana and David and Alexandrine Pitawanakwat (all predeceased). Forever missed by his friends Alex Shigwadja, Garret Peltier, Coleton Trudeau, Drew Trudeau, Peter Wemigwans, Carson Pitawanakwat and Justin Trudeau. Will be missed by many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. He was working as a maintenance worker assistant with Chuck Peltier. Family and friends gathered at the Rabbit Island Centre on Thursday, August 29, 2024 from 12 noon to the time of the funeral service on Saturday, August 31, 2024 at 11 am with Rev. Barney Deforge officiating. Cremation followed.

Island

FUNERAL HOME LIMITED

Memorial donations are gratefully appreciated and can be made at the admitting office to the auxiliaries of the Manitoulin Health Centre and the Renovation Fund in both Mindemoya and Little Current and the Gore Bay Manitoulin Lodge Auxiliary Incorporated, 3 Main Street, Gore Bay, Ontario, P0P 1H0 and the Manitoulin Centennial Manor Fundraising or Manor Auxiliary, Postal Bag 460, 10 Robinson Street, Little Current, Ontario, P0P 1K0. Donations can also be made to the Manitoulin District Cenotaph Fund, Box 656, Little Current, Ontario P0P 1K0 or Pet Save Manitoulin, Box 393, Gore Bay, Ontario P0P 1H0.

Celebration of Life

MICHAEL O. MACHUM (Mike)

A Celebration of Life for Michael O. Machum (Mike) will be held at the NEMI Recreation Centre in the Curling Lounge on Saturday, September 7, 2024 from 1 to 6 pm.

CAMERON SPEC (Cam)



We invite you to join us as we celebrate the remarkable life of Cam Spec, who passed away on May 26, 2024. A Celebration of his Life will be hosted by his children between 12 noon and 3 pm on Saturday, September 7, 2024 at the Little Current Legion. Please join us in sharing stories, memories and laughter as we honour Cam and a life well lived!

LORAINE MARTHA OTTLEY (Stewart)



Family, friends and colleagues are invited to a Celebration of Life for Loraine Martha Ottley (Stewart), R.N., B.A. (Hons.), L.L.B. on Saturday, September 7, 2024 from 2 to 4 pm at the Island Funeral Home, 36 Worthington Street (Highway 540), Little Current. Please join us in sharing stories, tears, laughter and refreshments as we honour Loraine's many talents and her lasting legacy as wife, family member, friend and colleague.

JEFFREY CROWELL



Jeff's family invites you to the Celebration of his Life on Saturday, September 14, 2024 at 2 pm at the Royal Canadian Legion, 1553 Weller Street, Sudbury. Please join us as we honour his memory, cherish the shared moments and applaud his legacy. In the game of life, Jeff was our superstar player, always scoring points for kindness, unlocking levels of creativity and reminding us that life is better when you are part of a team.


SNOW REMOVAL TENDER
 To supply all labour, equipment and services necessary to provide snow removal in the parking area at the **Gore Bay Ontario Provincial Police Detachment.**
 Contractor must quote on a "per call" basis for snow removal and sanding as well as a "lump sum" basis for snow removal and sanding for the season commencing fall of 2024 to May 15th, 2025.
 Snow removal requirements are available upon request. Interested parties must possess a valid Ontario driver's licence and carry liability insurance.
 Please contact the address/telephone number listed below for approved tender documents.
 Tender can be faxed or mailed to:
**Detachment Commander
 Ontario Provincial Police
 54 Boosneck Road, PO Box 638
 Little Current, ON P0P 1K0
 (Telephone) 705-368-2200
 (Fax) 705-368-2666**
 Quotations to be submitted no later than **1600 hours, 28 September 2024.**
 The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

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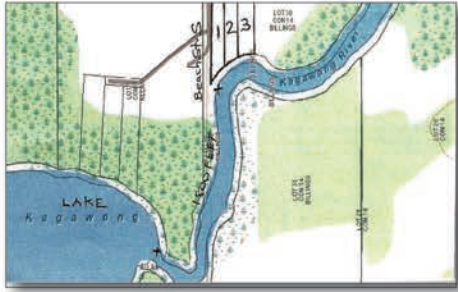
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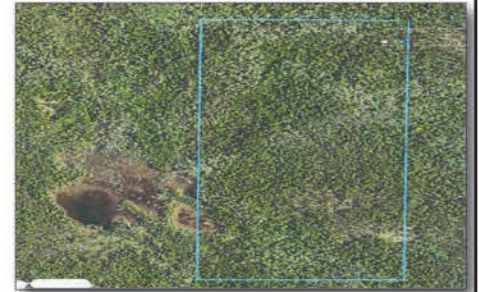
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South Baymouth Marina home,
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Family forest cottage or deluxe hunt camp,
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91 acres & about 1,244 ft. fronting Lake Huron
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Dawson PL31C14, 67 acres
Large equipped camp
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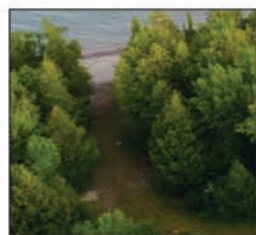
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**595 Lakeshore Rd,
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**190 McQuarrie Rd,
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**179 Townline Rd,
Sheguiandah**
MLS#: 2117445, \$598,000

**4847 Bidwell Rd,
Sheguiandah**
MLS#: 2116542, \$478,500

**130 Thorne Street,
Mindemoya**
MLS#: 2118425, \$649,500

**317 Main Street,
Kagawong,**
MLS#: 2115228, \$ 315,900

FARM

**94 Watson Bay Rd,
Tehkumamah**
MLS#: 2115367, \$2,500,000

**159 Main Street,
Kagawong**
MLS#: 2116012, \$390,000

NEW LISTING

**9378 Hwy 542,
Spring Bay**
MLS#: 2118743, \$285,000

**1467 The Beaver Rd,
Spring Bay**
MLS#: 2117925, \$498,555

NEW LISTING

**294 Cranston Road,
Providence Bay**
MLS#: 2118754, \$255,000

**3A Meredith Street,
Gore Bay**
MLS#: 2117743, \$681,500

**55 Meredith Street,
Gore Bay**
MLS#: 2117080, \$485,000

**38 Dominion Bay Rd,
Spring Bay**
MLS#: 2116310, \$379,000

**99.5 Acres: 20257 Hwy 540,
Silver Water**
MLS#: 2115926 & 2115927
\$739,000

**15 Gore Street,
Gore Bay**
MLS#: 2117744, \$549,900

**454 Morden Noakes Rd,
Evansville**
MLS#: 2113498, \$259,500

VACANT WATERFRONT

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

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

1301 Mason Line,
Silver Water
MLS#: 2116940
\$185,500

PENDING

**63 Rainbow Trail,
Mindemoya**
MLS#: 2115757, \$599,000





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627 ft. of flat shoreline on Lake Manitou Mindemoya, MLS#2116861 \$499,000



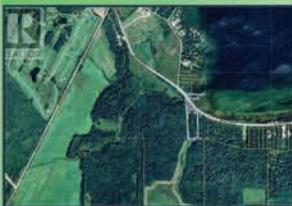
Water access lot on year-round road Manitowaning, MLS#2113802 \$79,900



19+ acres & 665 ft. waterfront on Lake Huron Spring Bay, MLS#2116065 \$250,000



Recreational vacant land on Green Bush Road, 5.4 acres Little Current, MLS#2115315 \$29,900



Waterview 3+ acre lot, laneway installed & next to a golf course! Manitowaning, MLS#2115464 \$139,000



3.5 acre building lot, 2 trailers included! Manitowaning, MLS#2116140 \$69,900



South facing lot, 1 acre, building lot on Lake Huron South Bay, MLS#2116051 \$172,500



Small acreage with outstanding lake views! 3.53 acres MLS#2116709 \$139,900



0.96 acre vacant lot. Hydro at lot line, 2 entrances, culverts installed, short drive to Lake Manitou boat launch Sandfield, MLS#2118123 \$52,900



48 acres off Learnmount Road, wide level trail into cedars & spruce, several tree stands for deer hunting in place. MLS#2118311 \$124,000



Under 1 acre, lot has hydro on site, year-round road, municipal boat launch to Lake Mindemoya minutes away. Monument Road, MLS#2118483 \$125,000

HOT OFF THE MARKET: Recently SOLD Properties



MLS# 2116708 - Mindemoya, \$237,500



MLS#2117655 - Espanola, \$259,900



MLS #: 2118463 - Sheguiandah, \$415,000



MLS#2117397- Little Current, \$239,000



MLS#2117386 - Manitou River, \$234,900



Stone Wall Acres — Spacious 2+1 bed, 1.5 bath home on 98.9 acres, sugar bush, crop lands, garage, shed, animal pen & mins away from schools, shops, sandy beach! MLS#2117829 - Providence Bay, \$744,900



Outstanding income property with over 90 acres! 3-bed, 4-piece bath & two half baths in each upstairs bedroom & bachelor apartment. MLS#2116393 - Mindemoya, \$575,000



Country living with 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom home with a barn on 2.3 acres! MLS#2116391 - Manitowaning, \$375,000



Vacant building in prime downtown location! MLS#2108753 - Little Current, \$149,000



BE YOUR OWN BOSS!!! Busy, downtown brew your own wine business! MLS# 2116747 - Little Current, \$ 89,000



Income property with luxury 2-bed apt & 2 large commercial units across the street from busy Bridal Veil Falls. MLS#2115911 - Kagawong, \$649,000



Lake Manitou Ranch — Spacious century home on 118 acres, 4 bay garage with guest house, sauna, sugar shack, maple forest, ponds, springs, apple, pear & plum trees! MLS#2118446 - Mindemoya, \$1,590,000



WATERFRONT LIVING! 88 acres, private trout stream & 4,850 sq. ft. stone sided estate home. MLS#2117008 - Manitowaning, \$1,689,000



Bay Estates Lake Huron waterfront home, 5-bed, 3-bath, 2 car detached garage, dock, sauna, bunkie & boat launch! MLS#2116085 - Sheguiandah, \$925,000



Awe-inspiring handcrafted 1,660 sq. ft. Timber Frame cottage/home surrounded by beautiful nature & pristine scenery. Main floor has open concept kitchen, dining & living area. Double doors lead from the primary bedroom & dining area to a large deck. The kitchen has granite counter tops & handmade dining table. Ensuite is 4-pc with therapeutic jetted tub & granite flooring. Outback solar system with new solar panels & new batteries. New water system pump, pressure tank & heat trace. Heat is supplied by outdoor Heatmor wood furnace. Large storage shed & dock shed, a large dock system plus secondary docking for smaller boats. MLS# 2116067 - Blind River, \$579,000



New-build under construction! Electrical service hooked up & ready for finishing to your liking! Seasonal cottage with an open kitchen/living area, walk-out to large deck! 3-bed & roughed in bath. MLS#2117839 - Manitowaning, \$334,900



Privacy, affordability & water access - 1 acre camp has space & room to grow or just sit back in seclusion. Built on a poured concrete pad with 3 small bedrooms, large open kitchen/living room + large screened-in porch, providing a great gathering space. 2 separate buildings include a stand alone bath & laundry building. Finnish wood sauna & storage shed compliment the outdoor space. Walk through the neighbouring park/green space down to the sandy waterfront of South Bay & endless summers of enjoyment. MLS #2118365 - Manitowaning \$299,900



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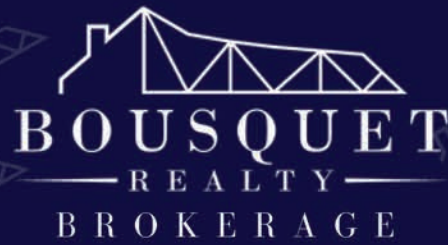
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SEPTEMBER BRINGS NEW LISTINGS TO MANITOULIN ISLAND

WATERFRONT	WATERFRONT	NEW BUILD	BUILDING LOT
   <p>2617 ROCKVILLE RD, MINDEMOYA MLS 2118537 \$280,000</p>	  <p>N/A FOX TOWER ROAD, ICE LAKE MLS 2118801 \$349,000</p>	   <p>1 DENNIS ST, GORE BAY MLS 2118671 \$559,000</p>	 <p>PT23 BAY ESTATES, NEMI MLS 2118661 \$47,500</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg); font-weight: bold; margin-right: 5px;">SCAN HERE</div> <div style="font-size: small; margin-right: 5px;">for more properties</div>  </div>

NEW LISTINGS



WATERFRONT	CONDITIONAL PENDING		SOLD
 <p>TP 2688 Bay of Islands, NEMI MLS 2118293 \$750,000</p>	 <p>794 Slash Rd, Tehkummah MLS 2117812 \$264,900</p>	 <p>39 Burnt Island Rd, Silver Water MLS 2117919 \$389,900</p>	 <p>28 Rainbow Trail, Mindemoya MLS 2116925 Residential</p>
COMMERCIAL		WATERFRONT	SOLD
 <p>17 Campbell St E, Little Current MLS 2118313 \$650,000</p>	 <p>230 Bay Estates Rd, NEMI MLS 2118010 \$999,000</p>	 <p>TP 1936 McGregor Bay, Birch Island MLS 2115506 \$499,000</p>	 <p>LT 8 Nelson St, Manitowaning MLS 2118458 Building Lot</p>
WATERFRONT	COMMERCIAL	WATERFRONT	SOLD
 <p>2444 Bay Estates Rd N, NEMI MLS 2118476 \$569,000</p>	 <p>12164 HWY 6, Sheguiandah MLS 2117451 \$999,000</p>	 <p>25 Water St, Meldrum Bay MLS 2117968 \$435,000</p>	 <p>409 Lighthouse Rd, Gore Bay MLS 2117367 Waterfront</p>

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 <p>Chris Bousquet Broker of Record 705-368-2271</p>	 <p>Scott McDougall Salesperson 705-210-0044</p>	 <p>Patsy Moore Salesperson 705-282-4431</p>	 <p>Jack Bould The Bearded REALTOR® 705-282-8441</p>	 <p>Mathieu Page Broker 705-207-1282</p>	 <p>Abbie Drolet Broker 705-348-0067</p>
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MANITOULIN EXPOSITOR

LIFE

Styles

• Careers • Sports • Manitoulin People

Little Current, Ontario

Wednesday, September 4, 2024

Manitoulin athlete wins bronze medal at 2024 Ontario Summer Games in London Ontario

by Tom Sasvari

M'CHIGEENG—Nova Debassige, a 13-year-old sprint runner from M'Chigeeng First Nation brought home a bronze medal from the recent Ontario Summer Games in London, Ontario.

"Nova qualified in her age group (under age 14 female runners) in the summer games by having success at the Royal Canadian Legion Regional meet held in Sudbury as a qualifier for the summer games," said her mother, Joanna Rosenbaum. This event qualified her for the Ontario Summer Games held the August long weekend in London, Ontario.

Nova, "ran in four different events as an under age 14 competitor," said Ms. Rosenbaum. "In the 80-metre run she placed fifth overall out of 24 runners with a time of 10.67; in the 150-metre race she



Bronze medalist Nova Debassige of M'Chigeeng.



Golden! Nova Debassige, a 13-year-old sprinter from M'Chigeeng First Nation, earned a bronze medal as a member of 'Team Northern Lights' in the medley relay race at the recent Ontario Summer Games in London.

placed sixth overall out of 24 runners in a time of 20.72. She placed 13th overall out of 24 runners in the 300-metre race in a time of 47.45. And in the medley relay race her team, 'Team Northern Lights,' won the bronze medal (overall time of 4:41.03) against seven other teams."

Ms. Debassige, who is a sprint runner, is going into Grade 8 this fall. "Nova has been training with Airblastoff in Sudbury with Olympic gold medalist Robert Esmie for two seasons now," explained Ms. Rosenbaum. "She qualified for the Ontario Summer Games

at our local (District H) Legion meet held at the Laurentian track in mid-June this year. The other Legion meets around the province also served as qualifying events for the Ontario Summer Games, which were held over two days (August 2-3)."

"The athletics competition was broken down by regions that approximate the geographical area that the Legion districts represent, and so the team from this region that Nova was on was called 'Team Northern Lights.'"

As for whether sprint running is Nova's focus right now, Ms. Rosenbaum said, "It's on a list of things she is pursuing.

She will be trying out for the Sudbury Chill Volleyball team this winter as well."

Ms. Rosenbaum noted the only other Manitoulin competitor in athletics at the OSG was Jonah Balfe of Mindemoya, who had also qualified at the Legion meet. He competed in Javelin in the U16 male division, coming away with a fifth place, and in the discus throw where he placed eighth.

Noah Thorpe, also of Mindemoya, and Amy Smith of Gore Bay competed in golf at OSG. Mr. Thorpe finished in a tie for 21st in his division, with Ms. Smith placing 25th in her division.

Manitoulin Sporting Life

Ice Chips to Canoe Quips

by Larry and André Leblanc



Breakaway's six-hour MTB relay or not!

Is the 6-Hour Mountain Bike Relay still a relay if you do the whole thing yourself? A name is just a name apparently, for several riders! **Marc Rioux, Noah Rioux, Josh Rioux and Marc Larochelle** all endured the full six hours on their own and Marc managed to complete 13 laps!

The format of the race is to get in as many laps of the roughly, four-kilometer loop. Every circuit features twisty, single-track with plenty-o-roots and 'baby heads', short-sharp-shocked climbs and fast, double-tracked passing lanes.

The mere mortals who had a teammate or a few were absolutely no slouches, giving everything they had on each lap only to try to recover before it was their turn again. There were two teams tied for the most completed laps with 17! The tie-breaker then, is who finishes that lap first. I am not sure if the timer was ready for a photo finish, but it came down to just a one second difference!

The winning team's name, "Lo-Ellen Sucks" may have been entered without all three of the members' knowledge! **Dane Gibeault**, (who will be attending Lo-Ellen again this week) was the lead-out rider and had no idea of the moniker but it didn't matter! Dane along with **Isaac Quackenbush** and **Alex Anstice** edged Team PKP (**Paul Guenette, Katie Reid** and **Peter Van Buren**) by the slimmest of margins in 356 minutes and 20 seconds. Team PKP rider, **Paul Guenette** was hunting down Dane on that last lap but could not pass him before the line, stopping the clock at 356:21! The fastest laps of the day were put in by Alex Anstice, the only rider who had a sub-17-minute traverse and he had three!

Congratulations to all the riders who competed including: **Caroline Black, Hannah Brown, Cameron Duff, Jimmy Duff, Brody Larochelle, Charlie Reid, Bill Slaght, Blake Trotter, Ben Quackenbush** and **Rachel Quackenbush**.

That marks the end of the Breakaway events for the year. Next up would be June's Manitoulin Mountain Bike Challenge unless they throw a Loppet in the interim!

Hockey is hee-ere!

As the local Manitoulin Minor Hockey Associations are prepping for their player signing dates, many players playing



Priscilla Recollet-Case practices her deadly aim in the driveway.

off-Island have been skating and signing with their rep teams already!

Priscilla Recollet-Case is one. Having grown up in Wiikwemkoong and Manitowaning she has moved up to the Soo with Mom, **Samantha** and tried out for U13 B Jr Greyhounds and made it! The Case and Recollet families are super proud and plan on following Priscilla



The ice is in at some rinks and the kids of winter are lacing up their skates for another great season of hockey at Island arenas.

across the north this season!

She has already started her first practice last week and is enrolled with the Hockey Canada Skills academy there with her school (Superior Heights intermediate School) where she's on ice twice a week during school. Good luck on your season, Priscilla!

The Manitoulin Panthers' rep hockey has two teams currently registered in the Nickel District League. The U-13 team will be coached by **Donald Wassegijig**, and a U-15 squad with **Scott Stephens** at the helm. For more information, visit: www.manitoulinpanthers.com.

Tennis Tourney

The 'End of Summer' tournament, hosted by the Manitoulin Tennis Club was a success with a good crowd of participants on a beautiful sunny day on Saturday. **Mike McCormick** and **Cathy** (sorry, I don't have your surname!) took the doubles category, with **Ty Hanninen** and **Arik Theijsmeijer** in 2nd place. In the singles division, **Jon Best** defeated **Chris Theijsmeijer** in the final. Thanks to all who attended however there will still be a few sessions continuing for those interested on Wednesdays at 6pm and Sundays at 10am. No bugs and no heat stroke, get on out there!

24 Hour Relay racer!

Back in olden times when I was a kid, running for Coach **Gerry Holiday**, he took us to the 12-hour relay held at the Laurentian Track. Our running club from Central Manitoulin Public School, dubbed the 'Dirty Dozen Plus One' by Mr. Holliday, ran 1600m laps over 12 hours. It was a super fun, encouraging and busy atmosphere for us young'uns.

Gerry, is now training for a grown-up version this fall. He and his team of a certain age will run 5km laps over a full day. Good luck in your training, coach!

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

Rainbow Ridge Golf Course championship winners enjoyed great weather

WIIKWEMKOONG— Pierre Trudeau has now won the Rainbow Ridge Golf Course men's club championship for the past two years.

Mr. Trudeau took the men's division championship with a 36-hole score of 145 to take the men's title. The senior men's title goes to Denis Audette with a score of 155 while the junior boys' division was won by Kohyn Eshkawkogan.

On the ladies' side, Roxanne Corbiere was crowned the ladies' division championship with a score of 175, while the senior ladies division was won by Sandy Bonbled who posted a score of 181. Saraya Eshkawkogan won the junior girls' title.

Quinton Recollet and EJ Murray won the net men's and ladies' division championships.



Pierre Trudeau left and Quinton Recollet won the Rainbow Ridge Golf Course men's and net men's divisions at the club championships.



Pierre Trudeau won the Rainbow Ridge Golf Club men's club championship.



Quinton Recollet was the men's net score division champion.



Sandy Bonbled won the senior ladies division.



EJ Murray won the ladies net score division championship.



Roxanne Corbiere won the ladies division title at the club championship.



Denis Audette won the senior men's title.

Help Wanted!



Information Technology Support Technician (Contract and Casual Positions)

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

Rainbow District School Board is now accepting applications for a **Information Technology Support Technician (Contract and Casual Positions)**.

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

Interested candidates should apply by **3 pm Monday September 9, 2024** and submit a cover letter, resume and names of three (3) references.

David Farrow
Board Chair

Bruce Bourget
Director of Education

rainbowschools.ca

Experienced Bookkeeper wanted by Island accounting firm.

Please respond in confidence to:

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- 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
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Administrative Assistant – Finance

Full Time / Permanent

The Township of Billings is seeking a highly motivated individual to fill the vacant position of Administrative Assistant – Finance.

Working under the direction of the CAO/Clerk, the Administrative Assistant – Finance is the first point of contact to the public when entering the Municipal Office and is primarily responsible in assisting in the administrative and financial operations of the Township, in accordance with the administrative and accounting policies and practices in the Township as well as the Municipal Act and other related legislation.

The ideal candidate will have a post-secondary education in office administration with excellent computer skills. The position involves working in a fast-paced, deadline-orientated environment while maintaining a high level of accuracy and confidentiality. The salary for this position is currently set at \$38,983 - \$48,628 with a comprehensive benefits package and pension through OMERS.

A more detailed job description is available by visiting the careers page on our website at www.billingstwp.ca or by contacting Véronique Dion, CAO/Clerk (705) 282-2611 cao@billingstwp.ca.

Resumes will be accepted via email or regular mail in confidence to Véronique Dion, CAO/Clerk, Township of Billings, 15 Old Mill Road, Kagawong, ON P0P 1J0 or cao@billingstwp.ca until 12:00 pm, Friday September 6th, 2024. Please indicate: Administrative Assistant – Finance in the subject line.

Township of Billings thanks all those candidates who submit an application; however, only those individuals identified for an interview will be contacted.

Personal information contained in applications will be used for recruitment purposes and collected as per the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, R.S.O. 1990. The Township of Billings is an equal opportunity employer that is committed to an inclusive, barrier-free recruitment and selection process. If contacted for an employment opportunity, please advise if you require accommodation.

Campbell Horticultural Society's Annual Flower Show attracts a great crowd

by Margery Frisch

PROVIDENCE BAY—'Tis the season for flower shows and the Campbell Horticultural Society held their Manitoulin Garden Party on a beautiful, sunny day at the Providence Bay Community Hall, where a steady stream of visitors came to admire their display.

The two-room set-up allowed for viewers to wander through the tables of flowers, plants and vegetables at their leisure, while tea was served in the room adjacent.

Carol Lang, Campbell Horticultural Society's president, was kept busy tallying up points for all the participants. After making her choice of best in show, she, with the help of other members, tallied up all the points received to determine the winners.

There were 20 participants in dozens of categories, which resulted in many members winning multiple awards. Sai-



Saija Bailey won four first place awards for her roses, along with People's choice for her 'Dragons' entry.

photos by Margery Frisch

tainer, which the judges deemed the best in that category.

Though the specialty section had very precise instructions to follow, the rest of the show was less stringent and provided a beautiful array of vibrant colours divided into categories of gladioli, begonias, lilies and dahlias; there were perennials, geraniums and roses. Then there were the house plants, outdoor potted plants, annuals and a whole assortment of vegetables. The overall affect was spectacular.

"Our club is 76 years old," club president Carol Lang said proudly. "We have 39 members. Most of our meetings are held in Spring Bay." Many of those members were working in the kitchen, greeting visitors at the door and helping collect and tally the votes on each individual entry. A big undertaking, but carried out with smiles, laughter and ease on everyone's part in true garden party fashion.



And there were vegetables at the flower show too!

ja Bailey had four first place wins for her roses and she won best rose, overall. Her display for the dragon theme, celebrating the year of the Dragon, won the people's choice. Camilla Yahnke won both the President's Choice and the Judges' Choice for two separate entries. Her 'Pool Party' entry reflected the specifications of a line design in a shallow con-

Help Wanted!



WIKWEMIKONG NURSING HOME EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL

Salary: \$20.58 - 26.00 | Pending Experience
Status: Full-Time
Posting Date: August 28, 2024

The Maintenance services in the home are available to ensure that the building, including both interior and exterior areas, and its operational systems are maintained in good repair; and electrical and non-electrical equipment are kept in good repair and maintained. Including all plumbing fixtures, toilets, sinks, grab bars and washroom fixtures and accessories are kept maintained.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Be familiar with Occupational Health and Safety.
- Facilitate relationships between and among residents, relatives, staff and community.
- Follows all Infection Control policies and procedures.
- Identifies areas of risk and notifies Management.
- Ongoing repairs and maintenance of the organization.
- Ability to follow a preventive maintenance program.
- Keeping accurate records & reports.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Ability to read, write and understand oral and written instructions, and maintain maintenance data.
- Possess basic knowledge of laundry systems, ability to read and interpret manuals related to equipment and systems.
- Commitment to learn and use the Anishnaabemowin language. Fluency in Anishnaabemowin would be a definite asset.
- Minimum two years' experience.
- Possess a valid G licence.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Open until filled.

All applicants must submit a cover letter, resume, three work-related references, copies of diplomas and/or certificates to:

Maintenance Personnel
Wikwemikong Nursing Home
Elizabeth Cooper, Administrator/Director of Care
2281 Wikwemikong Way, P.O. Box 114
Wiikwemkoong, ON P0P 2J0
Email: elizabeth.cooper@wikwemikongnursinghome.com

The successful applicant will be required to provide a Criminal Reference Check and Vulnerable Sector Check. We thank all applicants; however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.



WIKWEMIKONG NURSING HOME EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY MORNING COOK

Salary: \$20.86 - 27.25 | Based on Experience & Qualification
Status: Full-Time
Posting Date: August 28, 2024

As a cook you will be responsible for preparing high-quality meals to meet the nutritional needs of the residents, while consistently maintaining the relevant health, hygiene and safety standards. As an employee of Wikwemikong Nursing Home, you will enjoy growing your career and be a part of a dedicated team that positively impacts the lives of the residents.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Ensure all meals are served on time, at appropriate temperatures and in portion-controlled quantities.
- Prepare food for cooking, cleaning, and processing all raw ingredients.
- Prepare meals for residents following the regular and therapeutic menu.
- Serve meals to residents following the posted dietary guidelines and resident preferences.
- Follow safe food handling practices and sanitation regulations.
- Rotate all food supplies and ensure all stored and prepared food is properly labelled.
- Support resident preferences and choices.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Food service worker certificate, or willing to be enrolled with employment.
- Previous cooking experience in an institutional setting, preferably long-term care.
- Demonstrate knowledge of safe food handling practices.
- Fluency in the Ojibway language would be a definite asset, or willingness to learn.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Open until filled.

Entitled to benefits and pension after completing probation.

All applicants must submit a cover letter, resume, three work-related references, copies of diplomas and/or certificates to:

Cook
Wikwemikong Nursing Home
Chris Lethbridge, Food Service Supervisor
2281 Wikwemikong Way, P.O. Box 114
Wiikwemkoong, ON P0P 2J0
Email: chris. lethbridge@wikwemikongnursinghome.com

The successful applicant will be required to provide a Criminal Reference Check and Vulnerable Sector Check. We thank all applicants; however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

WIKWEMIKONG NURSING HOME EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY ACTIVITY ASSISTANT

Salary: \$20.58 - \$25.84 (Based on Experience)
Status: Full-Time (2)
Posting Date: August 28, 2024

Under the direction and supervision of the Activity Manager, the Activity Assistant shall provide recreation and leisure programs to the residents in accordance with the Long-Term Care Act. The Activity Assistant will provide for the individual needs of the assigned resident in accordance with the recreation and leisure care plan through the maintenance of the residents, optimum level of functioning physically, emotionally, socially, culturally, intellectually and spiritually.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Ensure and promote the provision of resident centred services to meet the needs of residents.
- Provide supervision and/or assistance to the resident in recreation and leisure programming as the individual plan of care meets the needs and expectations.
- Provide programs to the resident with respect to their senses and communication.
- Provides for an assist in achieving the resident's nutritional needs.
- Provides for and implements preventative and safety measures and reports unsafe conditions.
- Provides support services to meet the needs of the residents.
- Assist in financial management.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- A diploma or degree in recreation and leisure studies, therapeutic recreation, kinesiology or other related from a community college or university or enrolled in community college or university in such a field.
- Ability to work independently as well as cooperatively with others in care team.
- Ability to interact with residents, families and visitors to create a warm and pleasant atmosphere.
- One year's experience in a long-term care facility is an asset.
- Proficiency in oral and written English, have a keen interest in working with the elderly and rotating shifts.
- Fluency in the Ojibway Language would be a definite asset.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Open until filled.

All applicants must submit a cover letter, resume, three work-related references, copies of diplomas and/or certificates to:

Activity Assistant
Wikwemikong Nursing Home
Jamie Wassegijig, Activity Manager
2281 Wikwemikong Way, P.O. Box 114
Wiikwemkoong, ON P0P 2J0
Email: jamie.wassegijig@wikwemikongnursinghome.com

The successful applicant will be required to provide a Criminal Reference Check and Vulnerable Sector Check. We thank all applicants; however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Manitoulin is being transformed with the influx of new residents and business owners who bring with them fresh ideas, experiences and perspectives that are enriching the area. Some individuals and families are still unpacking boxes, having only moved in the past month or two, while others made the move over the last few years and are now comfortably established in their new communities. Here is one of their stories.

by Heather Marshall

Wendy Thorn (nee Smith) can only conclude that her parents were prescient when they named her at birth, given that the name means 'wanderer.' That's something she has excelled at as she has moved from community to community across North America her entire life.

Wendy was born and spent her early years in Kapuskasing. She moved frequently during childhood as her father's job with Bell Canada saw them later posted to Kirkland Lake, Sault Ste. Marie and Iron Bridge, all places where she reveled in being close to nature. The North inspired the creative spirit of the young artist, who took up oil painting at the age of 12.

Despite her love of art, Wendy pursued a more practical career following graduation from high school. She began an accounting program through Sir Wilfred Laurier University while also working in the Kitchener Board of Education's accounting department. Through her studies she met Brent Thorn, who also was studying accounting and simultaneously working at BF Goodrich. Following a quick courtship, the couple married in 1979 and soon after

NEW-ish to Manitoulin



Brent and Wendy (nee Smith) Thorn take a moment out to enjoy a summer libation

headed south to the US," says Brent, with Wendy, piping in "even though it was taking me further and further away from home in Northern Ontario."

Brent's career saw him promoted repeatedly, necessitating even more moves over the next roughly 30 years to Connecticut, followed by North Carolina and, later, a return to Connecticut where he had by then moved into the precious metals field engaged in acquisitions. When that firm downsized, the family was obliged to move yet again, this time to New Jersey where he worked in glass manufacturing and, later, to Delaware where he was employed by Amazon as manager of a fulfillment centre.

Wendy continued to work in nursing until early 2001 when she was ready for a career change and trained as a flight attendant. She had just started working for American Airlines based in Boston when 9/11 happened. The tragedy struck close to home, as she had flown the flight to LAX, the route one of the planes flown into the twin towers was on. Furloughed after the horrific event, Wendy tried her hand at everything from working in a grocery store to a dog kennel, to a periodontist's office and flower shop for the next two years. By 2003, she decided to return to airlines and rejoined American Eagle as a flight attendant where she remained for the next 19 years before retiring in 2022.

Both Wendy and Brent were ready to return to Canada by

this time and initially moved to Burlington. However, Wendy's love for Northern Ontario had never faded and she was anxious to make her way back to the region, particularly because their son had married a girl from Espanola and his family was living in the North.

"We had come up to visit our son and, especially, our little granddaughter, in 2020 but had to isolate for two weeks as it was during the height of COVID. It gave us time to really think about how much we wanted to be closer to family after all our years in the US," says Brent.

"I told Brent that, after following him across the continent throughout his career, it was time for me to return to the north in retirement," adds Wendy. "I wanted to get back where my spirit belongs."

With the decision made, Brent was able to transfer to Amazon Canada where he is currently employed in logistics for Amazon Air, which ships cargo across western Canada. The position enables him to work remotely from home and, as needed, from either Calgary or Vancouver where the company's operations are based.

The final decision—and Wendy insists this is their final move—was where to live in Northern Ontario. They settled on Little Current, just a half hour drive from their granddaughter in Espanola. The couple had already bought property in town in 2019 while visiting their son. The location was ideal as Brent had grown up in Warton and was familiar with Manitoulin and it fit Wendy's northern criteria.

While the Thorns were ready to have a new, 'forever' home built, it took a while before

their dream came true. They arranged to buy a prefab house, but the delivery was long delayed due to the pandemic. They finally took possession in July 2023 and moved in permanently in September.

After being out of the country for 30 years, Wendy couldn't be more delighted. "I didn't think I'd ever get Brent up here, but he knows how much it means to me. And now he absolutely loves it too, thankfully!"

While Brent continues to work, flying in and out of Sudbury when he needs to travel, Wendy has immersed herself in island life, joining the Manitoulin Fine Arts Association and pursuing opportunities to display her artwork with the Northern Ontario Arts Association.

The only small wrinkle in their fulfilling new lives is being so far from their daughter and her family, particularly their second granddaughter, who live in Orlando, Florida. They make frequent trips to visit back in the US but have no plans to uproot again now that they've found their 'little piece of heaven.'

Heather Marshall and her husband worked as journalists and consultants in the National Capital Region for more decades than they care to admit before making their Sandfield cottage their permanent home. A lifelong learner, Heather loves discovering new things and people and relishes the opportunity to write about newcomers to the Manitoulin. If you would like to share your story or know of recent arrivals we should meet, send a message to HAMarshall@proton.me

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