

The MANITOULIN EXPOSITOR



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A grease fire that started in the kitchen of the residence of Georgia Debassige and her husband Sheldon Bondy in M'Chigeeng First Nation April 13 left the family without their home. Fortunately, the family was able to get out of the home safely. **SEE STORY ON PAGE 6.**

Wiikwemkoong-made N95 masks popular, but govts not buying

by Michael Erskine

TORONTO—As mandatory mask mandates are being lifted across the province (although health care and long-term care masking requirements will likely be extended past April 27), Jimmy Emms, president of Dent-X Canada, is concerned that government messaging is somewhat flawed.

Dent-X is the mask manufacturer that established a plant in Wiikwemkoong, which was opened to some fanfare during the earlier days of the pandemic, and which employs a significant number of people at both the Wiikwemkoong facility and a sister plant established at the same time in Sagamok First Nation.

Mr. Emms questioned why the provincial government is buying 3.5 million three-ply masks, masks he asserts are relatively poor at protecting the wearer

from the COVID-19 virus and an action he believes is misleading the general public over those mask's effectiveness.

Mr. Emms supplied a link to a CBC video of tests, by way of background, that demonstrate that three-ply masks can provide as little as 23 percent protection. Other video links to Harvard University and other medical studies demonstrate the effectiveness of N95 masks in preventing transmission to both the wearer and the public around them.

"Our question would be why would the government stockpile vast sums of three-ply masks for COVID-19 when it is clear it will do very little to protect wearers from the virus?" wrote Aliyah Imran, Dent-X general manager. "Why has the government not

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Chi-Cheemaun will begin season on schedule

OWEN SOUND—The Owen Sound Transportation Company (OSTC) anticipates the Chi-Cheemaun ferry service between Tobermory and South Baymouth will begin its sailing season as scheduled, on Friday, May 6.

As has been reported previously, on March 12, while in dry-dock in Thunder Bay, the Chi-Cheemaun suffered fire damage to its boiler room. The fire was quickly extinguished by onboard crew and Thunder Bay Fire Rescue.

Repairs have been carried out on the ship since the fire occurred. "The OSTC is working diligently to have the vessel ready to enter service as scheduled, on Friday, May 6, and at this point in time, does not anticipate any delays," an OSTC April 11 release explains.

"The OSTC recognizes the importance of the Chi-Cheemaun to the local economy, specifically the tourism industry," the OSTC continues.

"Reservations are available to

be made for the 2022 season, both online and by telephone. If there is disruption to the season start date, OSTC will be in contact with customers to assist them with rescheduling or to provide a refund," the release continues.

The OSTC adds, "if there are service disruptions, OSTC will promptly update any schedule changes through its website and social media channels."

The regular season is scheduled to start May 6 with the ship's 8:50 am departure from Tobermory bound for South Baymouth.

The ship is still in dry dock in Thunder Bay. It may sail to Owen Sound before heading to Tobermory, but that decision hasn't been made by OSTC as of yet. The Chi-Cheemaun had been expected to return to Owen Sound for the winter but, due to delays in Thunder Bay, and the closing of the lock at Sault Ste. Marie, it has remained there. The Sault locks are now open and the 2022 shipping season is underway.

MSS robotic team places well at Mississauga event, co-captain invited to participate in world event

Wiky High coach predicts bright future for fledgling squad

by Tom Sasvari

MANITOULIN—Two Manitoulin Island high school robotics teams came home from the provincial First Robotics Canada (FRC) championships this past week weekend with a bevy of team and individual awards!

"With the provincials being held over four days it was much more reasonable and comfortable for all the competitors than the regional championships (held in Mississauga), which were one-day events. The provincials ran from Wednesday to Saturday in Mississauga," said MSS team mentor Yana Bauer. "It was a great event and we ended up with a number of awards."

The MSS Manitoulin Metal team won the provincial "Entrepreneurship Award for its business model," said Ms. Bauer. "The judges liked our team because it is interested in entrepreneurship and sustainability, not just our financial but environmental business model. Our spirit, team comprehensive business plan helps to define, manage, organize our ongoing objectives to ensure a self-sustaining program."

Ms. Bauer noted, "when this award was announced, members of our

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Jocelyn Kuntsi, co-captain of the MSS Manitoulin Metal team, was the winner of the provincial Dean's List award and a SHAD scholarship at the First Robotics provincial championships.

Back on the powwow trail

Young dancer pleased with Denver experience

by Andre Leblanc

BIRCH ISLAND—I grew up here on Manitoulin and I have enjoyed attending many powwows over the years. Despite being totally amazed at the experience, I have never had the chance to get inside the thoughts of the dancers. I have absently thought that their experiences would have been similar to many of my sports activities. The preparation, anticipation, butterflies, challenge, camaraderie and competition were all part of the reason I competed. I recently had the chance to interview a young dancer with a huge wealth of experience and am finally understanding how it is much more than that.

Avery Sutherland, 17, of Birch Island is a veritable veteran of competition powwows. Avery has always

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Manitoulin Streams Island-wide cleanup features lots of prizes

On now, continues to May 2

by Tom Sasvari

MANITOULIN—With the success of last year's Island-wide garbage cleanup event, Manitoulin Streams Improvement Association (MSIA) is hosting the event again this year, with additional features.

"Last year was the first year we held an Island-wide garbage cleanup, and it took off, there were a lot of people who participated," said Liam Campbell, environmental technologist for Manitoulin Streams. "We felt if there is that type of interest, we want to keep it going."

The Manitoulin Island garbage cleanup is taking place April 18-

May 2, with several different competitions taking place.

Competition includes categories like the weirdest garbage collected, garb-age-gap, garbage cleanup hero as well as a family draw and an overall draw. As well, there are new trophy categories for community, schools and business categories.

"In the weirdest garbage collected category, whatever people feel is weird garbage they find, we are asking that they post a picture and send it to Manitoulin Stream's Facebook page with the hashtags #weirdest garbage, #manitoulinislandgarbage-

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Far left, Avery Sutherland of Whitefish River First Nation poses with some new friends at the Denver March Pow Wow held last month.

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The Manitoulin *West* Recorder



Grade 7 students at Pontiac School in Wiikwemkoong had the opportunity to chat with Canadian philanthropist Mark Pathy aboard the International Space Station last week.

Pontiac School students talk to philanthropist Mark Pathy aboard International Space Station

SPACE—On a wet cold day in April students in Natalie Parrington’s Grade 7 class at the Wiikwemkoong Pontiac School had a once-in-a-lifetime chance—to speak with a person aboard the International Space Station (ISS)! That person was Canadian philanthropist Mark Pathy. Mr. Pathy is part of the four-member Axiom Mission 1 crew that arrived at the ISS on Saturday, April 9, aboard the first all-private charter flight to the ISS.

This was all made possible by Pontiac Principal Nicole Peltier. She says that, despite the hurdles of the COVID-19 pandemic, she is happy that the Grade 7 class was able to participate.

“We submitted a proposal at the beginning of the school year, despite the challenges of the school year and having to pivot to online learning,” Ms. Peltier said. “I am so proud of our students for putting in the time and effort to complete what was needed to make this extraordinary learning oppor-

tunity happen in our school. I would also like to thank Ms. Parrington for taking this project on and her commitment to providing engaging learning opportunities to her class.”

No one was more excited about this opportunity than Ms. Parrington. She wore her NASA sweatshirt and treated her class to Mars Bars after they spoke with Mr. Pathy. Ms. Parrington could not hold back her excitement. “This experience has been such a rich learning experience. The students are applying their learning in the areas of science, technology, engineering, and math to the meaningful experience of talking with an astronaut in space! This was the very first commercial flight to the ISS so we are witnessing the beginnings of space travel!”

In order to participate, students had to design and build structures to examine how factors (such

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Gore Bay, Billings included in community water infrastructure projects funding

by Tom Sasvari
MANITOULIN—Three Manitoulin Island and area municipalities are included in a significant funding announcement made jointly by the federal and provincial governments for community water infrastructure projects. The Town of Gore Bay and Billings Township, along with Killarney, are to receive funding.

On April 14, Jennifer O’Connell, parliamentary secretary to the minister of intergovernmental affairs, infrastructure, and communities, on behalf of the honourable Dominic LeBlanc, minister of intergovernmental affairs, infrastructure and communities, and the honourable Kinga Surma, Ontario’s minister of infrastructure, announced joint funding for 144 water infrastructure projects across Ontario.

The Town of Gore Bay is to receive federal funding of \$558,997 and provincial funding of \$465,784, with the town’s share of funding \$372,711. “This is very good news,” stated Gore Bay Mayor Dan Osborne. “We are slowly making our way through modernizing the older infrastructure that does not currently meet needs.”

Funding for the Gore Bay project will support the replacement of approximately 640 metres of watermain replacement for Dawson Street, Borron Street and Laird Street. Work includes the re-attachment of valves and interconnections as well as trenching across Meredith Street, the instal-

lation of five new fire hydrants and site restoration. These improvements will increase the reliability and capacity of the transmission infrastructure.

Mayor Osborne explained that as part of the project, a new updated eight-inch water main line will replace the current two water line system.

The Township of Billings is receiving federal funding of \$700,091, and provincial funding of \$583,351. The municipal share

“is \$466,786.

“This is great news,” stated Billings Mayor Ian Anderson. “We’re thrilled and this project has been on our radar for some time. The work needs to be done and we are very appreciative of this funding.”

The funding being provided is for the Old Mill Road watermain replacement. The project includes the relocation and replacement of

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Ken Ferguson recognized for impact on farmers’ markets on Manitoulin Island

by Tom Sasvari
LITTLE CURRENT—Ken Ferguson has been recognized for his many years and impact on farmers markets on Manitoulin Island by the NEMI Farmers’ Market.

“It is time to recognize Ken Ferguson for his impact on marketing from years past to the present,” said Laila Kiviaho, treasurer of the NEMI Market at the group’s general meeting, held earlier this month. “There is no doubt that he has the longest service record for farmers’ markets on Manitoulin. He has continued through many years in various capacities



Laila Kiviaho, presents a framed jigsaw puzzle depicting a farmers’ market to Ken Ferguson on behalf of the NEMI farmers’ market. Mr. Ferguson was recognized for his many years of dedicated service and impact on farmers’ markets on Manitoulin Island and the NEMI market.

from marketer to executive roles. He was manager at the market in Little Current for a number of years. He took over after the retirement of Glen Cannard and continued when NEMI Farmers’ Market broke away from the Manitoulin Farmers’ Market Association Inc. in 2007.”

Ms. Kiviaho explained, “Provincially, Ken was a director on the board of Farmers’ Markets Ontario for a number of years. We have all benefitted from his experience on the board.”

“Ken is a people person,” said Ms. Kiviaho. “Cus-

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Gore Bay council looking to raise its stipend by 25 percent

A raise would be in line with other Island councils
by Tom Sasvari
GORE BAY—Gore Bay council is in support of a proposal made by Councillor Ken Blodgett to increase the overall remuneration for council by 25 percent, bringing the stipend closer to other municipalities on Manitoulin Island.

“I think it is time for us to have a discussion on increasing the remuneration for council and mayor,” stated Councillor Blodgett at a meeting last week. “Any newly elected council is nervous about giving itself a raise because members of the public say, ‘as soon as they got in, they gave themselves a raise.’ The only time to look at this is at the end of the council’s term.”

“We can’t be afraid of backlash,” stated Councillor Blodgett, noting that, “compared to other municipalities on the Island, we are in fact receiving much less than the average.”

“I don’t care if one or two people write letters to the local newspaper opposing this,” said Councillor Blodgett. “If we are afraid to approve something that makes sense because it might upset somebody, we shouldn’t be on council.”

Councillor Blodgett explained that the mayor of Gore Bay receives approximately \$8,471.64 per year while the average stipend for mayors and reeves on Manitoulin is \$9,409.22. Gore Bay is approximately 11 percent below the average.” He said, “the average councillor on Manitoulin Island receives an annual income of \$6,414.68. Gore Bay councillors receive an average of \$4,711.56 per year. This is approximately 36 percent below the average of all councils on Manitoulin Island.”

“If anyone receives backlash about this, tell them to call me,” stated Councillor Blodgett. “Being on council is not a volunteer job. It is a job. We have talked about increasing the stipends at least as far back as 16 years ago when I first joined council. And now we are actually getting paid less because the government has taken away a portion of councillors stipends’ through income tax regulations.”

“This is a job, we have to get prepared for meetings, do our research and be at meetings and discuss issues, resolve issues and make decisions that benefit the town,” said Councillor Blodgett. “There is a lot more to it than sitting at a council meeting for two hours every month.

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Mike Strobel’s Variety Village book lauded with prestigious award

by Michael Erskine
KAGAWONG—Retired Toronto Sun journalist may have largely stepped away from toiling in the media trenches of the Big Smoke for cottage life in the idyllic village of Kagawong, but he has never relinquished the Scarborough passion project he discovered and adopted while during his long and storied journalistic career—Variety Village.

As a fundraiser for Variety Village, a facility that champions “a place for children with disabilities to be themselves and to be better than ever,” Mr. Strobel put together a book ‘Small Miracles: the inspiring kids of Variety Village’ that highlights the stories of those children whose lives and own passions give meaning to that organization, including one with a Manitoulin connection. ‘Small

Miracles’ was recently awarded Gold in the Health and Fitness category of the readerViews (readerviews.com) indie book awards.

“There is no way to describe how wonderful this book is,” reads Kathy Stickle’s review of the book. “It is captivating and there is no way that one can read the book and not have their spirits lifted and finish it without feeling happy and so proud of these children and the people that support them and help them every day at Variety Village. Plus, the pictures are so beautiful and you end up feeling so proud of each and every one of these children and what they represent to themselves, their families and those around them.”

“The opening line is a keeper, promo-wise,” laughs Mr. Strobel of the review, “it’s headed for my website.” (Mr. Strobel’s website is northchannelpress.com.)

Mr. Strobel is quick to deflect praise for the publication (although the prose is all his), noting that “you guys (The Expositor) can take a bow too. Kendra (Edwards formerly of the paper’s design department) in particular.” Mr. Strobel made extensive use of Island resources in the production of ‘Small Miracles’ as part of his indie imprint North Channel Press.

“There is an amazing amount of talent to be found on the Island,” he said. The main part of putting together a successful imprint is in sourcing professional-grade talent to undertake the various chores beyond writing the words. Mr. Strobel includes the services of Espanola’s OJ Graphix in his accolades, as well as former Expositor copy editor Kate Thompson. Having the right team in your corner is one of the

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opinion

editorial

A most Liberal budget is assailed from all sides

The federal Liberals have delivered their first budget since the last election and, given the reaction coming from the right and left of the Canadian political continuum, it seems they may just have hit a Goldilocks spot on the political spectrum.

The biggest disappointment for the Conservative official opposition, although the current Conservative leadership hopefuls would likely deny it to their last breath (while Tory pundits in the right-wing media are doing their very level best to hype the horror) is the uncharacteristic fiscal caution being expressed in this most centrist of documents. It is not quite that the Liberals have re-discovered their inner Paul Martin, but after weeks of the Tories screaming that the fiscal sky would fall the moment the 2022 budget was unveiled, peppering the media with predictions of dire economic despair on every evening news clip, the budget delivered by Canadian Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland was decidedly anticlimactic.

Meanwhile, the most die-hard leftists to be found within the NDP ranks are loudly lamenting the paltry 30 pieces of silver garnered by their erstwhile leader Jagmeet Singh (\$15 billion by Conservative count, inflation has taken its toll on the price of souls too, it seems) who, despite avowing the NDP will still fight like hell for workers, the poor and other downtrodden of our nation, has already signalled his party's MPs will support this "terribly-flawed" budget.

Can you get more centrist than that? Prime Minister Justin Trudeau may well have made some progress on righting the ship of state as our nation navigates into some of the choppiest waters to be seen in generations.

The budget does spend a great deal of money, some \$64 billion more being added to the deficit, \$32 billion of that being offered up in new

spending (did we mention inflation is all Justin's fault?), all the while providing insufficient funds aimed at a plethora of crises. Not enough is spent on the environment, too little is spent on defence, a drop in the bucket is offered up for housing, mental health is getting far less than is needed, health care in general (a provincial responsibility) needs far more federal transfers if we are to plug the holes revealed by the ongoing pandemic.

On the other side of the ledger, the deficit is projected to shrink in relation to our country's gross national product—that's the cake and eat it too territory that the Liberals hope will prove delicious to the electorate's palate come the next poll. Sunny ways may yet prevail, stay tuned, more news in 2025—several political lifetimes away.

Yep, our current federal government has apparently managed to tick off all sides of the divide. Time will tell if that strategy will bridge the current American-style polarization afflicting our nation's body politic.

Mr. Singh's strategy seems clear. A remarkably pragmatic fellow for an NDP leader, his deal with the Liberal devil appears to bank on Canadians continuing to elect minority governments (most likely Liberal, unless the Conservatives can come to their centre-right senses in selecting a new leader). That is a canny, if not downright shrewd, assessment of where the polls are headed if one is gazing into any unbiased crystal ball, providing a situation where the NDP could be well-placed to nudge the centre over a smidgen into orange territory.

In the meantime, this budget seems to have provided a welcome breath of uninteresting times.

letters

Former councillor expresses dismay at lack of transparency

Disrespectful to ratepayers and unfair to staff

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is an open letter to Assiginack mayor and council and has been reprinted here at the author's request.

Dear Mayor Ham and Assiginack Councillors,

I attended the April 5 council meeting, knowing that the 2022 budget was on the agenda. I thought it would be interesting to hear you discuss your individual visions and what you felt was important to our town. I was absolutely shocked when less than 10 minutes later, with little to no discussion, the budget was passed without balancing the capital wish-list.

The list with all the capital projects that could/should be done was given to you with the instructions that, although the list totalled \$1.2 million, you only had \$271,000 to spend and you basically shrugged your shoulders. One councillor did question a few items, such as the anticipated cost of gravel this year and the need for a new firetruck (the pump is gone in the old truck.) At that point the treasurer informed you how they financed the last one, but no one seemed to be interested in pursuing that. One councillor felt that they didn't need to fix the side-

walk to the beach this year and there was a very brief discussion about the state of the post office building and that was it. No direction, no guidance or leadership was offered by our mayor although he has years of experience in that role. No priorities for the year were set, no decisions reached, and the budget was passed with a wish list of \$1.2 million.

I want you to know that I left that meeting upset by the appearance of how little you care about the wellbeing of our township.

You were elected as our leaders, our caretakers of our township. Can you not set priorities? Can you not make a decision? Can you not even give instructions to your staff to explore all options for the post office building and ask them to report back to you?

I believe it was truly inappropriate and disrespectful to the ratepayers of Assiginack and unfair to your staff to pass that budget without proper allocation of the monies you had to work with.

**Brenda Reid
Manitowaning**

Mankind's influence is creating confusion for everyone

Our governments need to smarten up

To the Expositor:

People's influences on one another are not doing so well for anybody. All it is doing is just creating a lot of confusion for everyone, that is why I keep fighting off mankind's influence. Sometimes somebody who is under the influence of alcohol will ask me why I'm so different from everybody else; it's because I never get caught up with mankind's influence, because if I did, I would just screw up my life again.

Just like I did when I was abusing alcohol, but this time I'm just following our Creator's teachings and sometimes I do see myself not fitting in with today's society either. I did share this with my sister to how I see myself because anybody who gets caught up with mankind's influences will become a lost soul.

If anybody knows or understands what I mean by that, try and look it up in the bible, it might be in there somewhere. Sometimes I do surprise

myself how much I understand about life, that it's one of our Creator's teachings and it's written in the bible already.

I never doubt myself again like I use to do. All it does is tell me that I'm on the right track on how I understand life and the way it is supposed to be. It's saddening to see how our society is behaving these days, with all the hatred and jealousy that is happening everywhere, not to mention the homeless people and how they must feel to be disregarded especially during the winter months.

That is why I always say to smarten up. Even our governments need to smarten up on how they are running our country. It's certainly not very fair for anybody.

**Ronald Osawabine
Wiikwemkoong**

Writer shares Easter Sunday experience of the sun and the moon

It's as if the sun and moon knew Jesus had risen on that day 2022 years ago

To the Expositor:

I would like to share an experience I had on early Sunday morning. It was as if someone woke me from my deep sleep and told me to look out of the windows. I looked out my west window and then I looked out my east window—and what an experience I had! Then I hurried upstairs to where my wife sleeps, woke my wife up and I told her you have to come and see this. It was early Sunday morning and it was Easter Sunday. As the moon was setting in the west, we saw an amazing sight.

Here is what my wife and I saw. The sun was coming up in the east, all at the same time as the full moon was going down in the west. The sun was also a dull sun and they were both shining so bright. Both the moon and the sun were casting a shadow as I went and stood outside.

I am 77 years old and I can't recall ever experiencing this before in my

life and neither has my wife.

It was, "as if the sun knows that Jesus arose on Sunday that day, on Easter Sunday." And it is as if the moon knows that Jesus had risen on that day as well. As we were listening, you could hear all the different kinds of birds singing. It's as if the whole world was rejoicing that Jesus Christ had risen on Easter Sunday, over 2022 years ago—and then it was so quiet, you could hear a pin drop. It's as if the whole world stood silent on Easter Sunday morning. So I thought I would like to share this experience I had; it was quite the experience. My granddaughter Breann in Aundeck Omni Kaning took a picture of it at the same time.

**Lyman Corbiere
M'Chigeeng**

Manitoulin Island comedian Charlie Adam to headline for Mike Bullard

by Tom Sasvari
LITTLE CURRENT—While he thoroughly enjoyed being a high school teacher on Manitoulin Island, Charles Adam has found a second career that has become an obsession for him.
“I loved teaching, but being a comedian is an obsession, an addiction,” stated Mr. Adam. “It is certainly lots of fun. It’s one of the most addictive things I’ve ever done in my life.”
Mr. Adam recently finished in a first-place tie at the Timmins Comedy Festival qualifying round (held in Timmins March 12). The Timmins Comedy Festival is to be held at the end of the month, but participants had to win a qualifying round to open for the headliner at the festival. “The reward for the winner of the qualifying round (who was determined by audience members voting) was \$250, and to be able to open for Mike Bullard at the festival.”
“I will be opening for Mike Bullard in front of about 285 people at a dinner show to be held April 29 in Timmins and the fellow that tied me for first will be opening The Naughty Show the same night in Chapleau.”
“My comedy is pretty clean, at times sexually suggestive, but you won’t hear any f-



Comedian Charlie Adams
bombs at my shows,” said Mr. Adam, who noted, “I will be performing in Chapleau on April 30 as part of the festival. My wife’s family is from there, so it should be fun performing.”
Mr. Adam has been retired from teaching for seven years. For many years, he has been writing funny things in a journal-style book. “I had a journal that I kept for a long time and would write down things I

thought might be funny, mostly based on life experiences.”
“I’ve performed across the province,” Mr. Adam told The Expositor. “The most prestigious show I’ve performed at was the Thunder Bay Comic Festival. I needed to perform 30 minutes of material at that show.”
“The biggest crowd I’ve performed in front of was a fundraiser at the Caruso Club in Sudbury. There were 500 people in attendance and I was one of two or three amateur comics to perform, with the rest of the 24 performers being musicians,” said Mr. Adam.
He has also performed at Toronto’s Yuk Yuk’s Comedy Club and in Ottawa four times at new talent shows there.
“I also produce shows too,” said Mr. Adam. “A couple of years ago, I produced a show for Toronto comedian Garrett Jameson and recently for Derek Seguin in Sudbury.”
Mr. Adam explained, “it was very tough to get through the pandemic. I did a couple of Christmas parties on Zoom and they went well. But if you don’t receive immediate feedback and laughter from the crowd, it’s not the same.”
Now that the regulations for the pandemic have been lessened, “I think people have

been pent up for so long, they are looking for things that they can do out in public that they can go to and enjoy themselves,” said Mr. Adam. “But I find people are still very cautious. In most of the places I’ve performed over the past few months, I see masks on most people and they are still social distancing.”
“Windsor is my hometown, and I’m hoping to have a couple of shows there in late spring or early in the summer,” continued Mr. Adam. “And I’m looking for venues for a couple of comic buddies to bring to the Island.”
“Long term, I’m hoping to get more exposure and be able to perform more shows. I performed at a show in Thunder Bay (pre-covid), and not long after that I was lined up for gigs in Windsor and Detroit, but this was all washed away when the pandemic hit,” said Mr. Adam.
“A lot of this business is self promotion and working with other comedians that you get to know on the circuit,” added Mr. Adam. As a teacher and a precursor to his current career, he had used comedy in class. “I used to tell jokes to my students to get them to pay attention.”

Innovative Anishinaabemowin project launches 49ers podcast short stories

by Michael Erskine
SOUTH BAY—Dire predictions abound for Indigenous languages across North America, but one hardy group of determined Wiikwemkoong volunteers has set out to turn the tide and revitalize Anishinaabemowin in their communities. Nawewin Gamik, a brainchild of author, playwright and activist Alanis King, is a family and community-based project that is harnessing the power of elders and other language speakers to bridge the gap to instill the language in youth.
The Nawewin Gamik crew launched the 49ers Project, a group of podcasts, during a day-long celebration held at the South Bay Community Hall recently.
Organizer Tracy Cleland shared the group’s story and the group’s journey on the road to publishing 49 short stories online as a series of podcasts during a short launch ceremony.
She described how Ms. King helped set up a not-for-profit and governing structure in order to apply for funding for the project. “We were told that, as a first-time applicant, we probably wouldn’t be successful,” shared Ms. Cleland. But successful they very much were, to the tune of over \$100,000.
“Alanis came in with an idea,” said Ms. Cleland, “she came to the elders and we did the proposal.”
“Originally, we were planning on producing 365 short story or monologue podcasts,” said Ms. Cleland, noting the ambitious plans the group has, “one for each day of the year.”
The initial group of 49 podcasts was uploaded and launched last week, following the launch ceremony which featured three of the podcasts. Each short story featured in the podcast is presented entirely in Anishinaabemowin and is designed to be simple and accessible for those who are trying to learn the language.
“They are accessible to everyone all across the globe,” said Ms. Cleland, noting that she had to learn the ins and outs of uploading to Spotify and YouTube. “It was a bit of a learning curve,” she laughed.
“All of the speakers are from Wiikwemkoong,” she said. “The youngest was five years old, all the way up to our elders.”



Back row, Tracy Cleland, Wes Jr. Cleland, Phyllis Kimewon, Lorraine Bebamikawe, Viola Recollet. Ray Jackson, Eugene Kimewon, Tom Wemigwans, Liz Wemigwans, front row, little girl Isadora Cleland, Trey Cleland, Gertie Manitowabi, Sally Recollet, Wasskone Cleland and Gordie Odjig.

photo by Michael Erskine



The family-orientation of the Nawewin Gamik house project is well-illustrated by the birthday cake presentation to Phyllis Kimewon and her friends. Ms. Kimewon has been a central figure in the project and the cupcakes were delicious.

Ms. Cleland said that, although the group had originally planned for a launch in December, the pandemic caused a delay. “But I felt we needed to have a launch to recognize all the effort that went into making this a reality.”
The initial group of short stories is divided into groups delineated by the colours orange, pink, blue, green and orange. Writing credits for the stories include: Ms. King, Lorraine Bebamikwe, Phyllis Williams, W. Cleland and W. Wemigwans, Cyndie Wemigwans, Viola Recollet, Doris Peltier, Shirley Williams, Joe Peltier, Muriel Assinewai, Mary Lou Manitowabi, Cecelia Pitawanakwat, Ray Jackson, Marlene Shawana, Steven George, Gloria Eshkibok, Cecil King, Jeff Eshkawkogan, Agnes Manitowabi, Cotnee Kaboni, Mark Eshkawkogan, Martina Osawamick, Joey Wemigwans, Sally Recollet, Violet Pitawanakwat, Jacob Wemigwans, Eugene Manitowabi, Gordie Odjig, Tom Wemigwans, Wiky Drum Committee, Bev Naokwegijig, Jacob Wemigwans, Gertie Manitowabi, Tish Manitowabi, Pat Osawamick and Tecla Neganigijig.
“You also have to add Dwayne Animikwan, who did the editing, Jason Manitowabi and ‘music guy’ Leland Bell,” said Ms. Cleland.
Plans are in the works for further applications to help build the library up to the envisioned 365 podcasts.
“Thanks goes out to Ontario Arts Council for the funding to help make this happen,” said Ms. Cleland.
The podcasts can be found at Nanaamwin.ca and on Spotify, with the display name Nawewin Gamik. The podcasts were made available on April 20.

M’Chigeeng First Nation family loses home in major fire April 13

by Tom Sasvari
M’CHIGEENG—Fortunately, a M’Chigeeng First Nation family was able to get out of their home safely after a major fire that ultimately destroyed their house on Wednesday, April 13.

“We received a call to a structure fire at 3:30 pm on (April 13) at 47 Bay Street in M’Chigeeng,” said Eli Fox, fire chief of the M’Chigeeng volunteer fire department. “The majority of the house was already down when we arrived and

there was extensive smoke damage on the north side of the building,” he explained, noting that the kitchen and living room areas had sustained the bulk of the damage.

“The residents of the home were in the structure at the time of the fire but fortunately the entire family managed to get out of the house unharmed,” Mr. Fox told The Expositor. “And once they got out of the house, the emergency medical services were on hand to help them. The family

was able to salvage a few items, but the kitchen and living rooms were adjoining and there was nothing left of them. These rooms were burnt out from the inside.”

Fire chief Fox explained the cause of the fire, “was a grease fire. They were cooking food in the kitchen when the grease took fire and spread very quickly.”

Georgia Debassige and her husband Sheldon Bondy, along with their four-year-old son MacKenzie Bondy were residing in

the home. Ms. Debassige told The Expositor the fire was, “a grease fire. We were cooking fries and pogos on the stove when the grease started to spew out and spread. It seemed we got everything under control and then the grease started to spread again on the stove, and it got very smoky and became too hard to get the fire out. Sheldon kept trying to put it out, but we had to get out.”

“I didn’t even have time to grab my cell phone,” said Ms. Debassige. “It was a

really old house. It had been built in the 1960s by my auntie, and we were renting the house from my grandmother Lillian (Debassige).”

“We are now living with my grandmother,” Ms. Debassige told The Expositor. The couple didn’t have contents insurance. However, “we have received a lot of support and donations from people. We are so grateful for everyone’s help. Everyone has been so kind. I can’t believe how many people have come forward and offered donations or

help. It has been like a light to see how nice people have been and have helped out. We are very grateful.”

“We had a really good response with many of our firefighters on the scene,” said Mr. Fox. He added that it was raining outside at the time of the fire, “and the rain helped stifle the fire.”

Along with EMS on the scene to help assist the family, Cancom Security was also there to provide traffic management.” It took firefighters about three hours to put out the blaze.

Major repairs needed on Michael’s Bay Road, township council hears

by Tom Sasvari
TEHKUMMAH—Local residents, Tehkummah township councillors and the roads superintendent all agree that work needs to be done on the Michael’s Bay Road (and others), and steps will be taken to do the necessary repairs.

“We had some local residents at our (council) meeting with concerns about Michael’s Bay Road,” said Dave Jaggard, reeve of Tehkummah township after a council meeting earlier this month. “We all agree that the Michael’s Bay Road is not in good shape and major work needs to be done on it. We will have some work done on the road after we see where we can find funds in our budget.” He said the township will also be actively looking for funding programs through the government to have the necessary work done.

“I was down there recently and I’ve never seen the road like that before,” said Councillor Eric Russell. “I’m ashamed to be a councillor on the township council with the road in that condition. Maybe someone can help us to source funding that we could use on the road.”

Councillor Rick Gordon said, “Oh, of course there needs to be work done on the road. And we’ve been talking about it for awhile. Personally, I think we spent too much on the 15th and 10th Concessions. It would have been better to spend some of this on the Government Road and Michael’s Bay roads.”

This comes after council heard a delegation from residents of Michael’s Bay Road and Pennie Avenue at a council meeting April 5. “I am here tonight with other concerned citizens to

express my concerns about Michael’s Bay Road and Pennie Road,” said Elaine Leeson. “I have been a permanent resident at Pennie Avenue since 2017. In the sales listing, when I purchased my home, it was stated, “year-round road access,” however every spring that has not been the case. Taxes also have increased several times over five years, but road conditions have deteriorated.”

“The annual spring thaw turns Michael’s Bay Road/Pennie Avenue into practically impassable roads, riddled with significant deep muddy ruts and flooding. This road is a critical connecting road for the resident to the Government Road and services,” said Ms. Leeson. “Given its condition, the road is unsafe and poses a significant risk.”

“As the connecting road, Michael’s Bay Road and Pennie Avenue must be maintained in a condition to allow for safe passage of any emergency vehicles that may need to attend the residences or cottage properties along this road,” said Ms. Leeson. “Currently, I would suggest it is fair to say that a fire truck or ambulance would not make it through. This alone causes unnecessary stress to the taxpayers as we live with the concern of limited or no access due to its poor condition which has the potential to put family and friends at risk in the event of a medical emergency or fire. The impact of the conditions of the disrepair is compounded by those who need to access it. We have only one way in and out, there is no alternate route. As residents who live on this road, we have been denied deliveries such as heating oil fur-



Tehkummah township council heard a delegation from residents of Michael’s Bay road and Pennie Avenue, who voiced concerns with the condition of the roads and to indicate that necessary repairs are needed.

niture and lumber.”

“In addition to the mental stress caused by not knowing if we can get in and out, or whether an emergency vehicle could get in and out is the related issue of the impact of protecting our assets, our homes, cottages etc.,” said Ms. Leeson. She pointed out, “collectively the township receives tax revenue from all properties, homes and cottages along the Michael’s Bay Road and Pennie Avenue. The taxpayers pay a significant amount of taxes and receive limited services.”

Ms. Leeson explained, “The road is damaging vehicles, many residents have helped others out when their vehicle is stuck in the mud; or provided towing services if they can even get through to the disabled vehicle. The resident then has to pay for this service as well as any repairs (to their vehicles) because of the road.”

“Although I am not a road engineer, I understand from a number of experienced individuals that the size of

gravel dumped on the road last spring did not provide a proper base,” continued Ms. Leeson. “I have looked back at previous council notes and have found that Michael’s Bay Road/Pennie Road have not even had an honourable mention about the deplorable road conditions even though I know for a fact people have complained about the condition of the road every spring.”

“I would suggest that the reeve and council drive down our road for a visual of the conditions that we are subjected to,” said Ms. Leeson. She requested, on behalf of the citizens, a copy of the township road maintenance standards policy along with the logs and details of how the road has been maintained for the past five years that the township provide a detailed response as to how the road will be repaired in the short term and that repairs be tended to immediately and as often as required; that a permanent long-term repair be put into place; and that the township provide a

detailed response as to how this chronic issue will be resolved, thereby correct the problem going forward so we do not have to revisit this issue yearly.

“It is the township’s responsibility to build, maintain and replace infrastructure,” said Ms. Leeson. “I am therefore requesting that you meet your responsibility and immediately address the issue and concerns brought forward to you.”

Councillor Mike McKenzie told The Expositor, “Absolutely, the Michael’s Bay Road needs to get fixed, but unfortunately there is only so much money to go around. I hate the answer, but we need to tap into a government funding program. The 10th Concession needs work as well. We will get our EDO (economic development officer) on it, looking for government funding programs.”

“The Government Road is a mess as well,” said Councillor McKenzie. “As council, we also have to be responsible as well and not raise taxes any more than is necessary. He explained, “last year Kevin (Dunlop, township roads superintendent) repaired a section of the road, and that section is good.”

Councillor Lori Leeson stated, “oh my goodness yes, the road needs to fixed.” She told The Expositor that, “local residents have been sending emails and attending our meetings voicing concerns. This road has to be looked after. And work is going to be carried out in sections, starting with the worst.”

“Hopefully, we will be able to find funding out there,” said Councillor Leeson. “I know Kevin (Dunlop) has a plan as to what needs

to be looked at first. Yes, work needs to be done and we are working on it.”

Reeve Jaggard said, “work needs to be done on the road, but we have to figure out how to fit it in our budget.” He explained, “the road down into where the old village of Michael’s Bay used to be was a dirt road. It was geared more to horses and sleighs. Then more buildings went up, and gravel was put down. Some places are going to require extra work removing some of the base and put down larger rock and gravel.” He pointed out that when the Highway 542 in Sandfield was repaired by the bridge, rip-wrap (synthetic material) was put down as well as two-three inches of rock and gravel. In some of the areas of the (Michael’s Bay Road) something similar has to be done. “Within our budget, some work will be done this spring to improve the road. We will do the best we can with what we have. But we need to see if there is some government funding available as well.”

Tehkummah Roads Superintendent Kevin Dunlop said, “we will do as much as we can to fix the road as we can, depending on how much money council can allocate for it in the budget.”

“The access road to the boat launch is closed, but we will soon have a road that vehicles can go down there,” said Mr. Dunlop. “People understand why we have had to close off the road to just local traffic for now. Right now, we are trying to get the road into good enough shape that people can drive on it. We will have to keep it closed a little while longer and see what council can budget for repairs.”

Friends and Neighbours

**Kagawong
Team Fergmeijer**

Earth Day is coming up this Friday, and Team Fergmeijer wanted to give a big shout-out to the planet. No one keeps us grounded like you do! And in honour of the occasion, we will be sending all our work emails to the recycling bin.

The Easter bunny hosted an enthusiastic group of mini Kagawongians on Friday for the annual Easter egg hunt. Thank you to the wonderful volunteers and to everyone who hopped on out!

Exciting news from the Billings Climate Action Committee! Not only is the first Billings Earth Day event since pre-pandemic times coming up this Saturday (April 23) from 1 pm to 4 pm at the Park Centre, but the new Climate Action Committee blog has gone live! Check it out at <http://Billingscsc.blogspot.com> for more information on

the Earth Day event.

Team Fergmeijer plans on celebrating Earth Day by having Pangeacakes for breakfast! Sorry, some Earth Day puns are really terra-ble.

Happy birthday to a collection of fierce women: Marilyn P, Jean W, Kristy C are all celebrating a 29th spin around the sun in the next few days. Remember, at this age, you need to do a safety check of the fire extinguisher before lighting all those candles on your cake.

Can’t wait to get your summer on? You are in luck! The Kagawong Market is kicking off its 2022 season early this year. The first market day is scheduled for Wednesday, June 1st, and will run every Wednesday from June through August.

Have you heard about the restaurant that caters only to dolphins? It only has one customer, but at least it serves a porpoise.

The indomitable Mary Buie traded off the last snowflakes of winter for a tropical beach as she joined other members of her family in beautiful (and warm!) Hawaii. Not to be out done, MBB also strapped on a lei and his most

obnoxious Hawaiian shirt as he and Susie joined in the fun. We are happy they were able to have such a wonderful (and did we mention warm?) time, and we look forward to hearing all about it in person.

Remember, you can’t weather a tree, but you can climate. Have a great week, and may the forest be with you!

**Barrie Island
Lillian Greenman**

Sandy and Jim Miller and daughter Fiona and friend Ben from Ottawa visited with Oliver and Barb Runnalls and Scott and Enid Runnalls on the weekend.

Sympathy to Theresa and Dave Carlisle and Stephanie in the passing of her Dad, Mr. Doug Hutchinson, on April 16.

Sympathy also to Mary Hutchinson and family in the passing of her husband.

Manitoulin Sporting Life

Ice Chips and Canoe Quips

Mindemoya Youth Tournament needs, you?

The soon-to-be gigantic, youth softball tournament will mark the start of summer in Mindemoya with an event that has attracted teams from all over the place, with the number of hyper-eager players aged 5 to 16 to approach 400!

Due to the fact that organizer, **Greg Lockeyer** is graciously, trying to provide the opportunity for as many kids to participate as possible he is currently trying to fill up a few teams. For instance, there is a need for female ball players born in 2009—11 (Lanktree Division) and 2006 to 2008 (King Division).

There are also a few, 'Free Agents' looking for teams to play on. So, if your team has a few blank spots on your roster sheet, please make sure that we give everyone a chance to play. For instance there is at least one person needed in the following categories: Male(s) born 2014, 2013, 2011, 2006 and female(s) born in 2014.

This is shaping up to be an amazing opportunity for everyone involved, especially the players who have longed to be able to participate in anything, for two years, through the pandemic. If you need more information or think you can help out as a volunteer in some way, please reach out to Greg on Facebook.

Mustangs' Gymnastics!

With all the interruptions over the past two years, the gymnastics team at MSS was hopeful that there would be the chance to compete again in 2022. Sadly, restrictions on facilities meant there would be no competitions this season, but that didn't stop our Mustang team from training!

Over the past five months, athletes have been coming out and working their way through competitive levels on Vault, Bars, Beam, and Floor. Congratulations to the following athletes on earning their level badges!

Jazmin Colwell (Level 1 Floor), **Aspen Debassige** (Level 1 Vault, Levels 1 & 2 Beam, Levels 1, 2, & 3 Floor), **Nova Debassige** (Level 1 Floor), **Abby Hawke** (Level 1 Vault, Levels 1 & 2 Floor), **Sophie Hietkamp** (Levels 1 & 2 Beam), **Mary Hore** (Level 1 Bars), **Maren Kasunich** (Levels 1 & 2 Vault, Level 1 Beam, Level 1 Floor), **Rowyn Kasunich** (Levels 1 & 2 Floor), **Laura Orford** (Level 1 Floor), and **Grace Pennie** (Level 1 Floor). Coaches **Ferguson** and **Theijsmeijer** are so proud of the team for all their hard work and progress.

Mustang Badminton!

The 26 member MSS badminton team travelled to Blind River on Wednesday this past week to compete in the NSSA (North Shore Secondary School Athletics) championship in five categories, including singles, doubles and mixed doubles for novice, junior, and senior age groups!

The Mustangs brought their A game to the tournament and finished first overall, bringing home yet another banner for Manitoulin Secondary School! Some notable results include: **Aspen Debassige**, 1st novice girls singles; **Noah Thorpe**, 1st novice boys singles; **Annie Balfe**, 1st Junior girls singles; **TJ Green**, 1st Junior boys singles; **Tessa Merrylees/Cash Duchene-Milne**, 1st novice mixed doubles; **Mackenzie Green/Eli Locke**, 1st mixed doubles junior; **Julian Wemigwans/Jared Cortes**, senior boys doubles and silver went to **Brett Mastelko**, second in senior boys singles.

In all, an incredible, 10 players qualified for the NOSSA (Northern Ontario) championships to be held in Sudbury next weekend so, congratulations to coaches, **Frank Gurney** and **Jordan Smith** are in order.

Hats off to the entire team including: **Noah Thorpe**, **Jaron Panamick**, **Keanu Bisschops**, **Cash Duschene-Milne**, **Tessa Merrylees**, **Aspen Debassige**, **Scarlett Shogga**, **Phoenix Hoy**, **Andrew Cooper**, **Lexi Young**, **Autumn Davy**, **Alexis McVey**, **TJ Green**, **Eli Locke**, **Mackenzie Green**, **Annie Balfe**, **Brett Mastelko**, **Jared Cortes**, **Julian Wemigwans**, **Trent Bell**, **Chloe Peltier**, **Sonya Jacko-Cywink**, **Kaylee Assinewai** and last but certainly not least, **Jorja Peltier**.

Providence Bay Soccer is up!

There is a palpable, anticipatory energy for any possible youth activities, so when opportunities such as elementary-school-aged soccer is starting again in Providence Bay on Saturday mornings there is a genuine surge of interest! The tentative start date is this April 30 and registration is free and open to children ages 4-14. For more information and/or to register, please go to provbayspringbayrec.eventbrite.ca.

McLean's Park cycling open!

It is so amazing that Assiginack's McLean's Park is back up and running after too long a hiatus. For those in the know, a simple reboot is just not in the offing. Without a combined effort, these things just don't happen. With kilometers of trail to maintain and without a dedicated landscape crew that is difficult. I would like to maintain that my decade-past, groin-centered, hematoma would not have happened. Hehe, this was only after said-user, did not properly fix a certain berm...

Ok, that may or may not have happened! On the positive side, this amazing property is going to be the host for an amazing, two-wheeled, experience. Are you between, 12-18 years old? Interested in competitive cross-country mountain biking?

Manitoulin Mountain Biking is holding an intro day to see if there is interest in a traveling Youth MTB team. Competitions will be in the spring/summer—both local and travel. There is even a potential for a high school team if there is enough interest!

The big intro day is on Sunday April 24, at 2 pm at McLean's Park, New England Side Road, just south of Manitowaning on Highway 6. There is no cost with only a helmet required for the event PMBIA Certified coaches. The schedule is as follows: 2 pm, meet at McLean's Park; sign in, permission forms signed, bike safety check; Introduction to MTB'ing by **Alex** (O-Cup competitive rider), **Ben** (PMBIA certified) and **Bill** (PMBIA certified) so that participants: learn the basics of mountain biking, ride the trails focusing on specific areas of skill. At 3:30 pm there will be a friendly race and more!

For more information, contact Breakaway Sports & Cycle by phone, call 705-368-3841 or email www.breakawaymanitoulin@gmail.com

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

Manitoulin Secondary School Mustangs team wins NSSSA badminton championship

by Tom Sasvari

M'CHIGEENG—The Manitoulin Secondary School (MSS) Mustangs badminton team won the North Shore Secondary School Athletic (NSSSA) badminton championship last week.

"We have 11 students (finishing either first or second at the NSSSA championship) who are moving on, from the total of 24 players who took part in NSSA," said Jordan Smith, MSS sports coordinator. "Those who finished in the top two places will be moving on to the NOSSA (Northern Ontario Secondary School Association) championships next Friday

sion.

In the junior division, the boys' singles champion was TJ Green, while the girls' singles championship was won by Annie Balfe. The Mustangs team of Mackenzie Green and Eli Lock won the junior mixed doubles division.

Brett Mastelko finished in second place in the senior boys' division to qualify for NOSSA as did the boys division team of Julian Wemigwans and Jared Cortes.

Two Mustangs teams finished in third place in their division. In the girls' singles division, Sonya



The Manitoulin Secondary School (MSS) Mustangs badminton team has won the North Shore Secondary School Athletic (NSSSA) badminton championship! Some of the members of the team pose for a photo with their medals, including Tessa Merrylees, Aspen Debassige, Annie Balfe, Mackenzie Green, Cash Duschene-Milne, Eli Lock and Noah Thorpe.

and Saturday at St. Benedict's in Sudbury," said Mr. Smith.

The NSSAA championship was held in Blind River at Jeunesse Nord and W.C. Eaket High Schools.

In the novice division, Noah Thorpe won the boys' singles championship, as did Aspen Debassige in the novice girls' singles division. The Mustangs team of Cash Duchene-Milne and Tessa Merrylees won the novice mixed doubles championship.

The team of Jason Panamick and Keannu Bisschops placed third in the novice boys' doubles division.

Jacko-Cywink, and in the senior mixed doubles division, Trent Bell and Chloe Peltier finished third.

The Mustangs are coached by Frank Gurney and Jordan Smith.

"Neil Debassige and Diane Glasby-Debassige showed tremendous dedication and commitment to the students," said Mr. Smith. "They volunteered their time yesterday to help out and were on the bus with the team starting at 6 am in the morning and not getting home until after 10 pm."

School boards approve 2022-2023 school year calendar

SUDBURY—The Conseil scolaire catholique Nouvelon (CSC Nouvelon), Rainbow District School Board (RDSB), Sudbury Catholic District School Board (SCDSB) and Conseil scolaire public du Grand Nord de l'Ontario (CSPGNO) have approved the school year calendar for 2022-2023.

The four schoolboards have worked together to produce a common calendar for many years, facilitating the co-ordination of services such as student transportation. Each board adopted the calendar following its own consultation process. The calendar will now be submitted to the Ontario Ministry of Education for final approval.

The 2022-2023 school year calendar will be the same for all English and French-language schools in Greater Sudbury, Espanola, Manitoulin Island and Sudbury

East (including Warren, Markstay, Noelville, St. Charles and Killarney). The calendar will also apply, with minor differences, to CSC Nouvelon and CSPGNO schools in Elliot Lake, Blind River, Spanish, Sault Ste. Marie, Wawa, Chapleau, Dubreuilville, Hornepayne, Marathon, Manitouwadge and Longlac.

The 2022-2023 school year for students will begin on Tuesday, September 6 following the Labour Day weekend. There will be no early dismissal.

In addition to the first day of school, the school year calendar includes the dates for the Christmas break, the March break, statutory holidays, secondary school examination days and professional activity days in 2022-2023.

For secondary school students, the first semester will run from

September 6 to February 2, with the second semester taking in the time period of February 3 to June 20.

Examination days for secondary schools will encompass five days (January 27-February 2, 2023) and for a five-day period in June as well (from June 26-30).

Seven days have been set aside for professional development activities during the 2022-2023 school year for Sudbury, Espanola and Manitoulin districts. They include September 1, 2, 23, October 24, February 3, 2023, April 28 and June 9.

The school year calendar for 2022-2023 is available on school board websites; www.rainbowschools.ca; www.sudburycatholicschools.ca; www.nouvelon.ca, and www.scp-gno.ca.

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Branden and Noah Ominika Memorial Co-ed Volleyball Tournament brings 12 teams to Aundeck Omni Kaning

The special tournament was coordinated and organized by Gerard Baibomcowai and Dana Ominika of Wiikwemkoong in memory of the two boys who loved to play the game, both of whom brought home Northern Ontario Secondary School Athletics and North Shore Secondary Schools Athletic Association championships to



The Ominika family backyard volleyball court instilled a love of the game in the Branden baa and Noah baa Ominika. The two young men are honoured by the memorial tournament which bears their name.

Ms. Ominika explained that the love of the game started for the boys the backyard of the Ominika homestead.

In addition to each member of the winning team taking home a cool \$250 and the runner-up team members hauling in \$125 apiece, \$500 dollars from the tournament will be going to Wiikwemkoong High for student bursaries.

The weekend featured a spirited competition, with the final game going right down to the wire. The winners had to battle for every point scored.

Mr. Baibomcowai and Ms. Ominika said they would like to thank all those who participated in their fundraising events to make this special event happen, especially all the fans that came out to cheer on their family and friends.

Jacob Fox and Michael Aiabens were presented with special beaded medallions in honour of their efforts in refereeing the games throughout the tournament on Saturday.

"Thank you goes out to Don Spraggett for donating hats and Kelly Daybutch for T-shirts given to the tournament champs and runner-ups," said Ms. Ominika, who also offered a sincere chi-milgwech to all the staff at AOK Four Directions Complex. "Most importantly thank you to all players that came out and played. You all made this tournament possible and we look for-



In the spirit of the game! The winners of the Branden and Noah Ominika Memorial Co-ed Volleyball Tournament held in Aundeck-Ogami Kaning this past weekend called the runners-up to join them for the photograph following a hard-fought final. In photo are tournament victors Erin Morrison, Jason Peltier, Lyric Peltier, Blair Morrison, Daniel Peltier, Brandon Pheasant and Daphne Corbiere; joined by runners-up The McGee's, with Shaneece Manitowabi, Nathan Ominika, Joe Ominika, Taylor Recollet, Adrian Recollet-Trudeau, Alycia Shawana, Howard Ominika, Alyssa Ominika and Adrienne (Tessa) Ominika.

The winning team consisted of Erin Morrison, Jason Peltier, Lyric Peltier, Blair Morrison, Daniel Peltier, Brandon Pheasant and Daphne Corbiere. Runners-up, The McGees included: Shaneece Manitowabi, Nathan Ominika, Joe Ominika, Taylor Recollet, Adrian Recollet-Trudeau, Alycia Shawana, Howard Ominika, Alyssa Ominika and Adrienne (Tessa) Ominika.

Mr. Baibomcowai has

organized or helped organize a number of sporting events over the years, but had vowed to put his feet up for a while after organizing a Lost LNHL hockey tournament in Manitowaning last month. "I just can't seem to say no," laughed Mr. Baibomcowai when queried about his failed hiatus attempt. Try as he might, Mr. Baibomcowai was unable to mask his passion and enthusiasm for team sports, evidenced by the broad smile on his face as the tournament concluded on Saturday.

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- **Kubota** ZD28 Diesel Commercial Zero-turn Mower, Good Condition, \$9,995
- **John Deere** 350 Crawler Loader & Backhoe, \$14,995
- **Fordson** Major Tractor & Loader, \$3,895
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BRETT MASTELKO



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Brett Mastelko is a valuable asset to the lineup of Mustang athletes and has been developing his skills for several years. He is sure to leave his mark as a MSS Mustang as he nears the end of his high school career as a Grade 11 student. Brett is a well rounded athlete who has dabbled in most sports. For elementary school he attended LCPS (Little Current Public School) and lived in Little Current. Here he played volleyball, basketball, soccer (where he was the goalie), and baseball. For many of these sports in Grade 7 and 8, he and his teams won several of the Island championships. Also through these years, he played on sports' teams such as house league minor hockey, badminton, tennis and curling outside of school.

Brett explains that he enjoys sports because they provide a chance to get active and stay healthy while having a good time. If he had to choose, he says that hockey would be his favourite sport. He likes the team aspect and being able to play with his friends is sure to end with good memories. For Brett it is one of the sports that allows him to take his mind off everyday things outside hockey. He started playing hockey when he was six, for the Little Current Flyers until the age of 13. At this point his skills had developed enough to make the Manitoulin Panthers squad where he played for two years. More recently Brett played for the Flyers again and their team won the Manitoulin Minor Hockey U18 Championship.

At MSS he has continued to play and excel in a variety of sports. This year he played on the volleyball and basketball teams, currently he is on the badminton team and is planning on joining the tennis team when it starts up. In Grade 9 and 10 he played on the volleyball and basketball teams as well.

At the NSSSA (North Shore Secondary School Athletics) badminton championships this year, Brett battled through a talented field of agile competitors to qualify for one of the tournaments most exciting categories - senior boys' singles. In order to take home gold, Brett needed to beat the competition twice because it was a double elimination event. He quickly dispatched his rival in the first match two games to none. The second match was a back and forth chess match of overhead smashes and drop shots. Brett came within two points of bringing home the gold and had to settle for silver. Not before qualifying for NOSSA though, where he will get another chance at victory this coming weekend in Sudbury.

When Brett isn't playing sports he enjoys hunting, fishing, snowmobiling and quading. He also likes to use his handyman skills by fixing snowmobiles. He has also worked at the Little Current Foodland.

When it comes to school Brett has found that his favourite subject, like many athletes, is physical education. He likes to get another chance to play and learn about a variety of different team and individual sports. As Brett is almost halfway through his second semester of Grade 11, he is starting to think about post secondary options. He wants to become a mechanic or a heavy equipment mechanic because it is a trade that he has always been interested in and he just generally enjoys fixing things.

When it comes to inspiration Brett explains that his Grandpa Lyle is someone that he looks up to. He was also an athlete growing up and has always told Brett stories about his hardball, softball and hockey experiences. He has also taught Brett everything he knows about hunting and fishing. Brett's favourite professional athlete is professional hockey winger and alternate captain for the Montreal Canadiens, Brendan Gallagher. He likes to watch him play because he never gives up and every time he hits the ice he gives 110%.

If you happen to see this Manitoulin Mustang, please wish him the best in all his future endeavours! Let's go Mustangs!

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...Gore Bay council looking to raise its stipend by 25 percent

...continued from page 3
We have received one percent increases a couple of times over the years, but this is still below cost of living increases.”
“In the last three terms, council has done a good job with the roads, boardwalk, marina, arena and other projects,” said Councillor Blodgett.
A recommendation had been made that would bring the Gore Bay mayor’s stipend to \$9,120.00 (three percent below average) and councillors to \$6,120 (five percent below average). The net effect of this would increase the overall cost of council from \$36,741 to \$45,840 (25 percent increase).
“My question is, can anyone tell me why we shouldn’t be at parity with other

municipal councils on the Islands,” asked Councillor Blodgett. “And if there is not a good answer, then we should go ahead. This council has done a great job, as have the previous two councils.”
However Councillor Kevin Woestenenk cautioned, “this is too big a jump too quickly. We don’t have the tax base and revenues and income that a town like NEMI (Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands does). I treat being a councillor the same as being a volunteer in the community. I’m not saying there shouldn’t be any increase, but I would say maybe a two percent increase should be in place. And I would suggest that we make it a goal to have five new houses built in Gore Bay. The only way to get

increased tax revenues is by creating development, building houses, etc. We can set a goal for development and look at increasing councils’ remuneration by 25 percent over time.”
“We can’t expect future councils to do the same,” said Councillor Blodgett. “I’m proposing this for future councils, and if we don’t do this now we will never do it.”
“I get it, and what you are saying,” said Councillor Woestenenk. “But a 25 percent increase is just too much.”
“I agree 100 percent with you Ken,” said Councillor Jack Clark. “It is the right time to do this. Gore Bay (remuneration) is below the average of other municipalities but with the exception of NEMI and Central Manitoulin, the responsibilities

and what we have to deal with in a town, we need to be at least comparable to others.”
“I agree with the increase you are proposing,” said Councillor Clark. “I completely support you, Councillor Blodgett.”
Councillors Aaron Wright and Leeanne Woestenenk also indicated they support the increase proposed by councillor Blodgett.
“We had almost the exact same proposal brought forward when I first started on council,” said Mayor Dan Osborne. “But at that time, we were all new to council, so we said ‘no’ to the increase. I’m like you, Kevin, on this but when our responsibility as councillors cuts into our own work, that is different. And, as Ken said, we are

doing more than putting in a couple of hours a month for a meeting.”
It was also suggested for consideration by council that part of the changes would include increasing the amount paid to the mayor for attending meetings to \$70 from the current \$50, increasing the monthly base rate for councillors to \$200 from the current \$122.63 and increase the amount paid to councillors for meetings from \$50 to \$60. This would effectively elim-

inate the meeting chair’s ‘bonus’ rate (not used in any other municipality).
The revisions being recommended will be brought to the next council meeting. Council passed a motion approving the changes and for staff to make the revisions and recommendations for a motion for council to consider and carry at its next meeting regarding the increases.

...Pontiac students talk to philanthropist aboard ISS

...continued from page 3
as gravity) affect a structure’s functioning and how these forces affect and support the ISS and the launching of structures into space. Students also examined how heat energy plays a critical role in natural processes such as global warming by learning about the causes and effects of heat, investigate their properties, and relate it to geological and meteorological processes.
This amazing opportunity was made possible by a partnership between the Wiikwemkoong Pontiac School and the Amateur Radio on the ISS (ARISS). According to the ARISS website, “ARISS is a cooperative venture of the Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation, the American Radio Relay League, the ISS United States National Laboratory and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) in the United States, and other international space agencies and international amateur radio organizations around the world. The primary purpose of

ARISS is to organize scheduled contacts via amateur radio between crewmembers aboard the ISS and classrooms or informal education venues. With the help of experienced amateur radio volunteers from amateur radio clubs and coordination from the ARISS team, the ISS crewmembers speak directly with large group audiences in a variety of public forums such as school assemblies, science centers and museums, Scout camporees, jamborees and space camps, where students, teachers, parents, and communities learn about space, space technologies and amateur radio.”
One of goals of ARISS is to inspire an interest in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) subjects and in STEM careers among young people.



Pontiac School Grade 7 students had a direct line into space last week.

...book lauded with award

...continued from page 3
keystones of success, he points out. “John Olinsky (owner of OJ Graphix) did a great job,” said Mr. Strobel. “The main job of a publisher is sourcing and co-ordinating all that talent.”
The result is that ‘Small Miracles’ is “a really good looking book,” he said.
Next on Mr. Strobel’s list of post-retirement projects is the tale of Tulip the Viking Cat, based on the adventures of his rescue Norwegian Forest cat. “Tulip was born in the ravines of the Don Valley,” he explains, “but until the move to Kagawong, Tulip’s seven years of existence has been as a condo-cat. The book chronicles Tulip’s victories over the Manitoulin wildlife she has encountered.”
The story may sound familiar to many urban dwellers who have made the transition from city skyscraper life to Manitoulin Island’s shores. “It’s quite a lifestyle transition,” admits Mr. Strobel.
Mr. Strobel has an extensive list of books that he is planning on producing over the next few years. “All Island-based,” he assures.
Small Miracles has sold out since its pre-Christmas publishing and Mr. Strobel said that “every cent it has made has gone to Variety Village.” That in itself is an award-winning accomplishment.



Journalist, author, and now publisher, Mike Strobel and his cat Tulip relax in his Kagawong retreat.

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Manitoulin Health Centre locates ultrasound solution in the nick of time

by Michael Erskine
LITTLE CURRENT—News that Espanola Health Centre was no longer accepting ultrasound referrals from Manitoulin was met with some concern by Island residents, but Manitoulin Health Centre (MHC) has been able to secure a temporary solution to the challenge.

“The Espanola hospital was assisting us as we had an ultrasound technician go on maternity leave and we had been unable to recruit a replacement,” said MHC CEO Paula Fields. Unfortunately, the Espanola department soon found itself overwhelmed by the demand, but good news has arrived in the nick of time.

“We have been able to hire locums,” said Ms. Fields. “Now we will be

fine.”
Even better, the individual who will be coming in as a temporary fill-in previously worked for MHC.

Ms. Fields admits the added cost of locums presents a budgetary challenge, but those are challenges that are facing many industries and endemic across

the health services and professions.

“People think it is just nurses, but the shortages are hitting at every level,” she said. In response to those pressures the hospital sector has been advocating to Ontario Health to put more dollars into the system, but that comes with its

own challenges.

“It’s a slippery slope,” confides Ms. Fields. “You start to lose staff to the travelling companies where they can make more money.”

With stress and burnout of the pandemic taking its toll on those employed in the helping services, cou-

pled with demographic stresses of the retiring Baby Boom bulge moving through the system exacerbating shortages of skilled professions, the situation does not appear to be going away too soon, although hopefully the current MHC staffing shortage will resolve relatively soon.

So, for the time being, ultrasounds are back in rotation. “For a while we were only taking on emergency or priority cases,” said Ms. Fields, but she assures that the situation, in regards to ultrasounds at least, “is getting back to normal.”

Lou Shortt takes over gavel at Little Current Fish and Game Club

by Michael Erskine
SHEGUIANDAH—A changing of the guard took place at the Little Current Fish and Game Club annual general meeting at the Sheguiandah Hall in late March. Both long-time club president Bill Strain and secretary Doug Hore retired, with Lou Shortt taking on the role as president.

“We would like to

encourage more members, including younger members, to join,” said Mr. Shortt in his first address to the club following a membership chair report by John Deibel. “This will help keep our club viable and not turn into a senior organization! In our wall-eye ad in the Expositor, we decided to add, sadly, the club’s wild game dinner will be cancelled until

March of 2023, but the club is hoping to keep its hockey pool fundraiser in action.”

“The river watch and permits for walleye capture and release and the hatchery for 2022 have been submitted and approved,” said Mr. Shortt, adding “this will allow the Grade 4 education program to resume at the end of April or first of May

when Bass Creek temperatures reach approved levels. We have an ongoing discussion about a tent for this occasion to help with uncooperative weather conditions. Gary Green and Kevin Hutchinson are the leads on this project.”

The club went on to discuss the lack of a boat wash station on Manitoulin Island, particularly “as more and more invasive species are appearing and been transported to our lakes,” he said. “Bill Strain is going to look into signage from the ministry that as a club we could put up at all boat launches. We could also add nearest car washes to the launch for washing boats.” Mr. Shortt suggested that a car wash might be a “possible entrepreneur opportunity” for Little Current.

The club decided to split its Manitoulin Secondary School (MSS) award bursary. “We would like to see two award bursaries of \$250 each awarded to two different genders attending a college or university in the applicable field of ecology,” he said. “Also, we would like to encourage students to do some volunteer hours with our members during the hatchery program days.” Mr. Shortt said he would “be visiting MSS to present these ideas to the principals and appropriate staff.”

Mr. Shortt ended his message to the club by noting that “anybody wishing to join the club contact John Diebel at jldiebel58@gmail.com.”

...Ken Ferguson recognized for impact on farmers’ markets

...continued from page 3
tomers and vendors come to him with questions, concerns and seeking advice. You will notice that he is rarely alone at his table. He is tactful. When I get upset about some issue, I take it to Ken, and he calmly diffuses the situation. He is a true helper with the interests of vendors at heart. He helps physically and is there for vendors to encourage their efforts.”

Ms. Kiviahio added, “Ken puts self-interest on the backburner and keeps the needs of others first. He is a dedicated marketer, a community-minded leader in Little Current.”

Mr. Ferguson, who said he is now a helper at the NEMI market, explained, “in the middle to late 1980s my (late) sister-in-law Betty (Ferguson) was always telling me about the farmers markets’ in Kitchener-Waterloo. So, I decided I would see if there were any

like-minded people that would be interested in looking at having markets locally, and was lucky to find several people. I made arrangements to talk to interested parties in Gore Bay, Carnarvon, Assiginack, Howland and Little Current who all thought the farmers’ market would be a good idea. Then we brought this forward to the councils and they agreed it was a good idea.”

However, “no one had any money or space to hold a market,” said Mr. Ferguson. “Bob Chorney, who was with the Ministry of Agriculture Food and Rural Affairs, helped out and assisted with getting things started. We held an organizational meeting at Manitoulin Secondary School. From there a board was formed and three markets were opened in Providence Bay, Gore Bay and Little Current. The organization decided to call it the Mani-

toulin Farmers’ Market Association.”

“Esther Taylor Spadzinski, who I think at the time was the economic development officer in Carnarvon Township, managed to get support through a program for Employment Insurance recipients to make vendors tables for all the markets. Carnarvon hosted this program,” said Mr. Ferguson.

Mr. Ferguson pointed out the market held in Little Current was initially held in the downtown area parking lot beside the Canada Post Office. From there, the market was held on Bousquet Realty property, and then the Bank of Montreal property, where it is still based. The town supports an expanded market by orienting a waterfront pavilion that was being built so that the open side faces Water Street directly across the road from the Bank of Montreal location.

...water infrastructure projects funding

...continued from page 3

approximately 1,000 metres of watermain and services from the town’s waterfront to Old Mill Road, as well as improvements to transmission pipes. Once complete, this project will increase the reliability and capacity of the transmission infrastructure.

The municipality of Killarney received \$115,136 in federal funding and \$95,937 in

provincial funding, with the municipal share of the costs \$76,767, for the Killarney water treatment plant infrastructure repairs. The project includes the replacement of approximately 40 filter membranes, the analyzer at the water intake and two chemical feed boards. In the municipality of Killarney, this will increase the reliability and efficiency of the water treatment infrastructure.



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Public Notice

Please be advised that OCWA will be performing waterline maintenance in Little Current including waterline flushing between April 19th and 29th

NEMI Tomato Contest

Show us your green thumb!
Tomato seed packs and contest rules available at the Town Office. Limited quantity of packages so only 1 per household. Prizes will be given throughout the contest.

Tender Opportunity

The Town is now accepting tenders for:
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Bid submissions will be accepted until April 27th at 12 noon

Submissions may be submitted via email to pcress@townofnemi.on.ca or dropped off at the Town Office

Full information packages are available on our website or can be emailed at your request www.townofnemi.on.ca

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The Town is now accepting tenders for
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Bid submissions will be accepted until April 27th at 12 noon

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Earth Day - April 22

NEMI let's do our part! Please pick up trash while you walk around your neighbourhood.

Low Island to the Bridge Clean Up
Starts at the rendezvous pavilion at 10 am, April 22.

Make sure to check the Calendar of Events on our website for upcoming workshops, activities and programs!
[Visit townofnemi.on.ca/p/upcoming-events](http://www.townofnemi.on.ca/p/upcoming-events)

...robotic team places well, co-captain invited to participate in world event

...continued from page 1
team's heads snapped up. When they realized they had won, the entire team had to get out of the stands and go onto the field for a victory lap with their trophy and plaque. Everyone was super excited including the other teams that were clapping and congratulating our team."

The judges "also announced that Jocelyn Kuntsi was named as the winner of the Dean's List Award," said Ms. Bauer. Ms. Kuntsi has now qualified for the world championship in this category, which will be held later this week in Houston. The MSS team had nominated her for the award, recognizing she had demonstrated excellent leadership skills and outstanding contributions to the team and having done well in the judge's interviews (done virtually).

"Jocelyn will represent Ontario at the World's (championship) for the district of Ontario," said Ms. Bauer, who noted she won't actually be attending the ceremony (she will watch the awards online) being held later this week.

"When the award was announced, there was a

...Island-wide cleanup

...continued from page 11
the post will be entered into the overall draw. The more participation (photos you send) means more chances to win. There are three prizes to win and individual names will be drawn randomly.

Prizes have been supplied by Breakaway Sports in Little Current and Ramakko's Sports in Sudbury.

"There are three new categories this year that we are excited about," said Mr. Campbell. "These include a school award (elementary or secondary school), community, and business awards. We are getting trophies made by Manitoulin Tree Service, tree cookies, and the idea is essentially to pit communities, businesses and schools against each other."

For the school, business and community awards, post a photo to Manitoulin Stream's Facebook page with the total number of bags your school or business has collected. State your school, or business, or community you are representing, and include the hashtags #schoolcleanupaward, #businesscleanupaward, #manitoulinislandgarbagecleanup.

And for the community award, post a photo to Manitoulin Stream's Facebook page with the total number of bags you collected (in the community) and the total number of people that participated. State which community you are representing and include the hashtags #communitycleanupaward, #manitoulinislandgarbagecleanup.

All rules for the event are available on the Manitoulin Streams social media and Manitoulin Island garbage cleanup.



Wikwemkoong High School team captain Gavin Pangowish and drive captain Marcus Beaudry load the team's robot on to the field at the provincials.

moment of stunned silence. Then she received a standing ovation from everyone in attendance as she took a victory lap on the field," said Ms. Bauer. "You could hear the Wikwemikong and North Bay teams screaming. During the provincials, Ms. Kuntsi was announced as the winner of the First Robotics Shad scholarship winner (although not all details could be provided by this week's press deadline).

MSS team member Lindsay Sheppard "won a Build a Dream Scholarship (one of two who received this recognition) of \$3,000," said Ms. Bauer. "The scholarship award is presented to a student who is dedicated to science, technology and math and is entering a skills trade in post-secondary school."

MSS Manitoulin Metal team mentor Al Davy had been nominated for and was a finalist in the provincial mentor award category.

"Our robot performed very well. There were some glitches, but the team dealt with them as the event took place," said Ms. Bauer. "And we had some really great matches. In match 90, we had Wikwemikong (High School) as our partners and

we played a great match, and we came close to winning this match. We ended up losing by only two points. It was just sweet to be playing this match with our friends."

"We didn't qualify for the finals," said Ms. Bauer, who pointed out that MSS won four of its 13 matches, finishing within the top 50 in the province.

"We watched the finals, and five of the six teams there have been previous world champions," said Ms. Bauer. "They have a very long tradition of winning at the worlds which is something we had expected. "We knew we had great competition, but we held our own in the event and we received lots of positive comments and complements from other teams."

The Wikwemikong High School STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) team, "did super well," said coach Chris Mara. "The team exceeded our expectations. We didn't even know if we would be able to go to the provincials until very close to the event starting."

"We had a late start to the season, we weren't able to even begin to build our

robot until two weeks into the semester (due to pandemic lockdowns) and we never had the chance to have after-school or weekend builds," said Mr. Mara. "To have a robot competitive on the field in the provincials was our big goal."

Most of the teams that took part in the First Robotics Canada events leading up to the provincials, "had started in January and had two regional events they took part in. So we were about a month and a half behind all these teams and we were only able to take part in one regional event," said Mr. Mara. "But we had a blast through it all," he said, noting that "we have virtually an all-rookie team. There is only one member that had been to a robotics competition previously."

At the provincials, "it took a day-and-a-half to get our robot firing on all cylinders, and prior to that we could only operate it with 25 percent of our motor power," said Mr. Mara. "Marcus (Beaudry),

one of the drivers on the team, made everything look good with some pretty exciting and spectacular driving." He also praised the efforts of Ash Recollet. "Once everything was up and running well, our racers really did some tremendous driving."

"Our team did really well representing the team and our school," continued Mr. Mara. He explained, "three team members, Ryley Wassegijig Migwans, Tristan Wemigwans and Adrian Katt, received the Mark Bredner Leadership Awards. This was in recognition of their contributions and recognition of

their leadership in the FRC program."

"Next year, our team is going to be ready to go for FRC and First Technical Challenge events," said Mr. Mara. "Our team did amazingly well this season, being competitive, even though they had a short period of time to get ready. It was because of their ability, motivation, tenacity and pulling things together to find engineering solutions to problems. It will be great to have this awesome group, made up of almost all Grade 9 students, to build on over the next few years."

The MSS team includes
...continued on page 13

Bahá'í Writings

God is one and humanity is one, and the only creed of the Prophets is love and unity. — 'Abdu'l-Bahá

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Manitoulin Island commjunities celebrate a return to Easter egg hunts



Ayda Noel, 18 months, picked up her giant chocolate bunny prize following her winning the draw in The Expositor's Easter Egg Hunt. Ayda admits she had a bit of help from cousins Stevey and Brantley McCurdy to search out all the Easter eggs hidden in the advertisements in last week's newspaper. Other winners this year were Evelyn and Joe Smith and Hannah Dawe.



It's the Easter Bunny! The Easter Bunny and his assistant took time out of their busy schedule Sunday, to motor around Gore Bay with an Easter basket filled with goodies for kids.



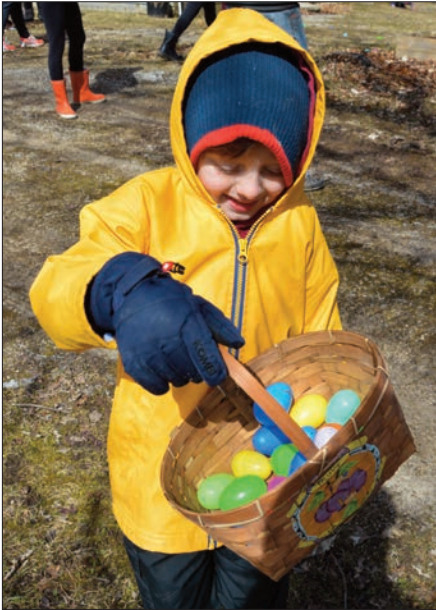
Young children around the Town of Gore Bay were all smiles as the Easter Bunny and his assistant motored around the town this past Sunday, with an Easter basket filled with goodies for all the children.



Hunter and Kailynn had full baskets in Sheguiandah.



Angelica Myers is truly looking angelic with her Easter basket haul in Sheguiandah.



Palmer Ferguson shows off his collection of plastic eggs at the Sheguiandah Museum hunt.



Noah and Mel were ready and willing to tackle the hunt in Sheguiandah.



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The hunt for was on for the Easter bunny’s largesse across the Island



A panoramic view of the three separate age categories and crowd of about 170 people on hand for the Central Manitoulin Easter egg hunt, held on Saturday. The Central Manitoulin Lions club hosted a mini Easter bake sale at the Lions pavilion municipal complex while the Easter egg hunt took place on the ballfield in Mindemoya.

photo by Marcus Mohr



Anna Lynn Stephens has a shy grin as she pauses for a pic.



Assiginack Public Library's Debbie Robinson joins the Easter Bunny (aka Jackie White) at the 34th annual Easter Egg hunt on the Field property in Manitowaning. Volunteers make the world go round!



Over 5,000 plastic eggs were ready and waiting for the crowd at the Sheguiandah museum.



Egg gathering was serious business in Kagawong.



Young Theo is all smiles as he picks out a prize with a ticket from a special egg at the Easter egg hunt held in Mindemoya, on Saturday. The Central Manitoulin Lions club hosted a mini Easter bake sale at the Lions pavilion municipal complex while the Easter egg hunt took place on the ballfield



Where's my egg! A young hunter in Kagawong looks for her lost egg as she takes part in the gathering process.



Ally-Anne with is happy with the basket of goodies she won from Boo-Bah-Loo Candy Store after she found the winning ticket for 4 to 6 years age group.

A message from the
**Little Current & District Fish & Game Club,
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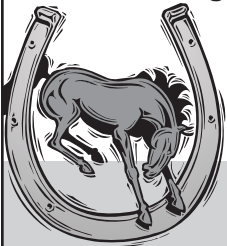
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tfn

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

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

**services**

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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: Thursdays at 7 pm in the library room at the Missionary Church, 51 Young Street, Mindemoya. 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

Codependents Anonymous Manitoulin for information, email codamanitoulin@gmail.com or visit Facebook [codamanitoulin](https://www.facebook.com/codamanitoulin). No meetings running at present.

Tfn

**livestock**

Butcher pigs ready for April. For more information contact Ken at 705-988-3605. Also selling tingly boots, fencing supplies, water bowls and much more.

47-49c

**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.

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**coming events**

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Job Fair

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29-c

Wanted: International or John Deere grain binder and a Dion thrashing machine. Phone evening, 905-983-9331.

48-49c

**lost & found**

Lost—Loading dolly (grey, steel, 3' high), lost March 21 between Tehkummah and Rockville (Hwy 542/Gibraltar Road/Rockville Road). Reward offered, please call 289-775-9488.

48-49c

**rental wanted**

Cattle pasture rental wanted for the east end of the Island. Call 705-859-1093.

43-50p

Seeking long-term house rental preferably in Manitowaning. Family of four moving to be close to grandparents. Text Bill at 306-262-1123.

49c

**Legion Events**

The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 177 Little Current Wing Night, Thursday, April 21, 4 pm to 8 pm. Wings \$1.50 each. Sauces for wings: salt and pepper, sweet chili, sweet and sour, honey garlic, first, second and third degree, parmesan cheese and pepper and cajun. Also cheese balls, six for \$4; cheese sticks \$1.50. Take-out only, to pre-order call or text 705-348-0123. Free delivery within town limits.

49p

**coming events**

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Hello Spring

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- Youth Soccer
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- Senior Sit/Stand Dance
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- Great Manitoulin Bake Off for Adults & Youth

Details and registration at Assiginack.ca under Events

Kyra Lanktree invites you to attend..

Her Aunt Marie McHattie's 100th Birthday Celebration

Come and Go Tea

Saturday, April 23, 2022
from 2 pm to 5 pm
Mindemoya Curling Club

Best wishes only!

BINGO—Mother's Day Special, Sunday, May 1, start time is 1:30 pm at the Tehkummah Seniors' Hall. Regular games, specials and jackpot. Regular games prizes are \$20; special games are \$50; jackpot is \$500. Admission, \$20. 50/50 draws and raffles, canteen will be open, and a light lunch. Bring your own bingo chips.

49-50c

Hello to all quilters, whether you are a beginner or a seasoned quilter, The Island Quilt Guild is having their monthly meeting on April 21, 7 pm at the Mindemoya Community Centre. Come out for an evening of quilting information, fun and friendship. Masks are optional at this time. Hope to see you there.

49c

**coming events**

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

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coming events

coming events

help wanted

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help wanted

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Township of
BILLINGS

The Climate Action Committee will be hosting an:
Earth Day Event
April 23, 2022, 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Park Centre, Kagawong

Expert Speaker Schedule

1:20 pm: Greener Homes Grant
2:00 pm: Manitoulin Streams:
Trees and Climate Change Mitigation
2:40 pm: Electric Vehicles
3:20 pm: The Managed Forest Program

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Public Works Operator

The Township of Billings is accepting applications for the full-time position of Public Works Operator.

The purpose of this position is to maintain the Township Roads, parks and buildings as directed by the Public Works Superintendent and to assist in the maintenance of Public Works and property as required by Council.

The ideal Public Works operator will possess extensive knowledge of equipment, maintenance of roads and facilities, good organization, work ethic and communication skills, will possess a valid driver's licence (minimum class D-Z, AZ is preferred) and ability to operate all Township equipment. Working knowledge of carpentry, welding, manufacturing metal working, plumbing, home electrical, automotive electrical, automotive (and diesel) maintenance and repair, small engine maintenance and repair, hydraulics, concrete, and surveying is preferred.

Salary is based on a 40-hour work week, some evening and weekend work are required. Must be available for call-outs as scheduled. The Township of Billings offers a competitive salary along with an excellent benefits package and group RRSP package. The ideal candidate must be able to attend the Municipal Garage within 30 minutes of being called in for an emergency.

If you wish to be considered for the position, please forward a cover letter and resume by email to Kathy McDonald at kmdonald@billingstwp.ca

The posting will be available until the position is filled.

The full job description is available on the Township website at: <https://billingstwp.ca/employment-opportunities/>



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Community Living Manitoulin
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or by email to mwickett@clmanitoulin.com
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For more information regarding Community Living Manitoulin please visit our website at: www.clmanitoulin.com.



Wii-ni n'guch-tood Labour Market Services (WLMS)
Employment Opportunity
Finance Administrator

Reporting to: ASETA Manager

Primary Function: To administer program finances for Wii-ni n'guch-tood Labour Market Services (WLMS) consistent with the rules of generally accepted accounting principles. This position is intended to provide for the planning, organization and direction of the financial program for Wii-ni n'guch-tood LMS.

Salary Range: 47,000 – 54,000 per annum commensurate with experience.

Key Job Functions/Major Responsibilities:

1. Develop and maintain appropriate accounting procedures and records according to Service Canada requirements and the requirements of other funding agencies where applicable;
2. Implement the WDC Financial Policies & Procedures and provide recommendations for continuous improvement;
3. Supervise the billing and collection of monies for Wii-ni n'guch-tood Labour Market Services rendered and verify all monies received are deposited. Prepare the account receivables and all other invoices and forward to the finance unit for entry into the accounting system on a regularly scheduled basis;
4. Verify and process payment claims, cheque requisitions, expenditures, budgets, inventories, journal entries, accounts receivable, accounts payable and other specialized activities for employees engaged in the preparation and maintenance of financial records;
5. Review monthly general ledger listings with team members to verify the accuracy of recorded financial transactions and prepare journal entries as required. Ensure all necessary documentation is forwarded to the finance unit for data entry in order to receive accurate and timely reports, (i.e. monthly financial statements and the bank reconciliation);
6. Use the financial statements produced by the accounting system to assist in program management, such as, the monitoring of program expenditures, including payroll, purchasing of supplies and equipment, cash flow and the updating of budget sheets to monitor budget commitments and project statistics;
7. Prepare for and participate in the annual audit and audit requirements of Service Canada;
8. Perform additional duties as assigned that fall within the reasonable scope of this position such as to assist other team members during peak work periods;
9. Oversee the flow of cash and financial instruments;
10. Communicate with Board of Directors, Management, WIJR Finance Department and other financial institutes;
11. Review expenditure reports to determine the status of expenditures and the amounts of outstanding balances.

Qualifications and Relevant Skill Level:

- Post-secondary certification in Financial Administration
- Three years' experience in budgeting accounting, payroll, and accounts receivable and payable
- Good knowledge of accounting principles and standards; ability to monitor and analyze financial statements and budgets; ability to provide recommendations and problem-solving in these areas
- Possession of a valid Class G Driver's Licence required and access to vehicle
- Work flexible hours (evening and weekend included)
- Ability to use Microsoft Office Suite software as well as Accounting software
- Knowledge and appreciation of Anishinaabe culture, language and heritage

Deadline: Open Until Filled

Please submit a covering letter, resume, photocopies of diploma and pertinent certificates and three recent work reference letters to:
Applications: Finance Administrator
Wii-ni n'guch-tood LMS
2102 Wikwemikong Way
Wikwemikong, ON P0P 2J0

For information and/or job description, please contact Colleen Wassegijig-Migwans, WLMS Manager at 705-859-3001, ext. 222.



Wii-ni n'guch-tood Labour Market Services (WLMS)
Employment Opportunity
Employment, Training & Special Projects Officer

Reporting to: ASETA Manager and/or LMS Operations Supervisor

Primary Function: Provide employment counselling and support to clients in their training or return-to-work action plans. Employment supports may involve assessment, action plan development, group facilitation, one-to-one counselling and online/distance supports and case management. This position will assist Enaadmaagehjik in the development areas of Light Manufacturing, Energy, Agriculture/Aquaculture.

Salary Range: 41K to 48K per annum, commensurate with experience

Key Job Functions/Major Responsibilities:

1. Deliver employment, apprenticeship and training services as authorized by the Wii-ni n'guch-tood Labour Market Services, (WLMS);
2. Project/client file management in accordance with WLMS procedures;
3. Determine proper client counselling and referral processes take place for clients through referral to internal/external community resources and as appropriate to client needs and employment goals;
4. Assist clients with a return-to-work action plan that is based on realistic and achievable career goals;
5. Provide advocacy on behalf of clients by participating in community networking and establishing support links with other agencies - social and educational, and employers;
6. Liaise with employers, on/off reserve and other federal/provincial employment and training agencies, Ministry of Labour, Skills Development and Training, and post-secondary institutes;
7. Write proposals to secure funds to support targeted or specialized training;
8. Participate with and provide recommendations to the Enaadmaagehjik Board of Directors regarding specific labour market issues;
9. Coordinate, facilitate, and/or participate in labour market presentations to explain the priorities and objectives of the Enaadmaagehjik and WLMS Programs to potential partners.

Qualifications and Relevant Skill Level:

- Post-secondary certification in career counselling or human resource planning
- Previous experience in a career facilitation/employment counselling setting
- Experience in case management is an asset
- Excellent problem-solving, communication (written and oral) and interpersonal skills
- Demonstrated ability to “think outside of the box”
- Comfort with providing public presentations
- Possession of a valid Class G Driver's Licence required and access to a vehicle
- Work flexible hours (evening and weekend included)
- Knowledge and appreciation of Anishinaabe culture, language and heritage

Only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

Deadline: Open Until Filled

Please submit a covering letter, resume and three recent work-reference letters to:
Applications: Employment, Training & Special Projects Officer
Wii-ni n'guch-tood LMS
2102 Wikwemikong Way
Wikwemikong, ON P0P 2J0

For information and/or job description, please contact Colleen Wassegijig-Migwans at 705-859-3001

Fish and Game Club lobbies for increase in tag quotas for annual rifle hunt

by **Tom Sasvari**
GORE BAY—The Gore Bay Fish and Game Club (GBFGC) is calling on the Ministry of Northern Development Natural Resources and Forestry (MNDNRF) to raise the deer tag quotas for this year’s annual deer gun hunt on Manitoulin Island.

“The annual deer management meeting will be taking place April 20,” said club president Chris Robinson at a recent meeting. He explained snow depths did not reach a critical level for deer survival on Manitoulin this winter and Ian Anderson, a local trapper and member of the GBFGC, indicated that he saw no mortality of deer this winter.

“We need to discuss what, if anything, we feel should be done with the antlerless (deer) draw quota,” said Mr. Robinson. He noted that for wildlife management unit (WMU) 43A last year, the antlerless deer tag quota was 300, and 4,000 for neighbouring WMU 43B. “Ian has suggested that we leave the numbers the same or bump them up 500, but no more than that.”

“I think the quotas should be raised 500 or more. At least 500,” said club member Ron Snell.

“I think the numbers should be increased by 1,000,” stated Ches Witty. “A lot of hunters aren’t getting tags and watching deer just walk by for nine days is no fun.”

Ian Anderson told The Expositor, “This winter, compared to a lot of past winters, was relatively good for the deer. A big advantage for the deer was how late the winter season actually started. It was the end of January before we really received any substantial amount of snow.”

Mr. Anderson runs a snow station on the


West End of Manitoulin and told The Expositor, “The average depth of snowfall never exceeded 15 inches this winter. When there is more than 20 inches of snow, it impacts the deer being able to get around and forage for food.”

“And the really cold weather didn’t hit the area until into February,” continued Mr. Anderson. “But it’s a combination of the snow depths and the temperatures that can make it difficult for deer to get around and forage for food.”

“Overall, we had a relatively good winter, and I expect there will be very little mortality except maybe some from predators,” said Mr. Anderson. “And with the lack of deep snow, and with a crust on top, it made it more difficult for predators to get at deer this winter.”

“I expect there will be a good fawn crop this year and very little winter-induced mortality,” said Mr. Anderson. As for some areas and deer hunt camps not seeing many deer during last fall’s annual deer hunt on the Island, he said, “I understand that. One of the things I’ve noticed the past few years is that it is a case of feast or famine. Some pockets and areas on the Island have lots of deer while in other areas they are scarce. Some camps didn’t see very many deer and did very poorly, while in other areas there was an abundance of deer. This year’s winter didn’t impact the deer and the same can be said for the previous winter. If I had been at their meeting, I would have supported the call from (GBFGC) for the increase in deer tag permits.”

The GBFGC had passed a motion at their meeting calling for an overall increase in the deer tag quota for this year’s deer hunt.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Civilian Social Navigator

The Wikwemikong Tribal Police Service is accepting employment applications for a Social Navigator position.

Summary: The position is established to assist the organization in successfully meeting its mission by providing culturally sensitive policing services to the WTPS. The Social Navigator will connect and support at risk individuals through a referral process by engaging the appropriate social and health care organization within the Wikwemikong Unceded Territory. The position will also conduct follow up with clients to ensure the services are meeting the needs of the individual. The goal is to reduce an individual's dependence on the judicial and health care systems by navigating an individual to the appropriate channels to improve their overall health, safety, and quality of life. This position will require tactfulness and diplomacy in interaction with the public, justice partners, and with all members of the WTPS.

Knowledge and Skills:

- Excellent human relations and interpersonal skills to maintain professionalism to members of the public and external agencies.
- Strong policy development and writing skills.
- Knowledge of Federal, Provincial, and First Nation Government systems and processes.
- Ability to multi-task in a fast-paced business environment.
- Knowledge of social, education, and health care systems that case manage at risk individuals.
- Ability to exercise professional judgment, analyze, and solve issues effectively in a variety of situations.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.

Key Duties/Responsibilities:

- Conduct assessment of individuals with the ability to refer to the appropriate community organizations.
- Participate in community events and cultural gatherings.
- Assist in finding opportunities, solutions, and resources to address the individual's social and behavioural needs.
- Coordinate with community services and/or other external agencies to coordinate individual care plans.
- Engage with adults and youth who are recognized within the Police Service as needing assistance under a Social Navigator capacity.
- Assess an individual's needs for services, provide information, support, and provide referrals to assist them in making positive changes in their lives.
- Create a care plan for an individual seeking assistance and guide them towards the most appropriate community organization based on their needs.
- Coordinate with community services or other external partners to coordinate individual care plans.
- Manage the transfer of client information to the receiving community organization, as per information sharing agreements.
- Act as a liaison between the service providers and the individual, until full integration into the appropriate service has occurred.
- Liaise with a range of multi-disciplinary professionals who are involved in a patients' care, ensuring a smooth and coordinated approach, especially when multiple organizations are involved.
- Provide a point of contact and communication for individuals re-entry into the service system.
- Facilitate, plan, and organize working groups as needed for client success, ensuring all stakeholders are represented.
- Provide psycho-social supports to all clients and their families.
- Respond to individuals and/or family members by telephone or on a walk-in basis to provide information and support for their needs and situation.
- Experience with working with at risk individuals.
- Other case management duties as assigned.

Basic Requirements:

- Diploma or degree in the Social Services field considered an asset.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office software applications.
- Must have awareness of First Nation culture and traditions.
- Must possess a valid class G Ontario Driver's Licence.
- Ability to maintain confidentiality a MUST and be prepared to take an Oath/Affirmation of Office and Secrecy.
- Must be of good moral character, no criminal record and must pass a background check.
- Must provide a signed WTPS Consent to Security Clearance Investigation Form, which is included in application package.
- Provide proof a copy of Covid-19 Double Vaccination record from Ministry of Health.

To apply for this position, interested applicants are to forward their completed employment package, letter of interest, detailed resume, copies of relevant diploma/certificates, and three work-related reference letters electronically to:


CONFIDENTIAL – Social Navigator
Acting Chief of Police, Gregory Mishibinijima
gregory.mishibinijima@wtps.ca

Posting Deadline: April 22, 2022 at 4:00pm

Employment application packages are available for pick-up at the WTPS detachment or can be emailed at the request of the applicant. Please call our office during administrative hours if you would like an application.

Individuals of Anishinaabe ancestry are encouraged to apply. Please note, applications will be screened. Interviews will be scheduled and at that time a decision will be made to consider the successful applicant for hire.

KENJGEWIN TEG



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

KENJGEWIN TEG IS RECRUITING AN INDIVIDUAL INTERESTED IN JOINING OUR SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM WHO WILL PARTICIPATE IN PLANNING, DESIGNING, AND IMPLEMENTING A PLACE OF LEARNING THAT SUPPORTS STUDENTS THROUGH LIFELONG LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES.

Dean of Post-Secondary Education (PSE) and Training

As an accredited Indigenous Institute in the province of Ontario and being a part of the third pillar in the Post-Secondary Education sector, the organization is seeking to recruit an individual who has the skills and knowledge to contribute to the rapid growth and participate in building a place of learning that is a reflection of our Anishinaabe philosophy of education for adult learners through the Post-Secondary Education and Training Programs.

The Dean of Post-Secondary Education and Training will lead the planning of strategic initiatives, aligned with the PSE department activities, as identified in Kenjgewin Teg's approved Strategic Plan 2021-2026.

DEAN OF POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION (PSE) AND TRAINING

Classification: Manager M3 Program Head/Salary Grade Band L

Position Objective: The Dean of Post-Secondary Education (PSE) and Training will report directly to the Vice-President of Lifelong Learning and will be responsible to provide strategic leadership and supervision of post-secondary programs in collaboration with employees and external partners, ensuring all students and community are provided with education and support services in a welcoming, learning environment. The Dean of PSE and Training will also contribute to an organizational-wide marketing and communications strategy that ensures the organization is represented in a consistent, professional manner through policies and guidelines.

The Dean of PSE and Training will be primarily responsible to provide leadership to the Post-Secondary Education and Training team, effectively monitor and manage post-secondary and training programs, collaboration and network with external partners and lead and monitor a recruitment strategy for all post-secondary education programs and supported activities.

Qualifications:

- Must possess an undergraduate degree in education or business
- Must have a minimum of four (4) years of management experience in an adult learning environment, preferably in the Indigenous education sector

Job Knowledge and Skills:

- Ability to write and format moderately complex correspondence, including memos, letters, proposals, and reports
- Experience in writing proposals and reports
- Strong knowledge of general office procedures involving procurement, travel arrangements, and budget management
- Strong time management skills, multi-tasking skills, and the ability to prioritize tasks with minimal supervision
- Intermediate – Advanced knowledge of Microsoft Office/Office 365 (Outlook, Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Teams, SharePoint)
- Facilitation experience is an asset
- Ability to maintain filing systems and databases
- Must possess a valid driver's licence, have access to a vehicle, and be willing to travel as required
- Must have an appreciation of the Anishinabek culture, principles, values, language, history and customs; and be supportive of Anishinabek practices, language revitalization and protocols

Application Deadline: Friday, April 22, 2022 at 12 noon

For a detailed job description please contact the Director of Human Resources at 705-377-4342, ext. 206 or by email at humanresources@kenjgewinteg.ca

Interested individuals can send a complete application package that consists of:
Cover letter, a detailed resume, three (3) current (within one year) letters of reference, two of which must be professional on organizational letterhead and authored by direct supervisor, and written permission to contact references. Please note that the successful candidate will be required to provide a current Vulnerable Sector Check.

Applications can be received marked confidential through email at:
humanresources@kenjgewinteg.ca, or by mail to:
Kenjgewin Teg
“HR – Dean of PSE and Training”
c/o Director of Human Resources
374A Hwy. 551, P.O. Box 328, M'Chigeeng First Nation, ON P0P 1G0
Tel: 705-377-4342

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

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

Late applications will not be considered. While we thank all applicants, only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Personal information contained in applications will be used for recruitment purposes and collected as per Freedom Of Information (F.O.I.) And Protection Of Privacy Act, 1987.

Café in the Woods gearing up for first season in two years

by Michael Erskine
HONORA BAY—For more than a decade, a little venue nestled at the foot of a derelict ski hill was a veritable Mecca for roots musicians and their audiences. A subtle panic could be read in the faces of the first musicians to grace the stage at Honora Bay’s Café in the Woods when, during their performance, complete silence would fall across the once-murmuring crowd, to be replaced by obvious relief when thunderous applause greeted the end of a song.

Since then, the “little venue that could” has attracted performers well above its weight class, attracting the cream of the nation’s independent artists. But then COVID came to dim the stage lights and the woods fell silent.

This past week, an email from Café organizer Kerene Tilson announced the tentative return of the renowned musical venue, reaching out to Island residents who have awaited the return of live music and those new arrivals to our shores who may never have experienced the wonder that was the Café.

“Over many years, up until 2019, we ran a music series presenting exciting professional talent who inspired and uplifted many souls and lovers of live music,” said Ms. Tilson. “There was always an electric current and joy shared in the moment between the artist and family and friends in attendance. I believe these performances have been missed and I’m working on trying to restart the series. For those of you new to the Island, these events are held at our ski chalet building at 2619

Hwy 540, approximately 15 kilometres west of Little Current.”

Ms. Tilson sent out a call for volunteers to help work the events and was immediately deluged with offers, but there is still room for more helping hands. “Going forward, I am also

managed and happen about eight times annually,” said Ms. Tilson. “We do have a core group of volunteers, but they cannot always be available for every event so any help would be on a rotating schedule.”

COVID still remains, however. “For the shows

many miles to provide top notch entertainment. Please connect by phone or email and let me know your thoughts and feelings.”

The inaugural post-pandemic Cafe in the Woods performance will be on May 27, featuring the super roots group Boreal whose members will be familiar to long-time Café-goers. Tannis Slimmon, Katherine Wheatley and Angie Nussey are each accomplished award-winning songwriters, recording artists and performers in their own right, but together they are nothing short of dynamite.

Ms. Tilson advises that those who are not on the her Cafe in the Woods email contact list and who would like to be included should contact her at cafeinthewoods@gmail.com, or if folks would like to just call and cha, she offers her cell number; 249-997-0009.



The roots group Boreal (Tannis Slimmon, Katherine Wheatley and Angie Nussey) will be performing at Café in the Woods on May 27.

appealing for a handful of volunteers to help out with running these events,” she said. “I need backup help to work in the kitchen where we sell desserts, coffee, tea and other beverages. I’m also appealing for bakers to donate a cake or squares or something that could be divided into single servings for sale during our intermission.”

Those donations of baked goodies are vital to the operation as ticket proceeds from the Café go to the musicians so operating costs are met by revenue from kitchen sales. “These shows are all volunteer

themselves, we will reduce crowd capacity to 50 to space out tables and participants in recognition of the COVID menace,” explained Ms. Tilson, going on to caution, “if there is a surge on the Island, the shows would be cancelled and your tickets would be refunded. Currently what I am looking for is feedback to understand if folks will come out to these shows or be too anxious due to COVID threats. It takes a lot of time and effort to source and schedule shows so I want to establish there will be an audience for these performers who travel

Job Opportunities (Seasonal)

- 1 Housekeeper/Room Attendant
- 1 Groundskeeper/General Maintenance
- 1 Massage Therapist/Esthetician

www.rockgardenresort.on.ca
email: rterrace@amtelecome.net
tel: 705-377-4652



KINA GBEZHGOMI CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES

Kina Gbezhgomi Child and Family Services (KGCSF) is a designated Child Welfare Service delivering Child Protection Services within seven member First Nations in the Districts of Sudbury and Manitoulin. KGCSF honours and supports our families’ and community’s inherent authority to care for their children based on unity, traditions, values, beliefs and customs.

We are now accepting applications for the following:
Full-Time Permanent position located in Sudbury or Manitoulin Island:
Specialized Services Coordinator

Contract Positions located in Sudbury:
Specialized Services Supervisor
Service Supervisor

Closing Date: April 28th, 2022 at 4pm

Apply to: Human Resources at hr@kgcfs.org and quote the position title in the subject line.

For additional position details and detailed job description, visit Employment Opportunities on our website at: <https://www.kgcfs.org/employment-opportunities>

KGCSF offers competitive wages, immediate and generous benefits package, and an employer matched OMERS pension plan.

At KGCSF we are committed to providing a barrier-free work environment following the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act and the Ontario Human Rights Code. Accommodations are available upon request for candidates taking part in the recruitment process. KGCSF services are based on a highly specialized approach to the delivery of child welfare in our area. Preference will be given to Anishinaabe Candidates (please self-identify).



COMMUNITY LIVING MANITOULIN
IN SEARCH OF NEW BOARD DIRECTORS

Community Living Manitoulin (CLM) would like to invite you to support our mission by joining the CLM Board of Directors. The Agency is looking to fill multiple positions on the Board.

“At Community Living Manitoulin we advocate, promote and facilitate the full participation, inclusion and citizenship of individuals who have developmental challenges. We believe all people with developmental disabilities can lead meaningful lives in our community,” states chair of board Pam Lambert

Board members are vital to the success of an organization. CLM Board members provide governance oversight and possess an understanding of the Manitoulin community and a passion for inclusion and advocacy. Experience in Disability awareness/knowledge, finances and fund development is most welcome but not necessary.

Never sat on a board? CLM will provide third-party governance training to all new board members!

For more information about CLM or to discuss becoming a board member please contact our Executive Director, Adrienne:
afarquhar@clmanitoulin.com or 705-665-8262
Board Chair, Pam:
plambert@clmanitoulin.com or 705-210-0515



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
CITIZENSHIP/ INDIAN REGISTRATION ADMINISTRATOR

Classification/Level: Community Services Level 3 (\$51,530 - \$62,980)
Employment Status: Regular Full-Time
Department: Administration

Position Summary:

Under the supervision of the Office Administrator, the Citizenship/Indian Registration Administrator is responsible for the overall administration and procedures of the Anishinabek Belonging Law and Regulations; and administration of the Indigenous Services Indian Registration processes by providing a variety of administrative support services, working with the Citizens of M'Chigeeng First Nation, while maintaining strict confidentiality at all times.

Essential Functions

IRA

- Provides monthly reports of events to Chief and Council, and the Registrar
- Issues Indian status cards and maintains an accurate certificate registrar
- Assist to obtain documentation and examine for verification events of births, deaths, marriages, and divorces
- Data entry into the Tribes systems and ensures profiles are up-to-date and accurate

Anishinabek Belonging Law

- Works with Chief & Council in the general duties relating to the administration of M'Chigeeng Anishinabek Belonging Law and Regulations
- Provide technical support to the appropriate committee pursuant to the Anishinabek Belonging Law 2019, Regulations
- Compile and distribute all materials required for Committee meeting packages
- Attends meetings, records, transcribes, and distributes meeting minutes and assists with the follow up of meeting action items

Administration

- Organizes and coordinates committee meetings, community meetings, mail-outs, etc.
- Records and distributes all incoming and outgoing correspondence
- Prepares correspondence and reports as required to the Citizenship Committee, Citizenship Appeals Committee and Chief and Council
- In accordance with INAC and Anishinabek Belonging Law verify status, education, health & social assistance for services
- And other duties as assigned.

Qualifications & Requirements

- Post-Secondary Diploma in Business Administration, Business Management, Office Administration, Indigenous Studies, or related field of study
- At least two (2) years' related-work experience
- Knowledge of the Indian Act and its application and processes related to Indian Status would be an asset

Other

- Must be willing to take additional required training
- Is dependable and has a strong work ethic
- Excellent communication skills both written and verbal
- Excellent interpersonal skills and ability to work as a team player is necessary
- Knowledge of Anishinabek culture and M'Chigeeng First Nation community and ability to understand and speak Anishinabemowin are strong assets
- Working knowledge of meeting procedures would be an asset
- Ability to prioritize and multitask
- Strong time management and organizational skills; Organized & detailed oriented
- Work appropriately with confidential and sensitive information
- Demonstrates computer skills in Microsoft Office and experience in other office equipment operations

The successful candidate will be required to submit the following upon hire:

- Current thirty (30) day Police CRC
- Confirmation of their COVID-19 Vaccinations

Closing Date: April 29th, 2022, at 12:00 p.m.

Interested applicants can submit a COVER LETTER, RESUME, THREE (3) CURRENT WRITTEN REFERENCES (2 Work-Related references from a direct supervisor/manager and 1-character reference) and applicable education certifications addressed to:

CITIZENSHIP/ INDIAN REGISTRATION ADMINISTRATOR
c/o Human Resources
M'Chigeeng FN, P.O. Box 333
M'CHIGEENG, ON POP 1G0 (Fax 705-377-4980) or to employment@mchigeeng.ca

*Please be advised that only those selected for an interview will be contacted. For a detailed job description, please contact andream@mchigeeng.ca to request.

‘Most aggressive invasive plant,’ phragmites, has largely been spread by human activity

by Tom Sasvari and Lori Thompson, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter
MANITOULIN—Phragmites is a tall, robust invasive grass in our area and it can destroy natural habitats by eliminating vegetation in wetlands, shores, beaches and other natural places. Judith Jones, coordinator for the Manitoulin Phragmites Project, recently shared her knowledge on what’s been called “Canada’s most invasive plant” in a series of two webinars.

The first webinar explained what phragmites is, why it’s a problem and what can be done about it. The final session, on April 5, discussed the differences between American phragmites and European phragmites. The overall message was, ‘Phragmites is an aggressive invasive species, spread mainly by human activity. Learn to recognize it. Don’t drive through it but if you do, clean your machine.’

Ms. Jones has been officially working with phragmites on Manitoulin Island for the past seven years, but actually started monitoring the plant in 2011. Since it began, the Manitoulin Phragmites Project has controlled or eradicated phragmites on more than 90 sites. A site can be anything from a few stems to 50 hectares of habitat that contains many hectares of phragmites.

“Our main focus of the talks was to get people more familiar with phragmites and how to take care of it,” Ms. Jones said.

Phragmites is a very tall, robust grass with wide leaves and hard, stout stems, almost like bamboo. The plants can grow to as much as five metres (15 feet) tall. Their stems may be red or green, ridged or smooth. The grass flowers in mid-late August through September, later than other grasses of similar size. Tall, dead stalks often stay standing for several years among newer green stems. The leaf stalk has no collar or membrane where it clasps the stem.

“The main way phragmites are spread is through vehicles like ATVs, excavators, snowmobiles, boats and backhoes; basically any machinery that has not been cleaned and has remnants of the plant on them,” she said. Bits of stem and seeds get stuck on the vehicles and can spread and start new patches. “If a vehicle has been in phragmites, clean it before going out again. If pulling weeds off boat props, throw material into the boat and dispose of it on land.”

Don’t throw the pieces back in the water and let them float away, said Ms. Jones. “It spreads by fragments. If a machine drives through it in the ditch and you get phrags on the machine and then you put the machine on a float and drive it to another location and drive it in the next ditch, then you’ve spread it from one ditch to the



Maria Diebolt stands next to some of the dense phragmites at the mouth of Blue Jay Creek.

Expositor file photo

next. That’s why it’s on highways all over Manitoulin.”

Phragmites is a problem because it poisons and eliminates natural vegetation, destroys fish and wildlife habitat such as turtle nesting areas and blocks normal water flow in soil. The grass clogs ditches and drains, causing flooding, damages infrastructure and reduces sight lines for drivers, causing human safety risks. The grass also blocks access to shorelines, reduces property owner’s enjoyment of the shore and causes loss of property value.

“I shared some of our success stories over the past few years,” Ms. Jones told The Expositor. “For example, when we started the control program for phrags at Michael’s Bay, there was 19 hectares of property that had phrags on it and now we are down to four, so hopefully we are close to nothing there.”

Another area worked on was from South Baymouth to Maw Point in Wiikwemkoong. Ms. Jones said the area includes 50 acres of habitat and has almost

been cleared of phragmites. “There is some follow up work that needs to be done in a few little sites to have this under control.”

Manitoulin seems to have a lot more American phragmites than most places do. American phragmites is the native North America sub-species. European phragmites originated in Eurasia. “In southern Ontario and the United States, and perhaps some other places, I think you probably don’t have as much American phragmites and this might not be an issue for you, but at least knowing how to identify them is a useful thing.”

European phragmites are more aggressive and grow in greater densities than their American phragmites counterpart. European phragmites are generally taller, with leaves that point upwards, and have green or red-tinged stems that are ridged rather than smooth. Its foliage is often dark blue-green and it flowers later, generally in September/October.

American phragmites tend to be shorter and

more slender and have leaves that point outwards. Their dark red stems are usually smooth and often shiny and the foliage is more of an olive green. However, these are general tendencies only, cautioned Ms. Jones. European phragmites can be reddish and sparse and American phragmites can be more than two metres tall.

While American phragmites may be generally less invasive than their European counterpart, that doesn’t mean they should not also be controlled. Ms. Jones suggested some criteria to consider for determining whether to manage American phragmites (the webinars have been posted on the Manitoulin Phragmites Project’s YouTube channel and offer visual descriptions of both sub-species and how to control them).

The two plants are sub-species, said Ms. Jones. “That means they’re basi-

...continued on page 23

Manitoulin Centennial Manor EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY Part-Time Cooks

Candidates are invited to apply for the part-time position of cook to work at Manitoulin Centennial Manor, which is a 60-bed long-term care facility, located in Little Current, ON.

Reporting to the Dietary Manager, follows established policies, procedures and standards, prepares and serves food for the residents (dinner, sauces, desserts, etc.), cleans production area and equipment.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Safe Food Handlers Certificate

Additional qualifications include:

- Food Service Worker certification preferred
- Experience in institutional large quantity cooking preferred
- Ability to work safely, following established safety practices and procedures
- Ability to read and write English, and understand moderately complex verbal and written instructions in English
- Proven ability to provide direction and lead others within a busy environment

CLOSING DATE: April 25, 2022

Interested applicants may forward their resume to the attention of:

Kim McFarlane
kimcfarlane@extendicare.com



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY HOUSING OFFICER

Classification/Level: PS-1 (\$55,080 - \$67,320)
Employment Status: Regular Full-Time

3RD POSTING CLOSING DATE: APRIL 29TH, 2022 BY 12 P.M. EST

Position Summary:

Reporting to the Housing Manager, the Housing Officer is responsible for the management and maintenance of rental properties in accordance with the M'Chigeeng First Nation policies and procedures. This position is dependent on the rental revenue collected for approximately 115 rental units to ensure its sustainability.

Essential Functions

Administration

- Document services and other related costs in response to tenant concerns and requests
- Ensure prompt and appropriate responses to tenant/applicant/band member inquiries related to rental/housing and refer to appropriate service/program for assistance
- Prepare correspondence, reports and maintain records management system
- Assist with monitoring all CMHC phases, file records and completion of documentation
- Deal with breaches of tenancy agreements
- Plan, coordinate and prepare repair/renovation/maintenance schedule and activities as required

Planning and Development

- Assist the Housing Manager in coordinating strategic planning activities to determine short/long term goals of program
- Implementation of arrears management work plan/program
- Prepare and complete annual maintenance assessment of rental units to determine repairs and renovations as required and are completed in the most cost-effective manner
- Assist with the preparation and maintenance of short- and long-term prevention maintenance program
- Conduct arrears management counselling with rental residents to minimize rental arrears and the collection of rental arrears
- Organize quarterly delivery of tenants/community workshops (i.e. budgeting, maintenance, energy efficiency, etc.)
- Annual review of the Tenant/Rental Management Policy along with guidelines

Financial

- Record and monitor monthly expenditures and rental revenue for rental units (i.e. labour/service calls, water, hydro, roads, hook-ups, renovations, etc.); along with assisting with annual rental unit budget
- Process purchase orders, cheque requisitions and journal entries for approval by the Department Manager

Qualifications & Requirements

Preferred

- Completion of Post-Secondary Diploma and/or Certificate in related field of study
- Three years' related work experience
- Previous work experience working with First Nation organization

Minimum

- Related training relevant to the position in combination with completion of post-secondary education or equivalent
- Minimum 2 to 3 years of recent practical experience in housing/maintenance
- Proven knowledge and experience of building construction, skilled trades, common repairs problems and housing maintenance is required
- Knowledge of building codes and regulations
- Trades licence/certification is preferable
- Excellent customer service relations
- Knowledge of Landlord and Tenant obligations
- Must have good working knowledge of computer software programs (i.e. Microsoft Office)

Other

- Understanding and fluency of Ojibwe is an asset or the willingness to learn
- Must have knowledge and/or experience with the culture, customs, and history of the Anishinaabe
- Must have valid driver's licence and access to own vehicle
- Must be able to maintain a high degree of confidentiality
- Must be self-motivated with a proven ability to work independently and must demonstrate strong communication and interpersonal skills

Conditions of Employment

- Proof of Covid-19 vaccinations
- Police CRC

Interested applicants can submit a COVER LETTER, RESUME, THREE (3) CURRENT WRITTEN REFERENCES (2 Work-Related references from a direct supervisor/manager and 1-character reference) and applicable education certifications addressed to:

CONFIDENTIAL: Housing Officer
c/o Human Resources
M'Chigeeng FN, P.O. Box 333

M'CHIGEENG, ON POP 1G0 (Fax 705-377-4980) or to employment@mchigeeng.ca

*Please be advised that only those selected for an interview will be contacted. For a detailed job description, please contact andream@mchigeeng.ca to request.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Town of Gore Bay is seeking applications for the Temporary/Seasonal positions:

Public Works Assistant Office Assistant Dock Attendant

Please submit your application to the undersigned no later than 4:00 p.m on April 29, 2022.

Pam Fogal, Deputy Clerk
Town of Gore Bay
PO Box 590, 15 Water Street
Gore Bay, Ontario POP 1H0
705-282-2420 ext. 4
pfogal@gorebay.ca

All applicants are thanked for their interest. Only the candidates selected for an interview will be contacted. Information collected will be used in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act for the purpose of candidate selection.

The Town of Gore Bay is committed to an inclusive, barrier-free environment. Accommodation will be provided in all steps of the hiring process. Please advise the Town of Gore Bay if you require any accommodations to ensure that you can participate fully and equally during the recruitment and selection process.

Manitoulin Streams receives funding support from Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters

by Tom Sasvari
MANITOULIN—Manitoulin Streams Improvement Association (MSIA) has received funding support from the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH) Zone D, which it will use for a new project it is embarking this year in the Kagawong River. “Your group does a lot of work, work that is very good for the (Manitoulin) Island,” stated Roy Polsky, chair of the OFAH Zone D, at the group’s annual general meeting held recently. Manitoulin Streams had made a funding request for \$2,500 from the OFAH, which was supported by the OFAH board members at the meeting. Liam Campbell of MSIA told The Expositor the funding approved by MSIA will go toward working being carried out on the Kagawong River site 180.

“We have done work above the bridge and now we will be working on the area from below the bridge. The money we received from OFAH is going to be used specifically for the purchase of trees (to restore riparian vegetation), education signage (to teach locals and tourists about fish spawning cycles and when the stream is most vulnerable to human impact) as well as trail improvements (increased stabilization in areas that are eroding and the placement of gravel for accessibility.” “There is a 65 metres of stream section on the river that is very fast-flowing water and currently pro-



vides no support for fish,” Mr. Campbell told the meeting. “We want to improve fish habitat in Kagawong for salmon and other fish that spawn there, as well as carry out restoration work. And we will be continuing education tours at the Kagawong site. Over the last few years, when the salmon are running, people can be seen walking into the stream. We’ve talked to the township concerning improving trails and signage, to help people understand that the fish are there, and people shouldn’t be walking on their eggs. The main goal will be to restore the site.” MSIA undertook many different projects, activities and events in 2021, as

Mr. Campbell outlined at the meeting. The group’s major project last year was the Smith Bay Creek stream restoration project in Wiikwemkoong. Sixty-three linear metres of stream was restored and there was over 160 metres of restoration that took place.

notice

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

...phragmites largely spread by human activity

...continued from page 22
cally the same thing, just genetically a little bit different. We have different races of human beings. We’re all the same thing, just slightly genetically different.” The reason they are considered sub-species is possibly because they evolved in different locations. We don’t know, she said. The European species was what was used to thatch roofs in the old country. “It was a very important plant and I suspect it may have been brought here on purpose,” she said. It’s known to have been introduced on the eastern seaboard of North America. They were the first area to have it and the spread has been documented from there. Ms. Jones didn’t want to stress the two sub-species but rather prefers to focus on phragmites in general. “There are cases where you have to manage the American one,” she said. “I feel that in most situations, you do have to manage it, so let’s not even go there. It’s important to learn how to distinguish them but in a lot of cases on Manitoulin Island, they both need to be managed.” There will be a major effort to get phragmites under control in the Lake Wolsey area this year, as well as continued work in Julia Bay and Roszel Bay. “We’re in the process of surveying phragmites along the North Channel and we’ve looked at it now from Sheguiandah to Cook’s Dock,” she said. “We still have places we haven’t seen. It’s a long stretch.” They have surveyed more than 80 kilometres of shoreline so far. She noted it’s important to have many phragmites watchers on hand across the Island. “We always need volunteers, forever,” Ms. Jones said. “Phragmites is always going to be here because it’s always going to be getting reintroduced from someplace, so our strategy is: we’re going to teach everybody how to recognize it and what to do about it, and especially private

landowners so if phragmites shows up, they know what to do about it and can get on it right away when it’s two or three stems and then it’s not an issue.” Manitoulin is a unique place in many ways, she added. “One of the ways we’re unique is we have a lot of team spirit about this Island. For all of our differences, we all love this place and so we can all work on

this together. The City of London may not be able to say, come on everybody, let’s get rid of phragmites, but we can do that on Manitoulin Island. We can’t get rid of it in the whole world. I’m not going to take on the whole world. But Manitoulin Island as a whole is worth doing. It’s such a special place. We can’t just let phragmites destroy it.”

MUNICIPALITY OF ASSIGNACK

The Corporation of The Township of Assignack

Budget Notice

Notice is hereby given that the 2022 Municipal Operating and Capital Budget, Tax and Utilities Rates by-laws will be considered by Council at the regularly scheduled meeting on May 3, 2022 at 5 pm in the Council Chambers.

Deb MacDonald
Treasurer

MUNICIPALITY OF ASSIGNACK

2022-04 SEWER & WATER HOOK-UP REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

The Corporation of the Township of Assignack invites interested parties to submit proposals for the following:
Sewer & Water Hook-up
15589 Hwy 6 Public Building

Successful proposal to perform duties and responsibilities as indicated on the RFP guideline document.

- Sealed RFPs will be received until 12:00 pm May 6, 2022
- Lowest or any submission not necessarily accepted
- Faxed or emailed RFPs are not acceptable
- RFP Guidelines are available at the Municipal Office & online at www.assignack.ca/rfp-tenders/

For further details please contact:
Alton Hobbs
Chief Administrative Officer
Township of Assignack
P.O. Box 238
Manitowaning, ON P0P 1N0
705-859-3196

Gore Bay Restaurant Lease Opportunity

Exciting opportunity to lease and run your own restaurant in the town of Gore Bay on beautiful Manitoulin Island. Fully equipped kitchen with a large dining room with spectacular views, as well as a smaller more intimate area with a bar.

Long or short term lease options available.
Serious inquiries only.

For more information, please email:
manitoulinbusinessservices@gmail.com
on or before April 22 2022.

MUNICIPALITY OF ASSIGNACK

The Corporation of The Township of Assignack Cemetery Maintenance

The Township requires maintenance of Hilly Grove Cemetery.

The cemetery is open from May through October. The Municipality would like to contract the services of an individual to do maintenance, including but not limited to: grass cutting, trimming and grounds maintenance under the direction of the Public Works Department.

Interested parties may inquire and submit a written application to the undersigned by Friday, April 29, 2022 at 4 pm.

Alton Hobbs,
Chief Administrative Officer
Township of Assignack

NOTICE OF NOMINATION FOR OFFICE

Municipal Elections Act, 1996 (s.32)

NOTICE is hereby given to the Municipal Electors of the

TOWN OF GORE BAY, TOWNSHIP OF BILLINGS, MUNICIPALITY OF CENTRAL MANITOULIN, TOWNSHIP OF ASSIGNACK, MUNICIPALITY OF GORDON/BARRIE ISLAND, AND THE TOWNSHIP OF BURPEE AND MILLS

Nominations for positions listed below may be made by completing and filing in the office of the Clerk, on the prescribed form and accompanied by the prescribed nomination filing fee of \$200.00 for the Head of Council and \$100.00 for all other offices. The filing fee is payable by cash, certified cheque, money order or electronic payment if specified by the Clerk.

A nomination must be signed by the candidate and may be filed in person or by an agent during regular business hours between May 2, 2022 and August 18, 2022, and between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. on August 19, 2022 (Nomination Day). Nomination forms must be submitted to the Clerk of the Municipality in which you are filing.

In the event there are an insufficient number of certified candidates to fill all positions available, nominations will be reopened for the vacant positions only on Wednesday, August 24, 2022, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. and such additional nominations, if required, may be filed in the office of the Clerk.

MUNICIPAL POSITIONS FOR WHICH PERSONS MAY BE NOMINATED ARE AS FOLLOWS:

TOWN OF GORE BAY	TOWNSHIP OF BILLINGS	MUNICIPALITY OF CENTRAL MANITOULIN
1 Mayor 6 Councillors	1 Mayor 4 Councillors	1 Mayor 6 Councillors
TOWNSHIP OF BURPEE AND MILLS	MUNICIPALITY OF GORDON/BARRIE ISLAND	TOWNSHIP OF ASSIGNACK
1 Reeve 4 Councillors	1 Reeve 4 Councillors	1 Mayor 4 Councillors

Central Manitoulin CAO/clerk Ruth Frawley announces pending retirement

by Tom Sasvari
CENTRAL MANITOULIN—With the pending retirement of CAO/clerk Ruth Frawley at the end of this current year, the municipality of Central Manitoulin has begun the process of hiring someone to take over the position.

“Ruth will be retiring December 31,” said Mayor Richard

Stephens. “Absolutely, we are going to miss Ruth. It’s going to be difficult filling her shoes, with all that experience wrapped up in one person.”

Mayor Stephens pointed out Ms. Frawley had worked as the clerk in Sandfield Township prior to Sandfield amalgamating with Carnarvon and Campbell to form the Municipality of Central Manitoulin.

“I will be retiring after 41 years, as of December 31,” Ms. Frawley told The Expositor. “I had informed council and staff last December 30 that I would stay for this year and until after the election.”

“Council wanted to get a head start on hiring a new CAO/clerk. They will become a “lame duck” council in



July (with the fall election to take place) so they won’t be able to hire someone after that time,” said Ms. Frawley.

The municipality has advertised for the position, with the closing date for applications April 22. The successful candidate will have a start date of December 5.

“The person who is hired will start December 5, and I will be there to help out until the end of the year,” said Ms. Frawley.



M.S.S. Kids in the Halls

Rachael Orford

I hope everyone had a hoppy Easter weekend! Students had Friday, April 15 and Monday, April 18, off for the Easter holidays.

An Easter joke for you: Did you hear about the bunny who sat on a bum-blebee? It’s a tender tail.

Over the Easter week-end, the MSS Robotics team, Manitoulin Metal, FRC 6865 took part in the provincial competition at the Paramount Centre in Mississauga. This was the team’s last competition for this season, and they did wonderfully! They had such a blast and wanted to thank all their sponsors for helping them to get there. This was Manitoulin Metal’s first provincial competition in the team’s history, and they came home with the Entrepreneurship Award and some other amazing news. A few weeks ago, I reported that co-captain, Jocelyn Kuntsi was a provincial finalist for the prestigious Dean’s List Award. At these provincial championships, it was announced that she was selected as the Dean’s List Award Finalist and that she will be competing at Worlds. Worlds begin today, Wednesday, April 20 in Houston, Texas. This award “recognizes their exemplary passion and effectiveness in achieving the mission of FIRST.” Congratulations, Jocelyn! And congratulations to the whole robotics team!

Beginning today, Wednesday, April 20 and ending Friday, April 22, there will be a book swap held at MSS. Staff and students are invited to bring in gently used books and exchange them for other gently used books. Donations are also accepted in exchange for a book. Donations and extra books will be donated to local municipal libraries.

This Friday, April 22, is Earth Day. Make sure to do your part and go clean up some garbage from a local park, roadside, or waterway. Just make sure to take all the necessary precautions to ensure a safe outing. Initiatives like these could be done every day to take care of the earth, not just today. To recognize Earth Day, SHARE/Go-Green will be having a Kahoot in the cafeteria on Friday to test student knowledge on earth trivia.

An Earth Day joke for you: What’s the difference between weather and climate? You can’t weather a tree, but you can climate.

The Student Council has a lot in store for the next few months of school. To start things off, Friday, April 29, will be spy day at MSS! Staff and students will be dressing up as spies for the day and sneaking around the halls from class to class.

Wednesday, May 4, will be Star Wars Day! And to top that all off, next week there will be some exciting announcements made! Some old MSS traditions from pre-pandemic times will be returning at the end of this month and into the first part of May, so stay tuned to hear about that!

A note for all college-bound students: Don’t forget to accept your offer of admission by May 1 to the college of your choice! If you need any assistance in the process, please contact a guidance counsellor.

Graduation photos have been rescheduled. They will take place Monday, May 16 through Wednesday, May 18. Students can still book online at prestigeportraits.ca. If students had already booked for the March session, they are now automatically rebooked for the same day of the week and time, just in May. If you have any questions, please see guidance.

Joke of the week: Why don’t aliens visit Earth? Because they read the Google reviews...only 1 star.

Upcoming events include the book swap, NOSSA badminton and a few spirit days.

Until the next time, “Dream and Believe. Learn and Achieve!”



thank you

I was overwhelmed to receive 165 beautiful cards and many messages for my 90th birthday. Thank you everyone and thank you family for the delicious supper. God bless you.
Mona Lewis

49p

The family of Madeleine Charlton thanks the Community of Christ Church and the Community of Manitoulin Island. On Saturday, April 9, 2022, family and friends bid farewell to Madeleine on her final journey to dwell in the House of the Lord forever (Psalm 23). The family of Madeleine wishes to thank the Community of Christ Church and the Community of Manitoulin Island for making our Mom’s funeral exactly as she wished. Special thanks to Pastor Dawn Dawson and brother Weston Leeson of the Community of Christ Church for conducting Mom’s funeral service, David Jaggard for delivering a fascinating eulogy, special singing guests Angela Harper, and Marlene and Darryl Dewar, who sang songs requested by Mom. Also Tracy, Virginia and Jordan at the Island Funeral Home for their assistance with arrangements and support at Mom’s visitations and funeral. We will miss our Mom, but we take comfort in knowing she is with Dad forevermore.

49c



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Email: connie.mccue@century21.ca

Phone: 705-207-8080

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Manitoulin Fragrance Factory moves into new permanent location

by Tom Sasvari
KAGAWONG—After many years of working off the kitchen table at her family's home in Kagawong and selling her Manitoulin Fragrance Factory products out of the garage, Lauren MacKay has proudly opened her business' brick and mortar location this spring.

"I've been doing this since I was 12 and I will be 19 in June, so yes, I've been running my business for a few years," Ms. MacKay told The Expositor at the grand opening of her new store on April 2 at 10221 Highway 540, where she shares space with Manitoulin Cedar, her father's business.

"I started making epsom salts on the kitchen table and then I was able to get into bigger craft shows," said Ms. MacKay. "Then the pandemic hit, and I opened an e-commerce website."

Ms. MacKay started her business in 2014 after making crafts in school using epsom salts for a Mother's Day project. With her mom being allergic to strong fragrances, starting a business called Manitoulin Fragrance Factory posed some concerns. With her mom and many others in mind she chose the natural route,

using 100 percent essential oils to infuse all the epsom salt products.

In the spring of 2020, the business expanded its product line to include candles and wax melts. "Keeping our products natural and safe for the whole family, we use 100 percent organic soy. Organic soy is renewable and doesn't contain the chemicals commonly found

business has a wide variety of candles, tea lights, wax melts and fire starters. "We have 30 scents available in soy products," Ms. MacKay pointed out. "Some of our most popular scents include Island Memories, Summer Splash, vanilla, and lavender."

"Everything is made in Kagawong," explained Ms. MacKay. "We import ingre-

These include Dreamers Cove in Little Current, Bare Naked Beauty in Kagawong, Island Home Outfitters in Mindemoya, Buzwah Variety in Wiikwemkoong, the Wigwam Gift Shop in South Baymouth with some products also available at Loco Beanz in Gore Bay. Some of their epsom salts products are also available at the marina in Kagawong.

Ms. MacKay noted that none of this would be possible without the support of her family, friends and the loyal customers she has gathered over the years. As well, "our first business loan was provid-

ed through Lambac (LaCloche Manitoulin Business Assistance Corporation)."

For more information on

the business and its products, visit manitoulinfragrance.com online or call 705-282-1787.



Lauren MacKay, owner of Manitoulin Fragrance Factory, recently held a grand opening for her new business location, 10221 Highway 540, near Kagawong.

in paraffin and/or in soy blends, making it very clean and giving it a longer burn time, the business website explains.

"All of our products are family and environmentally friendly as well as hand made on Manitoulin Island," said Ms. MacKay.

Along with a large number of different essential oil-infused epsom salts, the

dients from another supplier and pour the mixture into containers."

As any of her loyal customers can tell you, all of the business products can be found online on the Manitoulin Fragrance Factory website. Their products can also be found at about seven retail local stores across Manitoulin that carry their products.

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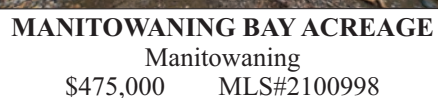
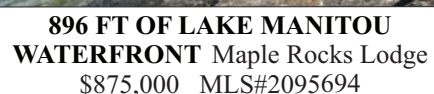
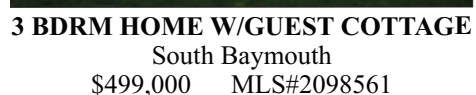
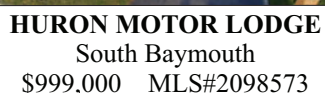
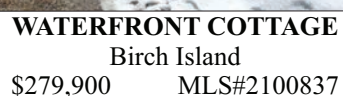
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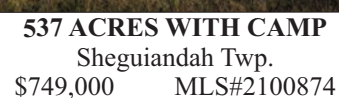
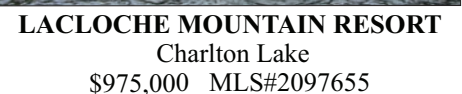
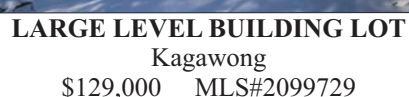
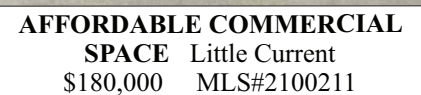
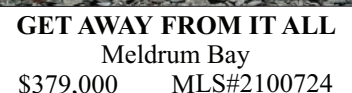
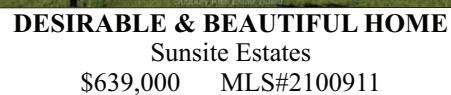


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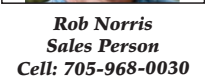


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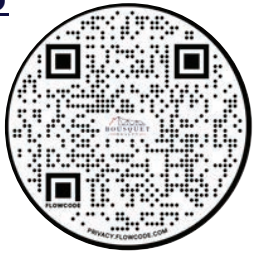


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