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THE REINDEER CAME FIRST—The 'Rein-Dearing Farm' float by Rob Dearing and Sons took home the top prize for best float in the Gore Bay Santa Claus parade. The top float spot on the podium won bragging rights. This year's Gore Bay parade had a huge number of floats and a great crowd despite the challenging weather.

## Manitoulin Planning Board approves granting draft approval for Central 39-lot subdivision

Despite concerns with water quality, setbacks for septic

GORE BAY—Despite several concerns raised by a local resident about water quality, septic systems and fish habitat with the proposed 39 lot Central Manitoulin lakeshore subdivision, the Manitoulin Planning Board (MPB) has given draft approval for the plan of subdivision.

"Our goal is to zero adverse effects on the lake (Mindemoya) with this development," said Lee Kieswetter, one of the proponents for the subdivision application from Split Crow Partners Ltd. stated. "We are all for study and enforcement of the lake for quality and septic systems regula-

MPB chair Lee Hayden explained that a statutory public meeting had been held on January 30, 2024 to consider the proposal for the 39 lot plan of subdivision by Split Crow Partners Ltd.(located at 18 Tracy Road, township of Carnarvon, in Central Manitoulin).

Central Manitoulin directed MPB in March of

## Hunger lives here on Manitoulin Island too

Manitoulin families struggle as food bank use surges

by Jacqueline M. St. Pierre, Local Journalism Initiative reporter illes on Manitoulin Island, the joy of the holiday season is overshadowed by a stark reality: putting food on the table is becoming an uphill battle. Rising costs, stagnant wages, and inadequate social assistance are forcing more people than ever before to turn to food banks. Manitoulin Family Resources (MFR) Food Bank is at the forefront of this crisis, witnessing an unrelenting surge in need that paints a heartbreaking picture of the community's most vulnerable.

In the past year alone, MFR served 4,588 individuals, representing 1,635 households—a seven percent increase from last year and a staggering 46 percent rise from pre-pandemic levels in 2018-2019. Among these households, 28 percent were first-time visitors, many of them working families and seniors living on fixed incomes.

"These are people who never imagined they'd need to rely on

spokesperson. "They're moth-MANITOULIN—For many fam- ers skipping meals so their kids can eat, seniors choosing between heat and groceries, and workers putting in full-time hours but still falling short. Hunger isn't a distant problem—it's here in our communi-

> Behind every statistic is a story of resilience, sacrifice

a food bank," shared an MFR and heartbreak. There's the single father who picks up a Christmas hamper with tears in his eyes, relieved to know his kids will have a holiday meal. There's the elderly widow who carefully packs her bag of essentials, apologizing for needing "just a little extra" this month. And there's the 10-year-old boy,

...continued on page 13

## Ignace chosen as site for Canada's nuclear waste repository

Decision draws mixed reaction at critical juncture by Jacqueline M. St.Pierre,

Local Journalism Initiative reporter

NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO —In a landmark decision announced on November 30, 2024, the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) selected the Municipality of Ignace in Northwestern Ontario as the site for Canada's first deep geological repository (DGR) for spent nuclear fuel. The repository is to be located within the Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation and the Town of Ignace area, specifically in the Revell Batholith, a region chosen for its stable bedrock and geologic suitability. This decision marks a critical juncture in Canada's approach to managing high-level nuclear waste, sparking both hope and concern across the country.

In the Wabigoon-Ignace area, the announcement has drawn mixed reactions. Local supporters point to the economic opportunities the project brings and highlight the NWMO's extensive consultation process, which included a community vote to ensure majority support. NWMO's rigorous scientific evaluations and ongoing Indigenous-led assessments are also cited as critical components of the decision-making process.

Al Douglas, a prominent climate and energy expert hailing from Manitoulin Island, emphasized the urgency of finding solutions to the twin challenges of energy and climate change. "With respect to climate change, we have to explore a range of energy alternatives to help wean ourselves off fossil fuel-based energy," he says. He underscores the fact that nuclear energy, which produces significantly fewer greenhouse gas emissions than fossil fuels, will play a role in this transition.

...continued on page 9

## **UOI Grand Council chief decries** federal delaying tactics re: human rights police funding challenge

by Tom Sasvari

OTTAWA—Anishinabek tion Grand Council Chief Linda Debassige says that continued delays in addressing chronic underfunding of First Nations community policing is leading to many communities remaining in a state of crisis.

Continued delays continue to keep our communities in a state of crisis," said Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Chief Debassige. "Our communities are getting very frustrated and are looking at alternative measures to get Canada's attention. The hurt, fear and concern from all

our communities is so strong. Communities are getting organized to get attention to this issue in one form or another. My concern is that in my region we will end up potentially having another Ipperwash."

"Delays for the human rights hearing (that was scheduled for early January) will not help, said Grand Council Chief Debas-

The Grand Council Chief made these statements at a press conference held last Thursday in Ottawa with First Nation leaders and Indigenous police chiefs, where the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) were holding a meeting. The Indigenous Police Chiefs of Ontario (IPCO) is asking Canada to withdraw a motion it has put forward to adjourn an Ontario Human Rights Tribunal hearing that was sched-... continued on page 9

## Early Deadline

Due to where Christmas falls in the week this year an early deadline for the December 23 edition, including display advertising, classified ads and correspondence must be submitted no later than noon on Wednesday, December 18.

#### Central Manitoulin donates \$34,000 for local doctor recruitment by Michael Erskine contribution.

CENTRAL MANITOULIN—Council of the Municipality of Central Manitoulin has donated an extra \$34,000 to the Manitoulin Central Family Health Γeam to be utilized in doctor recruitment efforts.

The motion, moved by Councillor Rose Diebolt and seconded by Councillor John Bisaillon, "that the yearly donation for 2025 to the Manitoulin Central Family Health Team doctor recruitment program be increased by \$34,000.

The motion was slightly confusing, as noted by Councillor Bisaillon, in that the municipality already currently contributes \$8,000 to the joint Island doctor recruitment program. Clarification provided indicated that the total amount being set for doctor recruitment is \$42,000, but that the \$34,000 in the motion was contingent on a doctor moving to the community and is separate from the \$8,000 joint

"That's what (the recruiter's) job is going to be," noted Mayor Richard Stephens, "but that is different from what the MCFHT needs because they need extra funding to actually get one of the doctors with the new program that they've initiated to come here for four years, three to four years, like they did in Gore Bay, so that \$34,000 there is going to MCFHT and the other \$8,000 in the budget, as Der-

Mayor Stephens noted that the \$34,000 amount is contingent on a doctor moving to the community for four years. "If we don't have a doctor come, it's going to be sitting there till next year or whenever,' he said. "Until they need it,"

ek insisted in our last meeting, is keeping it in our

The \$8,000, on the other hand, goes toward the salary of the pan-Island recruiter.

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## The Manitoulin West Recorder

## Charges laid during annual rifle deer hunt on Manitoulin increase

MANITOULIN—The number of charges laid by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) continued the recent trend of increasing during this year's annual rifle deer hunt on Manito-

"Conservation officers issued 56 charges during the one-week Manitou-lin Island deer gun hunt," said Tawny Godin, an MNRF conservation officer (CO)." Some of the most common non-compliance issues that officers encountered were failing to invalidate a tag immediately after a kill and hunting big game without a licence.

During the 2023 Manitoulin deer gun hunt, a total of 53 charges were laid, a significant increase over the 2022 total of 28 charges.

"Conservation officers seized 17 deer during the Manitoulin deer gun hunt,' said CO Godin. "Deer were donated local-



These two bucks were harvested from the Tehkummah township area by Robert Carriere (shown in photo) during the deer muzzle loader hunt season on Manitoulin Island.

ly to Indigenous community programs." Ms. Godin explained that 23 conservation officers, "attended Manitoulin Island this year to assist in the deer hunt.

This year COs contacted 730 hunters during the hunt.'

"It was a good harvest this year," said Ms. Godin. "It was nice to see families and friends enjoying the outdoors while hunting. More detailed harvest numbers will be collected through the mandatory deer hunting surveys. Conservation officers are reminding hunters to ensure they take the time at the end of the season to fill out their harvest reports.

Ms. Godin added that during the hunt MNR, "Conservation officers along with members of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) and the members of the Ministry of Transportation conducted a road check to enforce public safety and natural resource legislation."

## Brian and Rikki Boyd honoured with OPP Commissioner lifesaving award

NORTH BAY-The quick reactions of Brian and Rikki Boyd are credited with saving the life of an elderly man who had fallen from a dock at Little Current's Spider Bay Marina and became trapped under the dock. Mr. and Ms. Boyd were recently honoured with an Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Lifesaving Award at a ceremony in North

The Commissioners Citation for Lifesaving Award was presented to the couple by Commissioner Thomas Carrique of the OPP at an awards ceremony held in North Bay on November

It was around 9:30 pm and the



The Commissioners Citation for Lifesaving Award was presented to Brian and Rikki Boyd by OPP Commissioner Thomas Carrique of the Ontario Provincial Police at an awards ceremony held in North Bay on November 21

new digs at the condos near Low Island in late October last year and were looking forward to a long night of moving boxes and furniture when a loud noise caught their attention.

"I heard some yelling, but I chalked it up to kids down at the skate park," recalled Mr. Boyd at the time. But something in the tone of the voice he was hearing seemed off. His wife Rikki also heard the calls, so Mr. Boyd decided to listen a little closer—and soon realized someone down at Spider Bay Marina was in distress and calling for help. "You better go check," said his wife, "I'll clear up here."

The two OPP special constables were off duty from their

recently moved back to the Island where Mr. Boyd's father, Al Boyd, had spent a long career as an officer with the Manitoulin Detachment.

When Mr. Boyd arrived at the dock, he discovered an elderly man had fallen off a boat and was trapped under the dock, unable to extricate himself, desperately holding onto the dock in deep water.

"I asked him what pier he was on and I knew right away where he was," said Mr. Boyd, who explained that he had once worked as a summer student at Spider Bay, and was very familiar with the layout. As he got closer, Mr. Boyd realized that

...continued on page 18

## Manitoulin youth showcase coding skills at LEGO First Robotics Festival

by Alexandra Wilson-Zegil

MANITOULIN—Parents and their children gathered at Manitoulin Secondary School on Saturday, December 7 to celebrate the twelve weeks of work their kids put into the FIRST LEGO League (FLL) Explore program. Manitoulin Metal, the high school's robotics team, organized this project to give younger students an opportunity to access robotics and computer programming. The FLL Explore teams were open to kids ages six through 10 and had weekly meetings to develop their skills to prepare for the festival competition.



The Robotics skills require teamwork and concentration to succeed.

photo by Alexandra Wilson-Zegil

The festival kicked off with the introduction of teams, First Crushers featuring Chloe, Greta, Gabe and Jace, mentored by Manitoulin Metal members Samuel Pennings, Spencer Johnston, and Dylan Kuntsi. Then, The Coral Explorers comprised of Theo, Gil, Brinley and Emily, mentored by Manitoulin Metal members Kiki Lynch, Xander

Thompson and Jack Hartin.

Emcee Nevaeh Harper then welcomed the crowd and introduced the festival director, Caroline Black, who shared her excitement about the day's events. She emphasized the hard work and creativity that teams had put into their projects, exploring ocean layers and developing

The "Submerged" theme of this year's festival challenged teams to dive into the mysteries of the ocean, using their LEGO models to simulate underwater exploration. These themed festivals have been happening all over the world, starting in

Teams then prepared for presenta-...continued on page 18

## Manitoulin Community Choir held two performances

by Tom Sasvari

MANITOULIN-The Manitoulin Community Choir provided some new faces as conductors at the group's two recent performances in Kagawong and Spring

"This year the Manitoulin Community Choir was excited to welcome two new conductors to the podium," said Jane Best, director and conductor of the choir. 'Janelle Addison and Kirsten Nelson vere invited to begin learning of conducting, spent some time working with me, and a lot of time practicing.'

Ms. Nelson also volunteered to accompany some of the songs performed at the concerts on the piano, and Paul Best accompanied numerous songs on the guitar. Ms. Best said this combination of talented people enable her to have a choice, sometimes conducting the choir and also accompanying on the piano, so that the



The Manitoulin Community Choir, lead by Jane Best performed two concerts this past weekend. Despite the lousy weather outside there was a good crowd on hand for the concert held Friday evening at the Park Centre in Kagawong, with the crowd performing in front of a sizable crowd on Sunday afternoon in the Spring Bay Church.

Fire heavily damages Little Current home

LITTLE CURRENT—The Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands Fire Department was called to a house fire at 35 Worthington Street in Little Current at 5:12 am on Saturday, November 30.

"Upon arriving on scene department members met up with one member of the household who had escaped without injury and reported no other persons inside with

fire in the basement," said Fire Chief Duane Deschamps. "Firefighters then entered the structure encountering the presence of heavy smoke and heat and proceeded to the fire area. The team was successfully able to extinguish the fire quickly resulting in stopping further loss. The fire department then continued with overhaul operations and smoke removal.'

Mr. Deschamps noted

that fire investigators have deemed the fire to be "not suspicious and caused by a faulty electrical heating device.'

The family does have

insurance. The fire chief said he would like to remind everyone of the importance of having a working smoke alarm on every floor of your home and outside of sleeping areas.

choir could offer a varied program for their concert.

Ms. Addison also played various percussion instruments on different songs and Jon Best played recorder.

'With heavy snow this weekend we had a small but valiant audience in

Kagawong on Friday night (November 29), and a larger audience at the Spring Bay Church on Sunday afternoon (December 1). Everyone's participation this fall made this performance truly a community effort," said Ms. Best.

## Wiikwemkoong family loses everything in fire

by Michael Erskine

WIIKWEMKOONG—A house fire last week destroyed the home of Dina Peltier and her daughter, taking with it everything they owned.

While the community

help replace some items, the need especially at this time of year is extreme.

At the advice of friends and family, the Peltiers are not setting up

has been stepping up to a GoFundMe account. Instead, Islanders are encouraged to send donations directly to the family through electronic money transfers to: dinahpeltier@hotmail.

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"who dares not offend cannot be honest"

# One Manitowaning Road opinion

## <u>editorial</u>

## First Nation policing should be equitably funded

News that the federal government is attempting to have the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal challenge over First Nation police funding adjourned is quite disheartening—given the great strides this current government has made in settling outstanding treaty inequities and dealing with historical injustices.

There is little doubt that the recent Supreme Court ruling in Quebec (Attorney General) v. Pekuakamiulnuatsh Takuhikan which found that Quebec has failed to uphold its "honour of the Crown" by not negotiating in good faith with Pekuakamiulnuatsh First Nation over a new funding agreement for the Indigenous community in Mashteuiatsh, Quebec leaves little doubt what the outcome off the Ontario case will be.

The decision to not enter into meaningful negotiations over police funding contracts with three Indigenous police forces including UCCM Anishnaabe Police Service, Treaty Three Police Service and the Anishinabek Police Service is a startling reversion to the paternal approach to dealing with First Nation issues. Instead of sitting down with the police services and determining what is truly needed in order to provide policing in the widespread communities which they serve, government bureaucrats simply handed a fait accompli—take it or leave it—to the police services.

While it is true that negotiations are far preferable to court action, especially given the enormous costs associated with legal actions, the police services can hardly be blamed for not being willing stand their challenge down in light of the cavalier manner in which they have been dealt in the past.

First Nation police services are a relatively new phenomenon, as Public Safety Canada has administered and funded Indigenous police forces through the First Nations and Inuit Policing Program

only since 1991. That program provides policing to 385 of the 680 First Nations and Inuit communities across the country, but only nine police forces in Ontario are fully administered by the local First Nations communities.

For the past 30 years funding has fallen short, leaving Indigenous police services with a massive backlog of underfunding from which they must dig out—let alone bring policing standards up to the level of non-Indigenous services.

This is an issue, therefore, that is not going to be fixed overnight, but obfuscating and delaying tactics being practiced by federal bureaucrats will do nothing to expedite any resolution.

It is situations like this that set back the process of meaningful reconciliation and threaten to undo the great strides that have been accomplished in that direction over the past decade.

All Canadians deserve the same levels of safety and security, whether they live in an urban setting in Southern Ontario or on a remote Northern reserve and, when it comes to First Nations communities, there is no better approach to policing than to have communities themselves at the forefront of delivering those services.

We have an admirable collaboration between the Manitoulin OPP detachment and both the UCCM Anishnaabe Police Service and Wiikwemkoong Tribal Police Service. The Indigenous police services should not be treated by federal bureaucrats as "junior" and less deserving of equitable funding.

We call on our federal representatives of all stripes to reel in the baser instincts of the bureaucratic class and direct Public Safety Canada to take a seat at the negotiating table and refrain from dealing from the bottom of the deck, which to any reasonable outside observer seems to be the standard go-to approach.

## Assiginack arts centre proceeds

by Tom Sasvari

MANITOWANING—Despite some concerns raised about the potential costs and getting more input from members of the public to the proposed new Manitowaning arts and entertainment centre, Assiginack Township council has given its approval in principle for the project to continue.

"If you are asking for us to approve the project in principle to proceed, I'm in favour of this," said Councillor Rob Maguire at a council meeting last week. "This is part of community development"

"My only fear is the budget for this building. There was a quote in The Expositor that the estimated cost was \$10 million," said Councillor Janice Bowerman.

Chris Perry, of Perry and Perry Architects at a public information meeting October 10, had provided a ballpark figure of between \$5-8 million dollars, Brenda Reid Assiginack Mayor told council. "This is a very ballpark figure. The cost depends on a lot of things."

Mayor Reid explained that there is nothing set in stone in terms of the project proposal with concerns being raised at the last public meeting that the size of the proposed theatre stage size presented in the drawings are not large enough.

Councillor Jennifer Hooper said the last public information meeting was held at 4:30 pm, an inappropriate time for people who work during the day.

"Two people reached out to me and said they didn't know the meeting was taking place," said Councillor Bowerman, acknowledging the meeting was advertised. "Were there any objections raised by members of the public at the meeting?"

"No, there were no objections raised, some of (the 10 people at the meeting) had issues some thought the proposed theatre stage was too small," said Mayor Reid. Mr. Perry, "has further diagrams, design and groundwork to finalize on all of this." A concern was raised by Councillor Bowerman that only pro-

posed drawings have been provided at this point and that the township has spent a lot of money on the proposal.

"We have not been westing money, this has all been noid for

"We have not been wasting money, this has all been paid for (through funding grants)," said Mayor Reid.

Councillor Rob Maguire pointed out the project will include the use of the Roller Mills building and the Burns Wharf Theatre, which would provide future sustainability of these buildings. "It is good to be looking at options for them."

"I agree," stated Councillor Bowerman, "but if it costs \$8 million Assiginack can't afford it."

The project will provide economic development for the community and available funding for programs might be able to be tapped into, said Councillor Maguire. "I would put forward a motion to see it through to see future steps taken."

"I'm okay with the project proceeding but once we start costing this out, we will need more details," said Councillor Bowerman. She agreed with Councillor Hooper that the next public information meeting should be held at 6 pm or later in the evening.

"My concerns are to do with parking down there," said Councillor Dwayne Elliott. "I don't think we have enough parking with the theatre and other amenities being looked at in the building. But in principle, I support the proposal moving forward, at least until we find out exactly how much this is going to cost."

Councillor Hooper said she has heard from some local residents who are not in favour of the project.

Mr. Perry noted at the previous public information centre meeting, "From a design concept point of view, we have created a relationship between the three buildings: the Roller Mills building, Burns Wharf Theatre (the latter's use has not been determined as of yet) and a new building to be developed, each to be used for some aspect of the proposal. There would be a closed-off connection from the outside between the roller mill building that would lead into the new entertainment centre. There would be overflow space where people can congregate before and after an event.

"Once we get to the committal stage where the community and council says yes, we are going to do it, then we can look at all of this further and put in place the final design," said Mr. Perry.

The plumbing (restroom area) will be established in the new part of the new building area, said Mr. Perry. There would also be a multipurpose hall with seating that would be stored and be retractable, noting this can also be a stage area. The centre will be able to hold other activities and events as well. There would be a storage area and other rooms that support meetings and the concept allows for a courtyard at the mill for displays and functions.

"Half of the Burns Wharf Theatre could be repurposed, and we would look at what could be done to suit the needs of users," said Mr. Perry, noting the theatre area would include seating for 126 patrons.



LEFT — The Western Manitoulin Branch 514 Legion in Gore Bay hosted a zone cribbage tournament on Saturday, November 23 with a Gore Bay team taking first place. From left to right in photo is the winning team members including Annie Porter, Eric Ruediger, Sue Flynn, Allison Idle and zone sports officer, Chris Peters. The local team will move on to compete at a district level competition in South River in January.

## Lisa Odjig represents Canada with Ethiopia dance performances

by Michael Erskine

ADDAS ABBA, ETHIOPIA— Champion hoop dancer Lisa Odjig of Wiikwemkoong was invited to Ethiopia by the Canadian government and the embassy of Ethiopia in celebration of Truth and Reconciliation Day. Ms.

brothers and sisters who were in residential schools," she said. "There were thousands of Indigenous children that did not make it home to their families and communities. In my prayers, I promised that I would make them proud."

educate the world about our Indigenous culture, traditions, songs and dances."

In that cultural exchange, Ms. Odjig had the opportunity to dance with Ethiopian tribes such as the Mursi Tribe of Omo Valley. She performed both fancy shawl

"I had a busy schedule," she said of her visit. "I met with embassy staff at an 'all staff' meeting and shared a cultural workshop about cultural survival and hoop dance. I also shared information about National Day of Truth and Reconciliation in Canada and some history about the residential schools." On October 1 there was an embassy reception where she performed the fancy shawl and hoop dance for diplomats from other coun-

ficials. Ms. Odjig said that she thoroughly enjoyed her visit to Ethiopia and she highly encourages Canadians to ex-

tries as well as Ethiopian of-

plore that nation's rich culture and heritage.

"I want to share and also give credit to Ethiopia Tour," said Ms. Odjig. "They are a licenced tour operator in Ethiopia and have been recommended by Government of Canada. If anyone is interested in touring Africa in Ethiopia, if they want to see the tribes and African wildlife, we highly recommend Tibebu Ethiopia Tour!"

Information on touring Ethiopia can be found at www.tibebuethiopiatour. com, she supplied, adding that Tibebu is also available on Instagram and Trip Advi-



Lisa Odjig in Ethiopia and members of the embassy join dancers for a photo op.

Odjig travelled to Ethiopia on September 27 for a weeklong cultural exchange to that African nation.

Although she was invited by the Canadian government. Ms. Odjig was mindful of who she truly represents. "When I'm invited to dance, I honour our ancestors, our First Nations people and especially our Indigenous it's important to share and

Ms. Odjig has twice held the title of World Champion Hoop Dancer and it is through her art she honours those who went before. "Cultural survival, because the residential schools tried to take away our traditions and culture," she said. "It was an honour and an opportunity of a lifetime. I thought that

and hoop dance. "There were Ethiopian dance troupes," she said. "They performed their traditional songs and dances. It was excellent! The night was perfect."

The visit included technical preparation with rehearsals, workshops and a reception performances on September 29, September 30 and October 1.



Odjig Ethiopia Olicoro being given a necklace by Lisa is the tribal dance teacher.

## First Nation youths present at conference in New Zealand

by Lorrilee McGregor

MNISING—Youths MNIDOO from Mnidoo Mnising travelled to Aotearoa (New Zealand) and presented at the International Indigenous Research Conference from November 12 to 15. The Maori hosted this academic conference, which took place at the University of Auckland. A welcoming ceremony was held in the Waipapa Marae, a Maori ceremonial building located on campus and kicked off this four-day conference.

Before the conference, one group developed a graphic poster that illustrated their findings, which was shared with the Elders they interviewed. Nevada Anwhatin, Kristen McGregor, Kyanna Sinclair-McKeever and Miles Sutherland described their experiences interviewing Elders about intellectual property rights.

During her presentation, Kyanna Sinclair-McKeever stated, "It was crucial for us to communicate to the Elders that this project respects their wisdom and recognizes the importance of protecting our cultural knowledge." This emphasis on the Elders' wisdom instills a deep sense of respect and appreciation for their knowledge.

Ensuring free, prior and informed consent was critical to the interview process. The youth interviewers conveyed this to the Elders at the start of each interview. Once they received knowledge, Kristen McGregor noted, "As learners, we have a responsibility for the knowledge we learn including earning, respecting, and safely transferring the knowledge that we are given." The appropriation and misuse of intellectual property is a concern shared by Anishinaabek knowledge carriers.

Miles Sutherland summarized the Elders' thoughts about losing cultural knowledge: "There was an overwhelming concern about losing [knowledge] and sharing it. What I mean by that is, when you share it, how is it going to be used and will it be exploited? Losing it in the sense that if you don't share it then it gets lost." Navigating the tension between preventing the loss of knowledge and sharing it can be challenging for both Elders and learners.

Nevada Anwhatin concluded their presentation by saying: "It's important to listen to the Elders you visit with and ask these questions. Can we share and who can we tell? Most of the time, what the Elders share is meant for you. Other times, they will let you know what's okay to share." The audience asked the youths questions when they finished, indicating high interest in their well-timed, polished presentation.

Another youth group, including Dionovan Grosbeck, Hillary Mc-Gregor, Sterling McGregor, Noah Verhoeff and Nevada Anwhatin, described a board game they created called 'Gnaaji-wiinge: Anishnaabeg Life Path Resource.' Based on the Little Roads Teachings, the game serves as a powerful tool to reinforce Anishinaabek identity, values and well-being among young people. Hillary McGregor explained the game's purpose, "If you know where you came from, if you know who you are, why you're here, what your purpose is, then you will have a positive vision for the future. You have hope and you can be well."

The game takes players along the path of life as they work together to resolve challenges. Sterling McGregor described the shkiniijig stage as when young people spend time with Elders and learn about their responsibilities. Sterling shared her personal experience about being in the next life stage called babaayajig, "For me, I'm in the wandering stage of my life and this meant leaving my home community of Whitefish River First Nation and moving 4,000 kilometres away from home to attend the University of British Columbia. This was jarring and completely different from the life I had lived for my first 18 years. Being away really allowed me to realize what was important to me. I was away from my family so I realized how much they supported me. I was away from the land so I realized how much it means to be on the land that knows you, that cares for you, that connects you to all the generations that come before you.

koong artist, created the board game images. Nevada described the Woodland style of art as being based on

Anishinaabe traditions and stories. She stated, "The flowers represent growth and the new generations. For the rest of the board game and the cards, I put my own artistic style onto it." The result is a visually appealing board game that is played collaboratively. This is in stark contrast to other types of board games that focus on winning.

Anishinaabe academics mentoring the youths working on the intellectual property rights research project include Dr. Susan Manitowabi, Dr. Deborah McGregor, Dr. Lorrilee McGregor and Dr. Cindy Peltier. Lorrilee McGregor is the principal investigator on a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council research grant. Dr. Deborah McGregor, a Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Environmental Jus-Nevada Anwhatin, a Wiikwem- tice, mentors the youths working on the board game.



In photo, from left, are (from left to right): Kristen McGregor, Kyanna Sinclair-McKeever, Miles Sutherland, Nevada Anwhatin, Sterling McGregor, Hillary McGregor, Dionovan Grosbeck, and



## Carjacking suspect from Manitoulin charged by police

ESTAIRE—A suspect from Manitoulin Island has been charged in connection to a carjacking in Estaire, south of Sudbury while a second suspect is still at large.

The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) said that on December 5 a struggle had occurred, and the owner of the vehicle was able to escape the incident without any injuries and contacted the police. OPP Constable Rob Lewis said the victim and the accused knew each other.

The police had been called to Hendrie Road, in the Nepewassi Lake area around 7 pm on November 27.

Following an investigation by the police, the OPP arrested and charged a man from Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory (WUT) with assault, robbery and theft over \$5,000.

An arrest warrant has been issued for a second suspect, but no informa-

tion has been provided about the individual.

The suspect was released from custody and is scheduled to appear in court January 8 in Sudbury.

#### Names released on two people charged in shooting in Wiikwemkoong

LITTLE CURRENT—The Manitoulin detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) has released the names of the arrested individuals in relation to the recent shooting investigation in Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory (WUT).

On November 28, the Manitoulin OPP assisted the Wikwemikong Tribal Police Service (WTPS) on a shooting investigation that occurred in the area of Rabbit Island Road and Tomas Lane in Wiikwemkoong. As a result of the altercation, one person sustained serious but non-life-threatening injuries. Two people were safely taken into custody that same day.

As a result of the investigation, Terrance Trudeau, 26, from Wiikwemkoong, was charged with attempt to murder using a prohibited firearm, contrary to section 239(1)(a) of the criminal code (CC), unauthorized possession of a prohibited firearm, section 91 (1) CC, possession of a schedule one substance-cocaine, section 4(1) of the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (CDSA).

Additionally, Shauna Limin, 28, from Whitefish River First Nation was charged with accessory after the fact to commit indictable offence, section 463(b) CC, unauthorized possession of a prohibited firearm, section 91(1) CC, and obstruct peace officer, section 129(a) CC.

Both accused individuals appeared before the Ontario Court of Justice bail court in Gore Bay on November 29 and were remanded into custody.

The investigation is being conducted by the Wikwemikong Tribal Police Service (WTPS) and the Manitoulin OPP crime unit, under the direction of the OPP criminal investigation branch.

Any person with information regarding this investigation should contact the OPP at 1-888-310-1122. Should you wish to remain anonymous, you may contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or ontariocrimestoppers.ca.

Earlier in the day of November 28, police had issued a hold and secure for residents of the Rabbit Island area as well as the three Wiikwemkoong schools and hub centre. WTPS issued a Facebook notice asking residents to remain vigilant and not approach police during an active investigation.

## Friends and Neighbours

## Providence Bay Alexia Hannigan

lexia here with your friendly lake effect fly. If you're reading this it means you survived the fast, furious squall and first drop of winter 2024. Like me, you've been shovelling and plowing ever since! We do live in Canada after all and it wouldn't be a good winter without the ice and snow! Much to the delight of winter enthusiasts and snowmachines everywhere, there's lots of it! So, boot up and suit up because baby, it's cold outside, here we go! Let it snow!

Here's what's happening:
Puck drop at the Providence Bay Arena: Learn to skate on Sundays from 12 noon to 1 pm. Public skate on Sundays from 1 to 3 pm. Family sponge puck on Sunday from 3 to 5 pm. Sponsored by the Spring Bay/Prov-

idence Bay Recreation Committee. Helmets required.
Tournaments and game day, check your local team
Facebook or social pages. Go Thunder, Panthers and
Wolves!

Providence Bay Curling Club: The curling club season is popping and well underway! Youth curling continues Saturdays, and regular league meets continue in the evenings. Check out the Providence Bay Curling Club Facebook page for regular updates and events.

Providence Bay Community of Christ Church Sunday Service: 10:30 am meet up, 11 am service; Friday, December 20, Christmas fireside sing-along social.

Providence Bay Town Square and Hall: Tai Chi Class continues Mondays and Thursdays from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. Contact Jean Pearce at 705-885-8444.

Manitoulin Pet Rescue Operation Santa Paws pet food and supply drive is in full swing. Check the Facebook posts and ads on Facebook for details on where to donate and what items are needed!

Providence Bay / Spring Bay Lions Club bottle drive continues. Drop off your empties next to the arena for a good cause!

The Heavens: The next full moon will occur this Sunday

December 15 at 4:02 am Eastern Time (1:02 am Pacific). It is also known as the Cold Moon. The next meteor shower is the Geminid meteor shower which is active to December 24 and will peak overnight on December 13 to December 14. Clear nights on the Island are always a delight, keep your eyes to the skies! Be sure to check the Norad tracks Santa Facebook page to keep an eye on when Santa is close to you!

Check out the fun games and videos at http://www.noradsanta.org/.

Shout out to everyone who participated in all of the local food and toy drives. Give back and donate whenever you can!

Jon Arbuckle: Garfield, I have a very important job for you. It's a dangerous job, but if you succeed, you'll be a hero. I want you to take this star up the tree and place it on the top.

Garfield: Climbing trees is my life, sir. If I'm not back in an hour, send a banana cream pie after me.

## Kagawong Team Fergmeijer

eam Fergmeijer hit the big city recently. We had to run a few errands, but also made plans to meet up with a friend. He texted us to meet

at the vinyl shop in 45, but we actually made it in 33 (which was record speed). Afterwards, we wandered around the mall for a bit, though we didn't stick around long. After all, once you've seen one shopping plaza, you've seen the mall. We only really spent time at the electronics store where there was a clearance sale sign that said, "television for \$1, volume stuck on full." We knew that was a deal we just couldn't turn down!

Holidays are just around the corner! While you're out running errands, keep in mind Billings Township will have special holiday hours for many of its services. The township office will be closed December 25, 2024 through January 1, 2025, reopening January 2, 2025. Both the landfill and library will be closed Tuesday, December 24, Thursday, December 26 and Tuesday, December 31, but otherwise open their usual days and times. Check out the township website for more information: http://billingstwp.ca.

With the winter weather seemingly settling in on us, don't forget that Billings council meetings are all available by remote Zoom link if you are not able to attend in person. You can find more information on their Facebook page (www.fb.com/billingstownshipkagawong) or contact the town office directly.

The township is now accepting applications for those interested in joining the new Seniors' Advisory Committee (SAC). If you are interested in this opportunity, check out the town website for more information and submit your application by December 11 (today!) at 4 pm to tmills@billingstwp.ca.

Party vibes and happy birthday energy go out to Katherine T. who is turning 29 and to Hailey F. who is not quite 29 yet. If the thought of another birthday is getting you down remember, you aren't old, you are just well-seasoned. We hope you have an extra spicy day!

The library wishes to thank everyone who took part in the annual silent auction fundraiser. It raised just over \$4,000 to support the library! A gentle reminder that auction winners can pick up their items by December 10 at the library (Tuesday and Thursday from 4 to 7 pm; Saturday from 10 am to 1 pm). Contact the library directly if you need to arrange a pickup outside of regular library hours. Any items not paid for/picked up by the deadline will be offered to the next highest bidder.

Remember that awesome pun we had in our column that one time? Catch up on all of Team Fergmeijer's past columns in our archive at https://teamfergmeijer.blogspot.com/.

While we were out shopping, we decided to practice our haggling skills. We asked one salesperson if they could give us a better price since the item had today's date on it. She told us we could either buy it at full price or put the newspaper back on the pile. Have a great week!

## Barrie Island Enid Runnalls

ondolences to the family of Rod Greenman, who recently passed at the age of 82 years.

Meanwhile, Lance is back home from the Mindemoya Hospital and is now recuperating on Barrie Island.

Steve Plant from Perkinsfield was here to visit Lance and Lil for a bit.

Carolyn and George Calback had Lorne and Dawn home for the hunting week.

Carrie and Pam and the Gordon/Barrie Island staff decorated the Community Centre with twinkle lights and boughs of holly for the annual Winter Market last

Saturday. There was a good turnout of shoppers who put their cars into four-wheel drive and showed up to buy baskets, leather goods, baking, knit items, Christmas decor, jewellery, wooden charcuterie boards, greeting cards, fudge, artwork and to enjoy the chili luncheon – all in spite of the snowy weather. A fun time was had by all!

This week has been a snowy one and school buses have had to cancel their routes. Some little ones made snowmen and slid around on their GT-racers. Richard Runnalls made it to his camp only to be snowed in, but that's just how he likes it.

Give me a call if you have some news!

## Silver Water Karen Noble

n Friday, November 29 we went to Little Current with a load of liquor containers. There is now \$390 total to be sent to the food bank in Mindemoya. That will be the last for 2024.

Euchre in Meldrum Bay was cancelled in case the forecast snowstorm arrived.

On Sunday, December 1, I took Myra Duncanson, DonnaKay McDonald and Marie Leeney to Tehkummah for their euchre tournament. We had a lot of fun but no prizes came west.

On Monday, there were six-and-a-half tables of euchre players at the Burpee/Mills complex.

On Tuesday the ladies who showed up for yoga in the afternoon at the hall got an unpleasant surprise. The furnace had quit and the place was very cool. Thank you to Island Heating who showed up soon to replace the filter which was the problem.

On Thursday, the UCW held their Christmas party at the Silver Water Community Hall starting at 12 noon with a potluck lunch. There were over 30 ladies in attendance. A number of the ladies did a skit on the stage which was very amusing. There were games including one requiring exercise. Then the draws were held for all the items on the Loonie table. They raised \$240.

Thank you to all the ladies who attended, cooked and donated.

On Thursday night, there were four-and-a-half tables of euchre players at the Silver Water Community Hall. Craig Duncanson arrived on Thursday to stay with

his parents, Murray and Gladys Duncanson, for a few days. He has plans for black powder hunting depending on the weather.

Padraig Duncanson-Hales was with his grandfather, Ken Duncanson, at euchre on Thursday. He had pictures of the buck he shot in the afternoon.

The snow has been falling every day this week and continues to be in the forecast for another week. I hope everyone stays safe while shovelling and doing other snow removal tasks.

Shawn Noble spent the week in Ottawa with his daughters.

Happy birthday to Kate Duncanson on December 1. Happy 92nd birthday to my Aunt Audrey McCulloch next week.

Condolences to the family of Ken Blodgett. Condolences to the family of Yvonne MacKay. Condolences to the family of Eleonore Lamothe.

## Police and private citizen rescue lost kitten off Manitoulin swing bridge

LITTLE CURRENT—A member of the community and an officer with the Manitoulin detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) rescued an abandoned kitten on the Little Current Swing Bridge on December 1.



Snowball found a hom

The OPP Northeast Region reported on December 2, "last night Manitoulin OPP came across a community member attempting to rescue an abandoned kitten on the Little Current Swing Bridge. An officer assist-

ed the community member in the search, and they successfully located the kitten, who was very cold but otherwise safe. The kitten now has a new home with that community member and has been named 'Snowball.'

## Amikwa cannabis trial dates set for spring 2025

by Jacqueline M. St.Pierre,

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

SUDBURY—The high-profile case involving 10 defendants charged with operating unregulated cannabis stores on Wahnapitae, Henvey Inlet, and Garden River First Nations has entered a critical new phase as trial dates have been scheduled for three weeks in the spring of 2025: the weeks of April 7, April 21 and April 28.

This case, which began with a constitutional challenge over four years ago, revolves around the assertion that the legalization of cannabis in 2018 infringes on the defendants' rights as First Nations people to trade the substance as part of their economic development. The defendants argue that the Cannabis Act and Controlled Drugs and Substances Act violate their rights under Section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982, which recognizes and affirms Indigenous rights.

The 10 defendants—David Brennan, Sarah McQuabbie, Harley Hill, Clayton Hill, Chadwick McGregor, Michael Nolan, Dennis Wigmore, Derek Roque, Noble Boucher, and Luke Klink—identify as descendants of the Amikwa Nation. They contend that the Amikwa, who did not enter treaty negotiations nor cede their territory, retain their inherent rights.

The legitimacy of the Amikwa Nation has been a key point of contention in the case. Opposing the defense's claims, Thomas Lambert of Nipissing First Nation has

argued that the Amikwa are a fabricated entity, questioning their historical existence and the defense's interpretation of Indigenous heritage.

At the heart of the case is Dr. William Newbigging, a historian and professor specializing in Anishnaabemowin, whose testimony aims to establish the historical continuity of the Amikwa Nation. In March 2024, Dr. Newbigging underwent three days of cross-examination, during which his findings were challenged by the Crown. A "voir dire" was held to determine whether Dr. Newbigging could be admitted as an expert witness. While Judge Boucher acknowledged the importance of flexibility in evidence rules to prevent a miscarriage of justice, the final admissibility of Dr. Newbigging's testimony remains under scrutiny.

A case conference in November 2024 set the stage for the next phase of the trial, now adjourned to spring 2025. The upcoming trial dates signal progress in a case that has captivated attention for its implications on Indigenous rights, cannabis regulation and economic development.

With questions of cultural identity, historical continuity, and constitutional rights at play, the case continues to draw interest from legal observers, First Nations communities and policymakers alike. The spring trial will likely provide critical insights into the intersection of Indigenous rights and Canada's cannabis laws.

## Talks stall in Canada Post strike entering fourth week

by Michael Erskine

CANADA—The strike between the Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW) and Canada Post is entering its fourth week with little positive movement, if any, in negotiations. The special mediator appointed by the federal government in an effort to end the impasse suspended talks on Wednesday, November 27 citing those negotiations had "ground to a halt." The strike includes 55,000 CUPW workers nationwide who deliver mail in rural and urban areas.

The strike is estimated by the Canadian Federation of Independent Business to have cost small businesses as much as 1.5 billion to date—476million a day—with the Crown corporation also taking immense hits to its bottom line during the busiest time of the year for deliveries. Meanwhile, striking workers are dealing with significant losses in income during the Christmas season.

Both Purolator (owned largely by Canada Post) and UPS have announced suspensions in accepting new parcels as they are being overwhelmed by the backlog.

In a concerning sign, Canada Post has laid off temporary workers in a move the union characterizes as being illegal—as workers cannot be laid off during a strike. The union filed an official complaint with the Canadian Industrial Relations Board on Friday—calling the layoffs a "clear intimida-tion tactic" and accusing the Crown corporation of launching an "assault" on workers. No indication of numbers has been given by either party, but Canada Post said the layoffs are temporary.

The company asserts that no laws have been broken and that the layoffs do not contravene the Labour Code. No Island workers are among those



Striking Canada Post workers in Little Current.

being laid off.

Canada Post issued a statement on Sunday, December 1 indicating they have "presented CUPW with a comprehensive framework for reaching negotiated agreements."

According to the release from Phil Legault, media relations at Canada Post. the framework "includes proposals to bring greater flexibility to the corporation's delivery model, while also demonstrating movement on other key issues. It is our hope that these proposals will reignite discussions and, together with the support of mediators, help the parties work toward final agreements. To facilitate talks, we will not be providing further details outside the negotiations process at this time."

The release went on to note that "We understand the impact CUPW's national strike is having on our employees and so many Canadians. Canada Post remains committed to negotiating new collective agreements that will provide our employees and customers with the certainty they are looking for."

For its part, CUPW says the framework does not present a meaningful move forward and accuses the company of "bargaining in the media." Both sides in the labour dispute have, in fact, submitted proposals to the special

mediator that they hope will help re-start negotiations. The union chastised the company for issuing a statement on its "adjustments" before the union had any opportunity to study them.

Federal Labour Minister Steven MacKinnon has ruled out sending the two sides to binding arbitration—a stance in keeping with the NDP demand that the strikers not be legislated back to work as was the case in recent longshoreman strikes.

Meanwhile, business leaders across the country are calling for just such an intervention, given the enormous impact the strike will have during what for many small businesses is a 'make or break' Christmas season.

As the strike drags on, both sides have issued statements accusing the other of negotiating in the press rather than through the formal mediation process.

In a statement Sunday afternoon, the Crown corporation said that it has yet to receive a formal response from CUPW through the federally appointed mediator after its latest proposal on Friday.

"We continue to operate within a confidential process, which was agreed to by Canada Post and CUPW," Canada Post wrote in a statement. "While we strongly disagree with the responses

the union has shared publicly, we encourage CUPW to share their positions through the formal process."

CUPW for its part said it respects the bargaining process and went on to note that its representatives met with the mediator on Saturday afternoon to discuss the proposals, which they argue contain "drastic changes and roll-backs that no union in the world would even agent."

world would ever accept."
Details of the proposals exchanged between the two sides during the mediation process have not been made public. Canada Post said it remains committed to getting people back to work.

"Our proposals include significant moves to close the gap on key issues like weekend delivery, pensions and wages to reach new agreements," said a Canada Post spokesperson

As it stands Monday, no end to the labour dispute is in sight.





The Bahá'is of Manitoulin believe that all humanity shares a common spiritual heritage, which takes various forms in various times and places, reflecting the diversity of cultures evolving along with human nature.

If you would like to explore this common heritage together with others, contact us at: (705) 210-0391 or gnox@gnusystems.ca.

See www.bahai.org for more information.



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BAR HOURS: SUNDAY - TUESDAY: CLOSED WEDNESDAY: 4 PM - 9 PM THURSDAY: 4 PM - WHEN TRIVIA ENDS FRIDAY & SATURDAY: 4 PM - 1 AM

## Manitoulin teens seen Taylor Swift concert in Toronto

TORONTO—"Just think while you've been gettin' down and out about the Merissa was when songs from Taylor's album, 'Reputation' were performed. liars and the dirty, dirty cheats in the world you could've been gettin' down to this sick beat." These song lyrics were chanted in downtown Toronto the past two weekends, as people from all over Canada (and the world!) attended Taylor Swift's Eras Tour concerts. Among the throngs of "Swifties" were Manitoulin teens, eager to see their favourite artist play live.

Taylor Swift has been a household name for years, being one of the most popular artists in history. She is known for hits like 'Shake It Off,' 'You Belong With Me,' and 'Blank Space.' With this popularity, getting tickets was both a game of luck and strategy. Tickets for Toronto shows dropped over a year ago, and since then Manitoulin teens who managed to get their hands on them have been patiently waiting for the star's trip to Canada.

With the months spent waiting, they had lots of time to get ready for the concert. A tradition sparked by earlier shows in the Eras Tour is creating friendship bracelets for other fans in the audience. Manitoulin Secondary School (MSS) student, Merissa McQuarrie, took part in this tradition, making bracelets before the concert and then swapping the jewellery with those around her. To prepare, others dressed up in themed outfits. Another MSS student, Jordan Goddard, wore a homemade blue tinsel jacket to match the singer's outfit in one of the songs. Similar to Jordan, Madison McCarville, "went all-out" and wore an outfit based on one of Taylor Swift's albums.

"The energy and atmosphere of the concert was just phenomenal. Everyone was dressed up and had huge smiles on their faces. All of the people

that I talked to and traded bracelets with were so friendly," said Madison. Taylor Swift's stage presence had people cheering and belting out her well-known songs. Merissa also commented on how incredible the energy of the crowd was, saying it was one of the most special parts of her time

Taylor Swift had her hit songs played on the radio throughout every teenager's childhood, but Jordan became a more avid listener in 2020, when her album 'Folklore,' was released. When Jordan found out that he got through the waiting list for tickets, it was momentous, "I was shaking so bad. I didn't really register that I was going to be able to go. I was ecstatic. Any chance that I got I was like 'yeah I got tickets!' It was a pretty big flex when this came out."

Merissa felt similarly, as she lost the initial battle for tickets and bought a resold ticket later. "I was freaking out when I found out I got a ticket," she said. At the concert, a special moment for

All of these teens grew up with Taylor Swift playing in the car, driving down winding Manitoulin Island roads. Similar experiences could be seen with other young people in settings all over the globe. "I think a huge part of this for everyone is the nostalgia. The whole point is that she is bringing back her favourite memories from other tours," said Jordan when commenting on what made the concert special. For many, her music brings back fond memories, "I have been a fan of Taylor Swift for many years. I would always listen to her songs with my mom and sister when I was younger," mentioned Madison.

The Taylor Swift Eras Tour in Toronto was more than just a series of shows for Manitoulin concert-goers; it was a celebration of memories, music, and the powerful sense of community among Swifties. As Madison noted, "Taylor Swift brings people together.



Merissa and her friend posing for the camera as other fans arrive at the venue.



Goddard and his friends in the stands at the



## ...Ignace Ontario chosen as site for Canada's nuclear waste repository

...continued from page 1

However, skepticism lingers among environmental advocates and some Indigenous communities. The long-term safety of storing high-level nuclear waste underground remains a contentious issue, with concerns about groundwater contamination, seismic risks, and the ethical implications of burdening future generations with waste management.

Globally, countries like Finland and Sweden provide important case studies for deep geological repositories. Finland's Onkalo repository is operational and widely regarded as a benchmark for nuclear waste storage. Built deep within stable bedrock, Onkalo is designed to contain nuclear waste for up to 100,000 years. However, critics highlight the repository's high costs, reliance on unproven long-term stability projections, and challenges in maintaining intergenerational oversight.

In Sweden, the Forsmark repository has gained ap-

proval following decades of public debate and scientific scrutiny. While its robust risk assessments and transparent processes have been lauded, environmental groups continue to question the potential for groundwater contamination and the broader societal costs of nuclear energy.

These international examples demonstrate both the promise and pitfalls of deep geological repositories, offering Canada valuable insights while underscoring the challenges ahead.

The site selection process in Ignace has included the Regulatory Assessment and Approval Process (RAAP), an Indigenous-led initiative aimed at addressing cultural, environmental, and technical concerns. The RAAP will include a detailed fuel storage risk assessment to evaluate the likelihood and consequences of potential issues such as leaks, geological instability, and long-term environmental impacts.

While the RAAP's inclusion of Indigenous leader-

ship is a significant step forward, critics argue that no technical assessment can entirely eliminate the risks associated with nuclear waste storage. Some question whether the billions of dollars required for this project could be better spent advancing renewable energy solutions like wind, solar and hydroelectric power.

"Wind, water, and solar energy can be scaled and adopted by individuals more easily and quickly," says Al Douglas. His comment reflects growing calls to prioritize renewable energy sources that pose fewer longterm risks.

The NWMO's decision to build Canada's first nuclear waste repository in the Town of Ignace and Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation is a pivotal moment for the nation's energy and environmental policy. The community vote and ongoing consultations reflect a commendable commitment to transparency, yet the project remains deeply divisive.

## ...UOI Grand Council chief decries federal delaying tactics re: human rights police funding challenge

...continued from page 1 uled to start on January 6. IPCO has filed a human rights claim against the federal government alleging that decades of chronic underfunding of First Nations police services is having a significant negative

impact on First Nations

people and communities.

Julian Falconer, lawyer for IPCO told those at the press conference, that Public Safety Canada (PSC), the federal ministry that is responsible for administering the First Nations and Inuit Policing Program, filed a late request to adjourn the Tribunal hearing less than a month before it was to take place.

IPCO had filed the human rights complaint in March 2023 in response to the federal government cutting funding to several police services, including the UCCM Anishnaabe Police Services because

of a dispute over chronic underfunding and the government failing to recognize the inherent rights for them to police themselves. Along with filing the human rights complaint, IPCO had applied for emergency relief to the federal court and Justice Denis Gascon had ordered the federal government to restore funding and for PSC to renegotiate the terms of the funding agreements. noting the terms and conditions in it were discriminatory.

After Justice Gascon's ruling, on June 30, 2023, where the federal government was ordered to return funding to these First Nation police forces, and Canada was to negotiate six meetings took place with 'no tangible results,' said Mr. Falconer. "The Human Rights hearing was to start on January 6, 2025, but Canada wants it to be cancelled."

Grand Council Chief Debassige said there are 39 communities within the Anishinabek Nation, five of which are currently under a state of emergency related to inadequate policing resources. This includes her home community of M'Chigeeng, which had called a state of emergency in 2022 after several violent incidents occurred relating to drug trafficking involving people in the community from southern Ontario.

"Our police services are not allowed to have specialized service policing crime units to address situations in our communities, now more than ever," said Grand Council Chief Debassige. "It has impacted our children, our elders, our families who live daily in a state of fear and concern."

"Now at decision time for a hearing to be held Canada is resorting to stall and delay tactics to cancel the hearing," said Grand Council Chief Debassige. "They (Canada) will not allow First Nations to police themselves." She said talks with the government about First Nations police funding with leadership have taken place, "with a gun to our heads. 'If you don't sign this, you will not have policing."

Patsy Corbiere, chief of Aundeck Omni Kaning (AOK) First Nation and Tribal Chief of the United Chiefs and Councils of Mnidoo Mnising said, "We have been negotiating for a long time with people (the federal government) that don't want to negotiate on First Nations policing. It is sad, they are not fulfilling their agreement and promises. (Canada Prime Minister Justin) Trudeau has been promising to do many things to benefit First Nations policing, but we don't see action taking place. Many of our communities are in crisis with drugs and gangs, with kids as young as 14 years old carrying guns. We need policing that protects our communities, and our police forces need the resources to provide this."

"It is time for the government to step up and take real action," said Chief Corbiere. "The (federal) Public Safety department is not doing its job. Instead, we have broken promises and people dying. The government has a responsibility to First Nations, policing is an essential service and this needs to be established and happen."

Kai Lui, executive director of IPCO said he founded the group five years ago to represent and advocate or Indigenous police services in Ontario. He described how response time to emergency in Treaty 3 territory is measured in hours as opposed to minutes, because there are no officers stationed in some First Nations. "In March 2023, funding was cut off to three First Nation police services in a dispute over chronic underfunding. We filed a complaint on this and also filed a human rights complaint. hearing was to begin the first week of January, but a month before this Canada is applying for a delay in the hearings."

"First Nations policing is purposely set up to fail," said Mr. Lui. "What we need is for Canada to stop delaying and to start taking responsibility. There is all this talk about reconciliation. How can reconciliation be achieved when Canada won't allow us to have our day in court."

Mr. Lui raised issues of First Nations policing model being completely different than provincial police services who can advocate for services and resources based on need, such as special crime units, the wage structure for officers being different, some police services that don't have enough vehicles and some communities that have no police service.

The AFN at its meeting last week also called on the federal government for a national inquiry into systemic racism in (non-native) policing. This resolution was passed in front of Prime Minister Trudeau and several cabinet minister who were at the AFN. Three women Indigenous mothers of people who died from police encounters, called for justice reform and a national inquiry into police violence against Indigenous people.

"Systemic racism in policing continues to result in the loss of First Nations lives, deeply affecting our families, communities and further eroding trust," stated AFN National Chief Cindy Woodhouse Nepinak. "An inquiry led by First Nations, grounded in our cultural practices and a trauma-informed approach, is essential to develop effective solutions that protect the rights and safety of our people."

The emergency resolution passed by First Nations-in Assembly calls for a national inquiry into system racism in policing, to be led by First Nations commissioners, with a mandate to investigate police-related deaths, serious incidents and system racism in law enforcement and to make culturally informed recommendations that address root causes and drive reform. Necessarv and overdue reforms include mandatory de-escalation training, implementation of national crisis intervention teams for crisis response and policies such as banning choke holds and requiring a use of force continuum.

Prime Minister Trudeau indicated he would do everything in his power as a government to address racism in Canada's justice system. However, he did not commit to a national inquiry.

Grand Council Chief Debassige called the prime minister "absolutely cowardly" for failing to make the commitment to an inquiry. "For the premier minister not to support an inquiry allows racism in Canada to continue."



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## Vigil held in toronto commemorates victims of gender-based violence

by Jacqueline M. St. Pierre,

Local Journalism Initiative reporter

TORONTO -On November 26, a vigil was held in Toronto to honour victims of gender-based violence (GBV) and intimate partner violence (IPV). This solemn gathering brought survivors, advocates, and community members together to acknowledge the ongoing crisis of GBV, with a particular focus on its rising prevalence across Canada.

The event marked an early recognition of the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women, observed annually on December 6. This date commemorates the 14 women who lost their lives in the 1989 Montreal Massacre at École Polytechnique, a tragic act of misogyny. The victims—Geneviève Bergeron, Hélène Colgan, Nathalie Croteau, Barbara Daigneault, Anne-Marie Edward, Maud Haviernick, Maryse Laganière, Maryse Leclair, Anne-Marie Lemay, Sonia Pelletier, Michèle Richard, Annie St-Arneault, Annie Turcotte, and Barbara Klucznik-Widajewicz—remain symbols in the fight against GBV.

The Ontario Association of Interval and Transition Houses (OAITH) unveiled its annual femicide list during the event, revealing that 62 women and girls were killed in Ontario in 2024 due to gender-based violence. Among the victims was Parween Adel, who her husband fatally stabbed in Oshawa on November 17. Advocates emphasized the need for systemic change, particularly in addressing the housing crisis that disproportionately affects survivors seeking refuge and sup-

Colleen Hill, director of Manitoulin Family Resources, attended the vigil and expressed her disappointment with the province's inaction. "The government's hesitance



Attendees at the Toronto Intimate Partner vigil gather for a photo.

to pass Bill 173 stems from a broader reluctance to invest in comprehensive wraparound supports, including affordable housing," she said. "Without these critical resources, survivors and their families remain trapped in cycles of violence."

Municipalities across Manitoulin Island and the Sudbury Districts have already declared IPV an epidemic, aligning with the recommendations

a 2022 coroner's inquest into the murders of three women in Renfrew County. The inquest underscored the need to treat IPV as a public health crisis, with concrete investments in shelters, legal support and prevention programs.

Marlene Ham, executive director of OAITH, highlighted the importance of public awareness and government accountability. "Femicide is preventable," Ms. Ham said. "Declaring IPV an epidemic would prioritize this issue and allocate resources where they are desperately needed."

The vigil also drew attention to the broader impacts of gender-based violence on marginalized communities, particularly Indigenous women and 2SLGBTQQIA+ individuals. Amnesty International has documented extensive violence linked to systemic racism, resource projects, development and inadequate social services. Indigenous women are six times more likely to experience violence, a fact underscored by Canada's slow implementation of the 2021 Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls National Action Plan.

Despite over three decades since the massacre, GBV and IPV remain pervasive. Recent statistics highlight the urgency of action, with the rising numbers demanding immediate attention:

Approximately 44 percent of women in Canada have experienced some form of IPV since the age of 15, with Indigenous women disproportionately affected at 61 percent. Women with disabilities are also at a heightened risk, with over half reporting lifetime IPV experiences. Young women aged 15-24 are particularly vulnerable, with nearly 30 percent reporting IPV in the past year—triple the rate seen among older age groups. This alarming statistic underscores the need for heightened protection and support for our young women.

Technology-facilitated sexual violence (TFSV) is a growing concern, including image-based abuse, cyberstalking, and threats of violence, exacerbating the emotional and psychological toll on victims. This underscores the need for urgent regulation and control of technology in the fight against GBV.

The vigil served as a tribute and a call to action, linking past tragedies to contemporary realities. "We remember the 14 women killed in Montreal because they were women," said one speaker. "But we also recognize that gendered violence is not a historical relic. It is a present and persistent threat."

The event aligned with the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, which runs annually from November 25 to December 10. Advocates at the vigil urged participants to engage in actions such as advocating for stronger legislation, survivors supporting and challenging societal norms that perpetuate violence.

Speakers emphasized the importance of addressing intersectional factors in GBV. For example, racialized, LGBTQIA+ and 2SLGBTQ+ communities face compounded vulnerabilities, requiring tailored support systems. Indigenous leaders at the vigil called for recognition of systemic inequalities contributing to violence in their communities.

The National Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence, launched in 2022, aims to improve prevention, protection, and accountability. However, critics argue that its implementation needs greater urgency and funding. Activists at the vigil called on governments to expand resources for shelters, mental health support and public education campaigns.

The vigil also encouraged community members to reflect on their roles in creating change. By challenging toxic gender norms, supporting survivors and advocating for policy changes, individuals can help reduce GBV's prevalence.

Canadians are reminded of the ongoing fight to end GBV. The names of the 14 women killed at École Polytechnique are not just a memory but a call to action. One attendee poignantly noted, "We owe it to them—and to all women living in fear—to keep pushing for a world where safety and respect are guaranteed for every-

The vigil highlighted that remembrance is not enough; action must follow. By standing together, communities can work toward a future free from gender-based violence.



## **NOTICE BOARD**

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

#### **NOTICE OF MEETINGS**

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

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

Our Council meetings are held on the first and third Tuesday and Thursday of the month. For a full copy of the agenda, please visit our website at: www.townofnemi.on.ca

#### PRE-AUTHORIZED PAYMENTS

Please be advised that due to the Canada Post strike we will not be able to advise you of updated monthly payment amounts for taxes and water. We will make every attempt to contact you, however, please feel free to contact our office with questions or for updates.

705-368-3500

#### **TAX ARREARS**

Please be advised that the municipality is taking payments for taxes and water in person and electronically. The municipality has 29 properties that will be going into tax registration on Janary 2, 2025, if payment is not received. We encourage you to contact our staff as soon as possible to make arrangements for payment.

> For further information please contact Melanie Aelick at 705-368-3500, ext. 225

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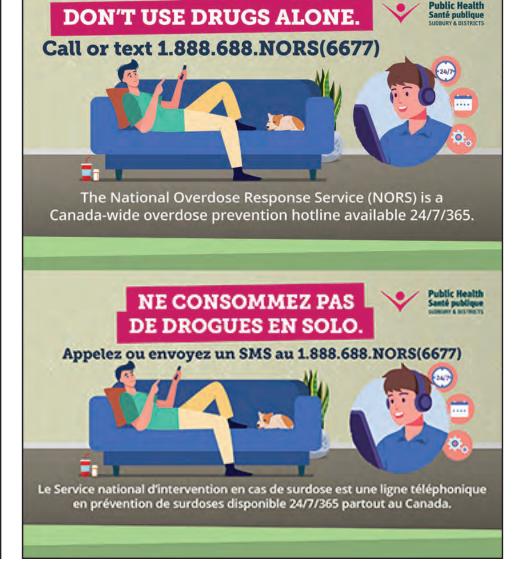


Don't forget to check out our website.

Wooden Tree Centerpiece Class with Julie Shortt December 14th at 11:00 am NEMI Rec Centre

Julie has cut all the pieces for the tree. She will show you how to put it together and decorate it. Cost includes everything you will need for these beautiful centerpieces: \$30 Email Ihallaert@townofnemi.on.ca to register.

> Family New Year's Eve Celebration at the NEMI Rec Centre December 31st from 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm Skating, activities and snacks.



## Documentary aims to debunk stigma associated with addiction

**by Margery Frisch** AUNDECK OMNI KAN-ING—During National Awareness Addiction Week (NAAW), a screening of the documentary 'A Sobering Story' was presented at Aundeck Omni Kaning's 4 Directions Complex, hosted by Naandwegamik Health Centre. Natasha Abotossaway organized the event and opened the program, asking Chief Patsy Corbiere to say a few words, and Mariah Abotossaway drummed and sang an honour song.

Ryan Hill, co-producer, director of photography and co-writer, along with Kyle Arnold, one of the people featured in the film, had intended to be present for the showing. Unfortunately, Mr. Hill had a family emergency and so neither was physically in attendance, but both did appear virtually before and after the movie. "It took two-and-half vears to put this film together," Mr. Hill said. 'What we hope this film does is open people's eyes, open their ears, open their hearts and continues dialogue. We need to keep talking about this, we need to figure it out."

'A Sobering Story' puts together personal stories, news clips and interviews with experts in health care, scientists and police. It gives statistics on deaths from opioid addiction in Thunder Bay 1,500 in 2019, with that figure doubling during the pandemic. Statistics showing higher rates of death occurring in Northern Ontario compared to other parts of the province. In this film parents told their stories of children who struggled with addiction for years, their frustrations with lack of resources, the loss they suffered when their loved one's succumbed to fatal overdoses. Sadly, it is a universal story, a heart-wrenching story.

Kyle Arnold, who is featured in the film, told of his struggles from an early age, his time in prison, his mother finally giving



Mariah Abotossaway provided an honour song before the documentary screened.

photo by argery Frisch

up and refusing to help him any longer. As sad as it was, Mr. Arnold's story was a glimmer of hope in an otherwise hopeless crisis. "There are not enough words to describe the amount of respect I have for him."

Mr. Hill said after the showing, "In the community here, connecting people to resources. Each of his interviews took at least six hours because he would not turn off his phone. It was really annoying from my standpoint, but it was powerful to see how much he cares about people. He puts his recovery above everything, because if he doesn't have that, he has nothing.

"I spent almost 20 years in addiction and when I was about six months clean, when I found a passion in helping people, it lit a fire inside of me," Mr. Arnold said to the audience, after the movie ended. "In saying that, I

see the struggle that people go through with lack of resources, I don't know why, I can't explain it, but when I looked for help in Thunder Bay, at the end of those 20 years, all the resources lined up. I was very fortunate, I got into treatment, I got into after care, and I spent just over two years in a recovery facility, building that foundation. In the last few years, I got married, which was beyond my wildest dreams, I live a life that I am so grateful for. I put my recovery first no matter what. I was taught that early on. I don't fit recovery into my life, I fit my life into my recovery."

In speaking of the importance of NAAW, Chief Patsy Corbiere said, "We celebrate the people that decided to choose sobriety. It's a week to lift them up and let them know we're here to support and encourage them. People who are addicted usually

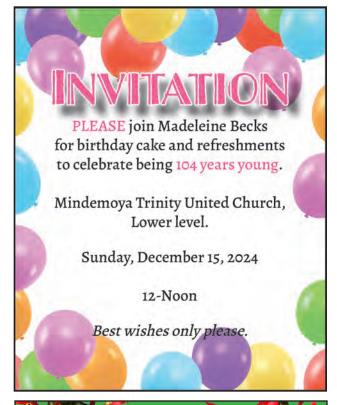
have a background. No one seems to want to deal with the trauma of when they were young children. They must cure the trauma before they can cure the addictions sometimes. We need to support everyone who wants help." Twice in the film, different people were quoted as saying, "stigma kills." It's what keeps people from getting help and getting help is the necessary first step.
Natasha Abotossaway

works with people with substance use disorder at Naandwegamik Health Centre. She finds hope in helping those who have taken that necessary first step. "We're growing our mental health and addictions department," she said. "There are a few of us who are already trained, but more will be trained in the new year through Red Path. Red Path is an addiction treatment program and there are 21 sessions, and they address the underlying problems associated with addictive behaviour. You'll see this in a lot of addiction treatment centres, and we'll be able to start it here for those who are not able to

get to a treatment centre when they are ready to

There is always hope, sometimes it is not easy to find, but a film like 'A

Sobering Story,' opens eyes, and ears and hearts. "There's so much for everyone to learn by watching this film," Mr. Arnold







A very Gordon Christmas!

Gail Andrews, prolific Evansville photographer, displays her framed prints at the market and in a draw

photo: Isobel Harry



## ...Planning Board approves draft approval for Central 39-lot subdivision

2023 that the lands in question be changed from agriculture to shoreline residential. Site plan drawings were prepared in October 2023 and the plan of subdivision was applied for on December 27, 2023," said Ken Rautiainen of Deer Foot Subdivision (south of the proposed development) group. "And we have shown on a number of occasions that land was and is active prime agricultural land. Too much agriculture land is being consumed by residential sprawl in Ontario, the little we have should be salvaged.'

Mr. Rautiainen said in terms of water sampling having been carried out by the Lake Mindemoya Stewardship Association (LMSA) and lab testing by a qualified test lab, from 2021 to 2014 the results have progressively gotten much worse with E.coli and coliform readings all beyond acceptable limits as per Canadian drinking water quality standards. He pointed out Central Manitoulin council has seen the impact over time and have concerns as they have issued conditions, one being that a lake quality and lake capacity assessment be completed. This will determine the current and future development limitations. A remediation of lake quality would be the next issue once the lake quality density study is completed. "This condition should also be included in any new zoning bylaw on shoreline development on Mindemoya lake, don't add development until it's

known the lake can support it."

Mr. Rautiainen said, "the partners on the lake, Billings, M'Chigeeng First Nation, Central Manitoulin should all be included in all discussions and decisions. The loan partner is the lake itself with no voice. It is quietly being degraded and is impacting the fishery, contaminated potable water, slime build up is exces-

"We must protect Lake Mindemoya for the future as the rate of contamination is increasing, a recovery at this point is questionable," continued Mr. Rautiainen. "It's not a question of remediation in the future but a need to address the problem now."

On the hydrogeological report, "We understand a new (reviewed) report has been submitted," said Mr. Rautiainen. He said Central Manitoulin at a meeting in November prepared a submission to MPB referencing the septic system and potable water. "Not aware of the specifics but we understand the idea that setbacks for septic systems follow the Ontario residential standards of 15 metres. He said the EXP report encouraged a maximum setback of 300 metres from the lake to have zero load phosphorus loading, and that phosphorous mitigation is required.'

The note the EXP report assumed the lake can tol-



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erate inflow from the septic beds based on a few water samples. "Those samples also indicated contamination as did the previous study. They assumed the exchange of water was consistent and assume it could handle it, well that assumption is grossly understanded," said Mr. Rautiainen. "The exchange of water on the lake is near zero except for spring run-off and when the dam is opened to provide for the fish spawn on the river, that influx from Mindemoya Lake is sending extremely contaminated water towards Providence Bay.

"Reports like this only go as far as they are instructed by who is paying the bill," said Mr. Rautiainen. "No reference to the LMSA extensive study was referred to. Owner driven reports must not be the end all, we must look further to determine the end result.'

'The thought that Central Manitoulin and the board are not waiting until the results of the (new) LMSA water testing report is presented to council is strange,' said Mr. Rautiainen. "Why are we rushing this project through? The public isn't in the loop. The (Central Manitoulin) statement to improve transparency and public information hasn't been evident. He said the standard for water and sewage regulations for shoreline development must be consistent, with monitoring of these new systems. A new bylaw that applies to shoreline development standards needs to be implemented."

Mr. Rautiainen said, "a subdivision of this size should only be allowed if sewer and water services are available. If this development along with future proposals get approved without proper municipal service, you can rest assured that Central Manitoulin will be expected to carry the burden to provide services at public expense.'

SUDBURY & DISTRICTS

"Again, the rush is on to approve this development, much of the public is away for the winter and next to no notice was given the public of the planning meeting and the ability to prepare presentations, and be provided with new information from the developer," said Mr. Rautiainen. "I encourage the planning board consider today's presentation along with host of information provided previously," said Mr. Rautiainen. "Lake Mindemoya needs a reprieve from more development and the contamination it is being fed. Uncontrolled expansion to trailer parks and an inspection and monitoring method to ensure the sewage is being controlled."

Mr. Kieswetter in reply to Mr. Rautiainen's submission said, "number one, the notice of application for this development proposal was given under consideration since 2023 and it is nearly 2025. Things are not being rushed." He explained lake studies have been done even before the application was made. The proponents have discussed and worked extensively with Central Manitoulin on the proposal and concerns. "Water quality impacts were addressed under the hydrogeological study, and the aim is for the subdivision to be low/zero impact on the lake.

Existing septic systems on the lake are often near the water or on the shore allowance, and the new septic systems for this development will be as far away as practical as per proposed conditions, "When you look at the septics at Deer Foot, maybe building took place on the shoreline allowance. We won't be doing that, and this has already been covered," said Mr. Kieswetter.

He also said no lake surface water on Manitoulin would meet drinking water requirements, and that all surface water needs to be treated.

MPB member Doug Head questioned how far back the field beds would be on the lots.

"The lots have varying topographics, so it is not easy to give one figure. They will be as far back as possible, taking into consideration the requirements required, said Mr. Kieswetter.

As was indicated the field beds would be located as far back as possible and this will be part of the draft subdivision agreement the proponents have with the municipality, said Mr. Hayden.

Board member Dave McDowell said he agrees with Mr. Rautiainen that water quality is a concern and said that the provincial natural resources ministry does nothing in terms of looking at water quality or septic system enforcement. He suggested Central Manitoulin might want to look at having a lake study and fish habitat study carried out with cost recovery from the lots

...continued on page 25





# ...Hunger lives here too: Manitoulin families struggle as food bank use surges ...continued from page 1 The causes behind the has linked this overren. Campaign is a basen of their land.

shyly clutching a box of cereal, who doesn't yet understand why his family has to be here.

These stories reflect a grim provincial reality. Feed Ontario's 'Hunger Report 2024: Unravelling at the Seams' reveals that over one million Ontarians accessed food banks last year—40 percent for the first time. "This is simply the latest in a string of striking, unprecedented milestones in record food bank use," wrote Carolyn Stewart, CEO of Feed Ontario. "Unless we change course, it will not be the

crisis are deeply rooted in systemic failures. Decades of underinvestment in social infrastructure, stagnant social assistance rates and skyrocketing housing costs have pushed more people to the brink.

"Our province has relied on food banks to patch up the cracks for too long," Ms. Stewart said. "But those cracks have become a flood, and food banks are being stretched beyond their limits."

MFR's data shows that Indigenous clients are disproportionately affected, representing 52 percent



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of food bank users despite comprising 40.6 percent of Manitoulin's population. Suze Morrison of the Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres

resentation to the lasting impacts of colonization, wage discrimination and housing inequities.

On Manitoulin, the burden also falls heavily on children. Over one-third of food bank visits were made by youth under 18, with children aged 7-13 being the most represented group. "When kids are going hungry, it's a sign that the system is failing at every level," said the MFR spokesperson.

While demand continues to grow, food banks are struggling to meet the need. Feed Ontario reported that 40 percent of its member food banks have had to reduce the amount of food provided per visit, and many have scaled back critical wraparound services like housing assistance and employment

Fortunately, MFR has managed to maintain its level of service, thanks to steady community donations. But the challenges are mounting. "We're incredibly grateful for the support we've received," said Vanessa Glasby, MFR's food security pro-sunervisor. "It's what allows us to keep going. But the truth is, food banks were never meant to shoulder this kind of burden."

Despite the challenges, the spirit of giving remains alive and well on Manitoulin. MFR's annual Christmas Hamper

hope, providing families with a holiday meal and essential supplies.

This year, the campaign aims to support between 525 and 550 households. "It's about more than food," said Ms. Glasby. "It's about letting families know they're not alone, that their community cares."

For many recipients, the hampers are a lifeline. A single mother who received one last year described it as "a Christmas miracle." She recalled the joy on her children's faces when they saw a box of their favourite treats. "For the first time in months, I felt like I could breathe," she said.

The success of the Christmas Hamper Campaign depends entirely on community support. Here's how you can make a difference:

Donate Online: Visit CanadaHelps.org and search for "Manitoulin Family Resources." Select "Christmas Food Hamper Drive" from the dropdown menu to contribute directly.

Drop Off Donations: Bring non-perishable food, toys, cash, or cheques to Freshwater Church in Mindemoya between December 9-20, weekdays from 9 am to 3

Support Volunteers: Drop off commercially-made treats for the volunteers to enjoy during

Campaign is a beacon of their long hours of packing hampers between December 9 – 20 (weekdays only), from 9 am to 3 pm. Please note - all treats must be commercially-made. Unfortunately, we cannot accept homemade goods.

Every donation, no matter how small, makes a difference.

While campaigns like the Christmas Hamper Drive provide immediate relief, both MFR and Feed Ontario stress the need for long-term solutions.

"Our goal isn't just to feed people," the MFR Hunger report states. "It's to create a world where food banks aren't necessary. But until that day comes, we'll keep doing everything we can to support our community.'

Ms. Stewart echoed this sentiment: "We cannot continue to rely on charitable food programs to solve systemic failures. It's time for bold, ambichange—policies tious that prioritize people over profits and bring meaningful relief to those who need it most."

As the holidays approach, the MFR Food Bank is a lifeline for hundreds of families who would otherwise go without. But it's also a stark reminder of the work that remains to be done.

To learn more or contribute, visit MFR's website or stop by Freshwater Church.

## **Garbage & Recycling Holiday Schedule Attention: Residents of Central Manitoulin**

Pick up will change to the following days: December 25 pick-up will be on **December 23** 

January 1 pick-up will be on **December 30** 

Garbage and/or recycling must be at the curb no later than 6:00 A.M.

Happy Holidays,





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## Holiday fun and festive cheer await!



The McGale family visit with Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus at breakfast.



Breakfast with Santa volunteers.



One of the many floats in the Central Manitoulin Christmas



The Providence Bay Agricultural Society float at the Christmas Parade in Mindemoya on Saturday.



Santa Claus was on land for the Central Manitoulin Christmas



## ...Holiday fun and festive cheer await!



Linda Leunissen-Morelli and Harry Schlange lead the Gore Bay Santa Claus Parade, held Saturday evening



One of the entries in the Christmas parade in Little Current.



prefers to render everyday scenes that represent the heart of Manitoulin such as these on display and for sale at Sunday's Debajehmujig Christmas arts and crafts show at the Creation Centre in Manitowaning.



Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus took time out of their busy schedules to take part in the Gore Bay Santa Claus parade



Santa visits Little Current!



Sandra Tuffin, owner of 'The Raven Nest' poses with a display of some of the items at the Gore Bay Harbour Days Christmas event held this past Saturday.



The Dr. Seuss/Lorax float (by the Osborne Family and Island Promotional Products took second place prize for best float.





Santa Claus is greeted by The Manitoulin Expositor at the

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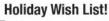
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## ...Manitoulin youth showcase coding skills at LEGO First Robotics Festival

...continued from page 3

Manitoulin Metal members Robyn-Ashley Mc-Naughton, Amara Wilson-Zegil and Alexandra Wilson-Zegil. This was The Coral Explorers and Crushers time to show off their code, LEGO models, and posters, similar to a science fair presentation. Along with their physical materials, teams were evaluated on their teamwork, problem solving and learning.

Following tions, teams participated in coding challenges where they attempted to code a LEGO robot to nav-



Festival Coordinator Caroline Black with the Coral Explorers.

igate a maze on the floor. Using the skills learned in the past weeks, teams had to code the robots in 10 minutes to earn points.

During the closing ceremony, Nevaeh Harper congratulated the teams on their 12 weeks of dedication, learning and problem-solving. She thanked the sponsors and volunteers, pointing out their role in the team's and the festival's success.

Volunteers

Thompson and Samuel Pennings received the Volunteer Award for their outstanding service, presented to them by Volunteer Organizer and Manitoulin Metal Lead Mentor, Yana Bauer. Team awards

The Coral Explorers with their certificates and medals were also presented, with the Crushers winning the Inquiring Minds Award for their innovative solutions and the Coral Explorers receiving the Core Values Award for their exemplary teamwork and inclusion. Every child left with a 3D-printed medal and personalized certificate to remember their

accomplishments by. The festival concluded with a final dance party, leaving participants with lasting memories of a day filled with fun. The kids are hoping to attend North Bay's festival in March to share the robots they created with more FLL Explore teams. Parent, child and volunteer interviews from the festival will be published on Manitoulin Metal's podcast, "BEEyond Robotics," available on several streaming platforms.



## ...Brian and Rikki Boyd honoured with OPP Commissioner lifesaving award

...continued from page 3

the man had somehow become trapped under the pier. "It seems the man was staying on his son's boat and he is very elderly and not very mobile," recalled Mr. Boyd. "He had walked down the ramp using his walker and it slipped, tipping him into the water. I don't know how he managed to get caught under the dock, but he had apparently been there for quite a while by the time I got to him. He called out 'I can't swim.'" Aside from a risk of drowning, as the pier was floating in about 12 feet of water, there was clearly a danger of hypothermia setting in-adding another layer of urgency to the proceedings.

Ms. Boyd called 911 and the couple managed to grab the man and get him to safety, administering first aid for hypothermia until medical help arrived.

"I was leaning over the side of the pier, my arms and shoulders in the water," recalled Mr. Boyd. "I told him I was sorry, but I was going to have to put him under the water again. He was stuck between the two pontoons that float the pier." Mr. Boyd said that he believed one of the young adults may have also called 911. Two young men from the skate park assisted in pulling the man up over the dock to safety. "He told me he had been under the dock for quite some time, and by now he didn't think anyone was going to come for him," said

"It was an honour to receive the award, but we were not looking for any recognition," said Mr. Boyd when contacted by The Expositor.

"It was great to be able to visit with old friends," said Mr. Boyd of the trip to North Bay for the awards ceremony. The couple had recently moved from that community and were able to catch up during their visit. "It was also great to see all of the amazing people who were receiving awards and who have done so much for people. It was nice to be recognized, but there are so many officers who do so much more for people every day and whose actions don't see the light of day.'

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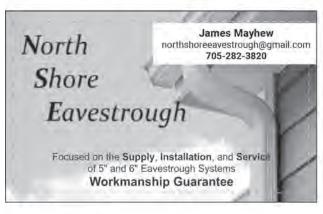














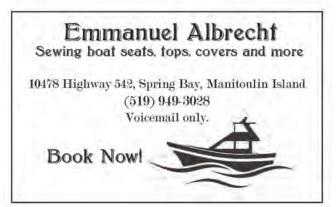




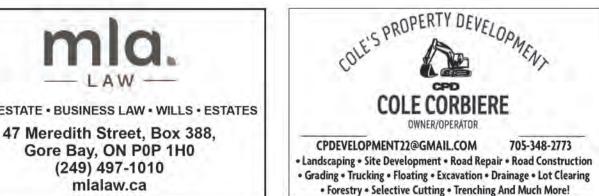
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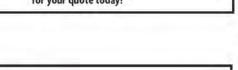
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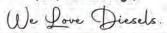


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Come one, come all to the Little Current United Church Hall on Friday, December 13 from 7 to 9 pm to enjoy George Williamson and colleages for a night of entertainment. Nonperishable donation towards Manitoulin Family Resources Food Bank appreciated.

25tfn

Free Community Christmas Dinner on Wednesday, December 25 at 1:30 pm at the Little Current United Church Hall. Will you be alone? New to the area? Whatever the circumstance, come and join us for Christmas dinner. Everyone is welcome. To reserve your spot at the table, please call The Manitoulin Expositor at 705-368-2744 and sign up. Need a ride? Please let them know when your register. Last day to register is Friday, December 20 at 12 noon.

28-31p

New Years Dance at the Tehkumnah Hall hosted by Tehkummah Triangle Club. Come join us on Tuesday, December 31 at 9 pm to 1 am. Tickets, (cash, 0 \$20.00 per person at the door. Cash bar by Manitowaning Lions Club, DJ by Woody J, light lunch after midnight.



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

Tfn

**Manitoulin Family Resources** offers programs to support and promote positive family relationships on Manitoulin and the North Shore. Violence against Women Prevention Haven 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 Care 705-368-3400; Help Centre: Thrift Shop & Bank 705-368-3400; Administration 705-368-3400.

Are you concerned about someone's drinking? Al-Anon has one purpose: Welcoming, giving hope and comfort to help family and friends of alcoholics. Changed attitudes can aid recovery. Stepping Stones Al-Alon Group: Espanola Al-Anon, Tuesdays at 7 pm, Anglican Church, 213 Tudhope 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.

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



Memorial United Lvons Church Women wish to extend an invitation to all ladies in the community to our annual Women's Ecumenical Christmas Potluck Supper, which will be held in Robinson Hall at the United Church in Gore Bay on Wednesday, December 11 at 6 pm. Please join us for a delicious potluck meal, with a program, carol singing and service following supper. Bring a dish, a non-perishable food item for the food bank and a friend. We hope to see you for an evening of fellowship and Christmas celebration.

29-30p

MHC Hospital Auxiliary (Little Current) Cookie Walk is Saturday, December 14 from 10 am to 1 pm at the Little Current United Church, 5 Robinson Street. All proceeds go to Patient Services. Walk from table to table gathering delicious Christmas cookies! \$25 for a large container and \$15 for a small container.

29-30p



Are you a cancer patient undergoing or recovering from treatment? Are you a cancer survivor, a family caregiver or supporting someone with cancer? The Manitoulin Cancer Support Group may provide you with resources and opportunities to share experiences as well as give or receive support with others who have travelled this similar cancer journey. This group is open to anyone with any type of cancer, is free to join and will be rotated to different parts of the Island. This group alternate meetings on weekdays and weekends. The schedule is as follows: Sunday, October 27, Gore Bay Legion from 2 to 4 pm; Wednesday, November Mindemoya Council Chambers from 2 to 4 pm; Sunday, December Manitowaning Family Health Team from 2 to 4 pm. For more information please contact: Terry Mackenzie, 705-507-0433, tandjmackenzie@ hotmail.com; Bonnie 705-377-4998; Young, Cranston, 705-282-Ann 7531, bnannc@gmail.com.

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

Narcotics Annonymous will meet every Monday with a start date of December 2 at the Little Current United Church, 5 Robinson Street at 8 pm. For more information please

church services

contact Lori at 705-507-6223.

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

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

4tfn



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

The beautiful handknit gift giving items at 431 15th Sideroad, Tehkummah (just off Government Rd) is closed for the season. However, if you wish to purchase one of my items please give me a call, 705-968 0445 for more information, directions or arrange a day and time to come by.



No fancy flowery words and such, just a heartfelt thanks so much.

What a surprise!

Thanks to my family and friends who joined me on Saturday, November 30 to celebrate my 90th birthday a bit early,

Among the guests were MPP Michael Mantha who brought best wishes from himself and MP Carol Hughes.

Mayor Al MacNevin offered congrats from himself and NEMI Council.

The common room was decorated in a birthday theme thanks to Linda Bowerman, Linda Kelly, Brenda Rathier and Brenda Hallett.

Surprise guests were son David, Ron Kelly from Toronto, grandsons Connor and Morgan from London and Glenda and Greta Farrow from Sudbury. Phone calls came from my granddaughters Rowan in England and Kaitlin in Australia.

Good cakes Den! Snacks and coffee were served. Thanks for the memories,

Merry Christmas to all. Goldie Cunningham

30p

Thank you to the medical community and Bayshore staff for helping to keep Wayne comfortable in his home for as long as possible. Thank you to friends and family for bringing delicious food, so we could focus on what matters during this difficult time. Thank you friends and family, near and far, for keeping in touch and offering supportive words when we struggled to find our way in the dark. Please know how much you are appreciated! Peggy, Jackie and Wade Smith



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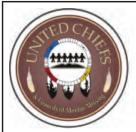


Donate your old car or truck or farm tractor, etc., or even an old metal boat to our church. We can send a truck right to you to pick these up, and in return you will receive an income tax receipt for the scrap value of your donation to St. Bernard's Church, Little Current. Please, no smaller items such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

17tfn







## **United Chiefs & Councils** of Mnidoo Mnising (UCCMM) **By-law Enforcement Program**

The By-law Enforcement Program will begin enforcing bylaws approved under the "Prosecution Pilot Project" within the communities of Aundeck Omni Kaning, Sheshegwaning, M'Chigeeng and Whitefish River First Nation.

To report a by-law infraction or to find out more information regarding the By-law Enforcement Program, please visit our website, www.uccmm.ca or contact your By-law Enforcement Officer, Zachary Corbiere at (705)-377-3009 or email bylaw@uccmm.ca.



Due to the ongoing strike of the Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW), Canada Post will not be picking up, processing or delivering any mail. This is impacting mail services to and from the Municipality of Central Manitoulin. Residents, businesses, and community groups should use alternative delivery services for any mail being sent to the Municipality to ensure its delivery and the Municipality will work diligently to find other options for delivering

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## Payment Options During Strike

The Municipality of Central Manitoulin offers the following alternative payment options for property taxes, water utility bills, and more:

- In-Person: Payments for a number of services can be made at the Municipal Office Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Financial Institution Payments Telephone/Online Banking: Property tax and water utility payments may be made at any financial institution or through your bank's telephone or online banking services.



## **Death Notices**

## EUGINIUS JURCZYNSKI May 28, 1951 - December 5, 2024

in a polish family that moved to Germany. Being born



With heavy hearts, we have to announce the passing of Euginius Jurczynski on Thursday, December 5, 2024 at the age of 73. Eugen, as he was known by family and friends, was born May 28, 1951 in Clausthal-Zellerfeld, Germany. He was the youngest of six children

into a poor family, he was always striving to give his family more opportunities. Therefore he grew up to be a hard-working, caring person. At just 19 years old he met 19-year-old Ingrid Wittmann and fell in love with her. Three years later both decided to get married and spend the rest of their lives together, always striving to fulfilling their common dreams. Up to his death, they have spent 54 years together, being married more than half a century. In 1975 they received their first child, Kerstin and completed their family in 1985 with their twins, Julian and Jessica. From starting in a small apartment. Eugen built two houses with his own hands and restored another one. All of this besides working full-time. He and Ingrid were working hand in hand always in pursue of their dream of living a better life. Next to his hard-working attitude, he did not forget the fun in life. He was always seeing the best in life, ready to party and joke, even in situations where his body was slowing him down and he must have been in severe pain. He never gave up, never. Through his siblings, who moved to Canada way earlier, he fell in love with this country. Many family vacations were spent here until he found his happy place in Mindemoya, on beautiful Manitoulin Island. At the moment when he was standing on top of a boulder at a lot on Pleasant View Terrace overlooking Lake Mindemoya he had his house and life mapped out in his imagination already. Even though kidney cancer hit him hard before his 50th birthday, he decided to not let the disease win and fought it well. From then on he decided to take his family to Canada and stay, creating the house and garden of his dreams on the lot. That's where he lived until his death. He loved living in the nature and peace of "his Island" where Ingrid and he were well-known for their famous Schnitzel at the "Happy Moose" restaurant. He loved to spend the winters in Florida and Arizona as he really liked travelling the world, especially Spain. Due to his joyful nature, he had friends all over the world and enjoyed parties, tennis and pickleball. He also cherished his children and grandchildren, Henry, Jacob, Charlotte, Chihiro, Jaxon, Cooper and Levi and children-in-law Qian, Markus and Curtis. The moment where he was surrounded by his family made him happy. Always full of fun and joy and happiness. He was able to light up the dark, see the positive in every situation and raised his children to be hard-working, loving adults who are all very thankful for being raised and loved by their parents. Next to people Eugen loved dogs, especially dachshunds (Seppel, Charly, Zobel, Bodo, Caru, Eddie and Paula) who meant a lot to him. They just mirror him, being loyal and persistent. Unfortunately, the cancer came back with metastases after so many years. He fought for his life, surviving chemo and immune-therapy always willing to give his best. During the last months additional problems developed and unfortunately, he was not in a good environment to address his medical issues properly. More than once, he got told that he should realize that he had cancer and other issues were addressed only half-heartedly. Lately he developed pneumonia and a condition that gave him a hard time to breathe. But he wanted to live, he wanted to fight, he wanted to have surgery that would at least have given him a chance of feeling better although he had cancer. Sadly, he lived in a society that seems to put elderly cancer patients in a second place and never gave him the opportunity to have this surgery. He waited, he fought so hard, but he had lost the run against time. We are all devastated because we have never seen anyone fighting so hard, having such a strong will to live his life, enjoy every second with the people he loved and then losing because of no available beds...We will keep him in good loving memory, we will remember him how he was, a wonderful person, a fighter and the bravest human being we have met. If you think of him, laugh, cheer and remember his infectious smile. Dad, we love you so much. Thank you so much for being in our lives and being in our hearts forever! To honour Eugen's memory, a Celebration of Life will be held on Friday, December 13, 2024 at 11 am at the Spring Bay Pentecostal Church, online viewing available at: https:// www.sbpchurch.ca/online.

### WAYNE SMITH 1968 - 2024



It is with heavy hearts that the family announces the passing of Wayne Emerson Smith, in Little Current on Wednesday, November 27, 2024, at the age of 66 years. Treasured husband, father, grandfather, uncle, brother and friend, who left with family and friends by his side. Son of the late

Ailene (Lempi) Smith (née Pakkala) and the late Aubrey Smith. Loving husband of Peggy Smith (née Pridham). Dear father of Jackie (Geoff) and Wade (Fanfan), Erinn. He will be sadly missed and lovingly remembered by his grandchildren Oliver, Emma, Leo and Luke. Brother of the late Robert (Terri), Phil (Bev), Darrell and Cheryl. He will also be missed by many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. Wayne was born in Sudbury but spent most of his life on Manitoulin Island where he charmed everyone with his warm smile, goofy sense of humour and gift of music. He took great pride in his children and taught them how to use his "MacGyver-like" skills and be the best human a parents could ask for. Wayne turned to mush with the arrival of grandchildren and the promise of endless baby snuggles and playtime. One of his most treasured memories has been playing music, which he shared everywhere he went. He was delighted to have played with several Manitoulin performers and bands. He was a big part of the band "Anytime" and will be missed for his playing and singing at all three local nursing homes. Being a country music singer, he was proud to stand and sing on stage at the Hank Williams Museum in Montgomery, Alabama. He was able to produce a song or change the lyrics of one for any occasion...a special talent. Wayne loved to travel, especially to Canada's East Coast, and was thrilled to make a trip to China for a beautiful family wedding. Wayne had many longtime friends that are already missing his sense of humour and loyalty. Cremation has occurred and, in accordance with his wishes, no public service will be held. In lieu of flowers, a donation to Manitoulin Centennial Manor – Tree of Lights by e-transfer to donationsmcm@ extendicare.com or mailing to Postal Bag 460, 70 Robinson Street, Little Current, Ont. POP 1K0.

## YVONNE ELIZABETH MACKAY May 22, 1931 - November 27, 2024



It is with profound sadness that we announce the peaceful passing of Yvonne MacKay on November 27, 2024 at her home in Kagawong, Ontario. Yvonne was a pillar of strength, support and endless love. She will be sadly missed by her children, Marlene (Steve) Chumak, Brenda (Jim) Bushey

and Brad (Chrisanne) MacKay; her grandchildren, Tyler, Devon (Bobbi), Colin, Julia (Chad), Miranda and Lauren (Caleb); and her beautiful great-grandsons, Xander, Barrett and Isaac. A visitation to honour Yvonne's life will be held on Saturday, December 14, 2024 from 12 noon to 2 pm at Island Funeral Home, 36 Worthington Street, Little Current, Ontario P0P 1K0. The interment will take place in Etobicoke in the Spring of 2025. In lieu of flowers and in honour of Yvonne's beloved little companion, Tasha, donations may be made to Manitoulin Pet Rescue, P.O Box 119, Mindemoya, ON P0P 1S0 or manitoulinpetrescue@gmail.com. Please share your thoughts, memories and photos at www.islandfuneralhome.ca.

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## **KENNETH LORNE BLODGETT May 17, 1946 - November 29, 2024**



On Friday, November 29, 2024 Ken, was taken from us suddenly in Gore Bay in his 78th year after a near half century of battling complications of Type 1 Diabetes. While we process this incredible loss and sadness, we are comforted by the fact that Ken lived

a long, full life of fun and adventure. Born and raised in Toronto, entering his adult years Ken would start his journey north. First landing in Barrie and Collingwood, Ontario, he would find his true life passions working in both the world of sailing yachts and alpine skiing. Starting his business in the yacht charter industry in Midland, Ontario during the 1980s, Ken would eventually find life taking him to Manitoulin Island in 1990 to take over the operations of Canadian Yacht Charters in Gore Bay, where he continued his work right up until his passing. Ken would skipper many charters out on the North Channel on his fleet of yachts and if you were lucky enough to have him as your captain, it was an experience not likely ever forgotten! Ken's sense of humour was contagious and he always left an impression or story - usually a good one! While living and working on Manitoulin, Ken was also a snowbird but not in the traditional sense. Ken's southern migration would take him to the Blue Mountains where he would spend the winters working at instructing skiing at both Blue Mountain Resort as well as the Toronto Ski Club. Ken would eventually take up residence year round in Gore Bay. Ken was an avid hockey player and a die hard Toronto Maple Leafs fan. He would take in the odd game in Toronto and could regularly be spotted wearing a Leafs jersey. Quoting Wayne Gretzky, his favourite saying was "You miss 100% of the shots you don't take" so much so that he had a poster of this printed on the wall of his home. While not playing in the most recent years, Ken would still be on the bench in Gore Bay as a coach and cheerleader and will be missed by his hockey pals. Ken also served on the municipal council in Gore Bay and was passionate about that work especially as it related to the management and development of the waterfront and marina. Ken thrived in the company of his friends and family and was one of the most social beings you could know. Predeceased by his mother Mary Dora Blodgett (McCarthy) and his father Gordon Lorne Blodgett, as well as his first wife and mother of his sons Carla Blodgett (Richardson). Ken will be forever and fondly remembered by his brothers John Blodgett (Cathy), Dave Blodgett (Elize) and sister Maureen Russell, as well as his cousin Laura McCarthy Roberts (Norm). Ken also leaves behind his friend and former spouse Pam McLaughlin; his four children, Brian Blodgett (Lizanne), Chris Blodgett (Melanie), Annie Blodgett (Tas) and Molly Blodgett. Proud grandfather to Matthew, Bradley, Nickolas, Maxine and Kody. Greatgrandfather to Owen, Desarae, Avery, Luka and Kiara. Ken's life deserves a celebration to remember. Therefore no immediate visitation or service will be held as we want to be sure that friends and family near and far can attend to give Ken a proper send off. A Celebration of Life will be held on Ken's 79th birthday, May 17, 2025 in Gore Bay. Details and timing will be announced soon. Donations to Diabetes Canada would be welcomed in his memory. To share a message of condolence, share a memory or pictures please email info@cycnorth.com or by regular mail at CYC, Box 215, Gore Bay, Ontario P0P 1K0.

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

## Billings Township approves automated bulk water system

by Tom Sasvari

KAGAWONG—Billings council has given its approval for a supplier which will provide an automated bulk water metered direct-payment system in the township.

"When the bulk water distribution system was moved from the fire hall to the water treatment plant, council directed staff to research and seek a suitable metered and automated payment system," said Billings Mayor Bryan Barker at a council meeting last week. "This was included as a project in the 2024 capital budget in the amount of \$15,000. Quotes had been sought, by the then CAO, even earlier (late 2023) from four firms. Of the companies approached for quotation, two responded, Conx Wireless and Flo-Crest Equipment."

With a changeover in the township CAO position and the pressure of other projects the bulk water initiative was put off until this fall, said Mayor Barker. He explained the two companies were asked to submit revised quotes given that several months had passed, and because the specifications were clarified to include the fact that the system needed to accommodate both the high and low flow outlets.

A township staff message to council indicates the Conx system appears to be the most affordable and versatile. Staff viewed an online presentation and question and answer with the company.

A metered pay-as-you-go bulk water system is expected to contribute to be more efficient use of treated water in the Kagawong water system.

"This could be a little premature, but I was wondering if there has been any thought given to what the rates (for water accessed from the system) will be?" asked Councillor Ian Anderson. "I know tonight we are to be making the decision on the supplier of the equipment."

Todd Gordon, municipal projects manager pointed out the bulk water rates will need to be established.

Councillor Vince Grogan said, "On behalf of the new township water committee, we endorsed this. This system seems to be the best way to capture missed opportunities in the township (for those using bulk water to pay a

fee)."

Councillor Dave Hillyard questioned whether this system was a township budgeted item in 2024 through the tax base or on the capital water costs, to which Mayor Barker said the system is being funded by the water bank account

"My other question is, once the system is in place, will it be limited to use by Billings residents or be available to users outside the township?" asked Councillor Hillyard.

It was explained by Mr. Gordon the system allows for more than one way to pay for water, so anyone that has the means to pay can get water from the system.

Council accepted the bid from Conx Wireless for \$16,428.25 (inclusive of GST). Flo-Crest Equipment quote was for \$30,187.50.



## **Death Notices**

## PHREDDIE (WINNIFRED) SHORE



It is with heavy hearts we announce the passing of Phreddie (Winnifred) Shore on Friday, November 29, 2024 at the NHS-Welland Site at the age of 73. She has been reunited with her parents Kenneth and Helen (née Campbell) and her sister Susan Shapiro. She leaves behind her devoted children

Robin Seguin (Richard), Ken Seguin (Laurie) and Nathan "Kyle" McDonald; her cherished grandchildren Brittany, Shawna, Kiana, Geri, Haylee, Ava and Sydney; her adored great-grandchildren Annabelle Zara Bahramiwand, Yaseen Mohammad Alselimi, Ensaf Mohammad Alselimi and Lenley; her dear sister Norrie Ogawa (Murray) and her brother-in-law Daniel Shapiro. Phreddie was a true "Jill of all trades," a business owner and a woman of remarkable talents. From hairstylist to gas station attendant, photographer, poet, artist, seamstress and craft enthusiast, she brought creativity and energy to everything she did. Whether it was crafting something beautiful or capturing a moment with her camera, Phreddie's hands were always busy and her mind was always flowing with new ideas. Her generosity and selflessness knew no bounds. Phreddie made it her mission to ensure that no one went hungry. She would often make homemade soups to feed the less fortunate in her community, a testament to her caring and kind nature. Her love for others was matched only by her sense of humour, her love for music and her vibrant personality. A lover of music, Phreddie found solace and joy in the tunes of Joni Mitchell, Frank Mills and any soft rock. She was a ball of energy with an amazing memory, always quick with a story or a laugh. Known for her sarcasm and wit, she lived by the motto: "Life's too short, no time for B.S."—a phrase she lived by every day, facing challenges head-on and never backing down from life's obstacles. Phreddie was fiercely independent. She would never accept handouts and always went above and beyond to provide for herself and her family. Her outgoing spirit and ability to connect with people made her a great friend to all. Phreddie's presence was a gift, and she will be remembered for her warmth, energy and the deep love she had for those around her. Her family wishes to extend their heartfelt gratitude to the staff on the 6th floor at NHS-Welland Site and the staff at Woodlands of Sunset "Pines Ward" for all their care and compassion. In keeping with her wishes, cremation has taken place with arrangements entrusted to Essentials Cremation and Burial Services in Welland. If desired, donations in Phreddie's memory may be made to the Canadian Cancer Society and would be appreciated by her family. Online condolences may be shared on Phreddie's tribute page found at EssentialsNiagara.com.

## FREDDRICK RODGER GREENMAN "ROD"



Sadly, the Greenman brothers' legacy has come to an end with the passing of Rod Greenman whom passed suddenly but peacefully with family by his side on Saturday, November 23, 2024 in his 82th year. Rod spent all of his 81 years as a resident of Barrie Island doing what he enjoyed

most farming. Predeceased by his loving parents Thomas and Ruby (nee Strain) Greenman. Rod was one of the four known as the Greenman Brothers: Bob, Doug and Ernie (all predeceased). Rod was a very proud fourth generation uncle to five: John (Sharon) Baker, Janis Baker, Joeanne Lewis, Jeanna (Rick) Leies and Julie Lane, which then extends to 14 great-nieces and nephews: Joe Leies, Angela Lane, Ben Lane, Michelle Leies, Cameron Lane, Crystal Lane, Amanda Robinson, Megan Leies, Joe Cousineau, Doug Baker, Stephanie Lane, Melody Bishop, Marie Murray and Jamie Baker. Rod was a great-great-uncle to 24 nieces and nephews, there are many more to the list as they were always known as "the uncles" to everyone that knew him and his brothers' family was key to the Greenman's. Rod was very proud of Barrie Island, his family history and farming. The Greenman homestead always had an open-door policy to anyone giving good home-cooked meals to many over the years. Over his lifetime he was a part of the Barrie Island council for many years and was a proud member of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 514 Gore Bay. Rod spent many years being part of the Barrie Island hockey team, of which the team picture was hung in the hockey hall of fame. He enjoyed many years of farming and family, his love for the ole' Ford tractors, hunting with friends and family and milling lumber. Rod will always be remembered for his gift of gab and his stubborn but kind and loving personality, always willing to lend a hand to anyone. He had a welcoming personality for conversation which made it hard to leave the room and that will also be sadly missed by many. Cremation has taken place. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date at the Barrie Island Community Hall. Anyone wishing to make donations may do so to the Barrie Island Community Hall, the palliative care at Manitoulin Health Centre (Mindemoya Hospital) or the Canadian Cancer Society. We wish to thank the medical team of Manitoulin Health Centre of Mindemoya for the incredible support and care they provided.

#### DR. WILLIAM JEWELL



Dr. William J. Jewell of Ithaca, New York died Tuesday, November 5, 2024 at Cayuga Medical Center from complications of COVID. He was 83. He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Marlene Bryan Jewell, brother Thomas Jewell, nephew Robert Jewell and niece Deborah Jewell

Saito. Bill was the son of Thomas and Thelma Jewell of Skowhegan, Maine. He was a great lover of animals and was especially devoted to his dogs. William was Professor Emeritus in Biological and Environmental Engineering at Cornell University from 1973 - 2008. Prior to his tenure at Cornell, he taught at the University of Texas and the University of Vermont. He studied at the University of Maine (BS), Manhattan College (M Eng), Stanford University (PhD) and was a Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of London, Westfield College. Much of his teaching and research were in the areas of ecological engineering, management of wastes, biotreatment of toxins, pollutions control and renewable energy via anaerobic methane fermentation. Aside from teaching, Willaim also created a private company, Microgen Corporation, which utilized his waste management systems in several hundred farm-scale operating systems in the U.S. His work was recognized by the United States Department of Energy for a national award for "Energy Innovation-Contribution to the Nation's Energy Efficiency" in 1988. Along with Bill's academic pursuits he had many other interests including sailing, rustic furniture building, hiking, baking and reading. Bill will be missed by his family and friends in the United States and Canada. There will be no funeral service, but a Celebration of Life will be scheduled for close friends and family at a later date. Those who wish to may make donations in his honor to the Tompkins County SPCA, the Cornell Lab of Ornithology or a favourite charity of choice.

## ...Planning Board approves draft approval for Central 39-lot subdivision

Mr. Kieswetter said he is all for water quality studies and enforcement on septic and water quality regula-

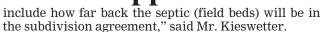
The MPB can call for studies on lake capacity, fish habitat and environmental impact studies in the conditions and these issues will be part of the subdivision agreement involving the proponents and Central Manitoulin, said MPB secretary Theresa Carlisle.

Further discussion amongst board members took place and it was felt Central Manitoulin should take the lead on measuring water quality, while Public Health Sudbury and District approves septic systems the municipality will have to have control at the building permit stage to ensure septic systems are farther back and the specifics of the septic installation be covered in the subdivision agreement with the municipality.

The MPB was told the EIS is not complete yet, but no concerns have been raised so far, the archaeological assessment study stage 3 of the assessment has been completed, as recommended by the stage 2 assessment and sent to local First Nations for comment (with none having been voiced in the required 30-day period) and the report has been provided to the Ministry of Culture for review. Stage four assessment is required and buffer zones will be needed from certain areas, but lots are still developable.

Mr. Hayden said the MPB has not received additional input from other citizens, with concerns being raised. "We have to follow the Provincial Planning Policy Statement but with your (Mr. Rautiainen) concerns you will still have the opportunity to comment on the subdivision agreement with the municipality and more reports are to be done."

"There will be a site plan for each building and will



If was moved by board member Dan Osborne and seconded by Bryan Barker that the subdivision application file be granted draft approval, with amended conditions 22 and 23, and the expiry date of the approval being three years. The board chair requested a re-

Deforge, Lee Hayden, Ken Noland, Richard Stephens and Dan Osborne in favour and Doug Head and Dave McDowell opposed.

## **Manitoulin Island Real Estate** Brokerage Inc. For a private viewing, call David Carlisle, Broker of Record, at: 705-282-1500

www.manitoulinrealestatebrokerage.com Dave@ManitoulinRealEstateBrokerage.com 25 Meredith Street, Gore Bay, ON

MLS #: 2119112 - PRICE: \$525,000



MLS #: 2114283 - Price: \$710,000



Country living at it's finest. Spectacular lot with landscaping and a multitude of perennials. Gazebo and raised garden beds compliment the exterior. The large 30'x 60' workshop has a 200 amp service, cement floor and loft for additional storage. Two garden sheds included. The entrance way has a wide mudroom and closet moving into a large dining area with original hardwood floors and an attached kitchen, newly renovated bath and main floor laundry. The spacious living room also has a propane fireplace. There are three bedrooms and a bath on the upper level with the main bedroom

having a walk in closet. The bath comes with a soaker tub. This home and property are the complete package. Call for your private viewing today.

Waterfront home in highly sought after Maple Point area. The private lot with mature trees is gently sloping to the lake. Outdoor features include detached garage, sauna, vegetable garden, wood shed, dock and boat lift, private boat launch with spectacular views. The three bedroom and two and a half bath home is complimented with pine flooring on the upper level and ceramic and hardwood on the lower level. Pine ceilings along with post and beam give the home a cozy feeling along with the wood stove. Newer windows throughout. The main floor laundry is convenient as is the mudroom entrance way. It is attached to a double garage. This home has all the features and the lot is one of the nicest in the area. Call for your private viewing today.



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2128 Highway 542, Sandfield 18 acres by Lake Manitou MLS #2118152, \$749,000



3 bedroom, 2 bathroom home or cottage on 1.5 acres MLS #2119591, \$519,000



N/A Leask Bay Shores Lane, Manitowaning, waterfront, 1.5 acres, driveway MLS #2119592, \$242,000



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



N/A Slash Road Assiginack, Ontario POP 2C0 MLS # 2119744 \$199,999



Spectacular Waterfront **Income Property** MLS #2117159 – Call for details!



Melissa Nicholson, REALTOR® 705-282-7738

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#### FEATURED LISTINGS









1278 Ice Lake Dr, Gore Bay WATERFRONT MLS®#: 2119624, \$549,999

3A Meredith St, Gore Bay **EXECUTIVE-STYLE** MLS®#: 2117743, \$637,500

3.5



E

R



35 Fourth Ave,

Assiginack

MLS®#: 2119719, \$399,000

4847 Bidwell Rd, Sheguiandah MLS®#: 2119997, \$478,500







CHAIRMAN'S CLUB

























OTEN

N/A Hwy 540, Little Current MLS®#: 2114168 | \$49,000 8 ACRES

12 Cockburn St, **Little Current** MLS®#: 2112049 | \$39,000

1/2 ACRE

Lot 86 Limberlost Ln, Mindemoya MLS®#: 2119535 | \$79,900

1/2 ACRE

N/A Monument Rd, **Spring Bay** MLS®#: 2119695 | \$227,500





N/A Hwy 551, **Providence Bay** MLS®#: 2119210 | \$148,500

50 ACRES

N/A Union Rd, Evansville MLS®#: 2119801 | \$209,900

81 ACRES

PRIVATE ISLAND, 0000 Bayfield Sound MLS®#: 2117227 | \$349,777

4.5 ACRES



Cottage Resort



544 Ketchankookem Tr, Mindemoya MLS®#: 2118008, \$1,979,000

Rental Potential



130 Thorne St, Mindemoya MLS®# 2118425, \$639,950

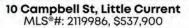
Previously Manitowaning Lodge



454 Cardwell St, Manitowaning MLS®#: 2115566, \$849,000

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maple forest on elevated land or magnificent



Rare 627 ft. of flat dock-ready Lake Manitou shoreline for recreational MLS #2116861 499,000



Waterfront, 3+ acres, laneway, hydro, partially cleared, trailers allowed with licencing. Nanitowaning, NLS #2115464,



Isolated 0.96 acre building lot, hydro available, 2 entrances with Lake Manitou water access MLS #2118123 552.900



5.4 acres of recreational vacant land, home to deer, rabbits, flora and fauna LS #2115315



Water and beach ccess building lot, hydro ready, quiet neighbourhood, near amenities and golf course. ALS #2113802 79,900



1 acre lot, hydro, year-round road, water access, nicely treed, picturesque rock cut could provide elevated ouild. Monument Road, MLS #2118483 125.000



Waterfront lot with established driveway, couple of sheds in place for building, ideal for family and recreation. Manitowaning, MLS #2118800 \$179.000

#### KNOW OUR TEAM MEMBERS TO

## Alan Mihelchic—Agent



As a young man, Alan Mihelchic was either playing hockey or enjoying the great outdoors at the family cottage on beautiful Manitoulin Island. His hobbies include travelling, sculpting and keeping up-to-date on digital and social media marketing platforms.

Alan is a full-time, fully licenced real estate agent of 11 years with J.A. Rolston Ltd. Brokerage. He knows the ins and outs of negotiating a purchase or sale on his clients' behalf as well as an excellent understanding and first-hand knowledge of Manitoulin Island.

In addition, he has studied Advertising Design and Communications, Business Marketing/Commerce, the Sciences and New Media Studies, including digital and social media marketing. This mashup combined with interests in behavioral analysis, the decision making process and design thinking allowed him to work and consult as a "creative thinker" on dot com start-ups. Prior experience as a claims coordinator early in his working career for TICO allowed him to master the art of the customer experience—the client is King/Queen. When not teaching at a private college, an ISP or as a gun-for-hire on start-ups, Alan has worked for advertising design agencies with his work appearing in The Globe and Mail, The Toronto Star and Food & Drink.

Alan looks forward to providing an exceptional customer experience whether you are buying, or selling, your next home, cottage and/or business on the largest freshwater island in the world.

## New Listing: Bay Estates Beauty











Bay Estates 4 bedroom, 2 full bath, built in 2010, plenty of greenspace with water access only a short walk through the forest trail to the shores of Manitowaning Bay, Lake Huron. This home has spacious rooms, tasteful main entry with open concept main floor kitchen, dining & living area with patio doors leading to back deck and private yard with fire pit. Principal suite boasts a large walk-in closet with en suite bathroom. Finished basement with woodstove. The detached double garage is insulated, wired 100 amp service (including a 30 amp receptacle for welder/compressor) and has a wood stove. Property also includes a storage shed and chicken coop. MLS #2119947, Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands, \$598,000



Prime, affordable, highly-visible, downtown Little Current commercial space for sale. A large window front looks out onto busy street with ample parking, teeming with boaters and tourists enjoying the hospitality and festivals of Manitoulin's busiest location. MLS#2120110 Little Current, \$149,000



Waterfront Paradise. 88 acres with 636 ft of North Channel shoreline including 1 km of High Falls River frontage flowing through a magnificent forest. 4-beds, 6-baths, auna, separate in-law suite, attached 2 car garage with detached 4 bay garage, sandy shoreline. Manitowaning, \$1,689,000



Tucked away on a beautiful 8.5 acres, offering breathtaking views with 225 feet of sandy shoreline & break wall on wonderful Honora Bay, large 3293 square foot home with 5 beds, 3 full baths, detached 4 bay garage with 2,100 square foot workshop, 4 acres of fenced pasture with livestock cover & water line.

MLS#2119244 Little Current, \$985,000



Newly renovated 3 bed, 3 bath home with separate entranced bachelor apartment or in-law suite. 90 acres to enjoy! Walking distance to downtown Mindemoya. Shop and compare! When you add up all the features this property has to offer, you'll be pleasantly surprised. MLS#2120103 Mindemoya, \$549,000



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Rob Norris H.B.A. Agent Cell: 705-968-0030



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Lori Edwards Office Manager 705-368-2381



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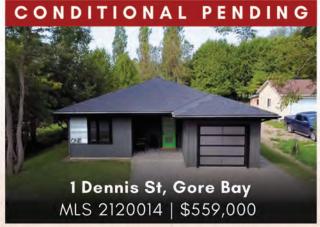
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Meet Our Elves



# Manitoulin Expositor Styles **Careers · Sports · Manitoulin People**

Little Current, Ontario

Wednesday, December 11, 2024



'Baxter Cup'-The Espanola Curling Club team is shown in photo after winning the 99th edition of the Baxter Cup, in 2024. The 100th anniversary of the annual competition held between Espanola and Little Current Curling Clubs will take place in February.

## Baxter Cup 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary

ESPANOLA-LITTLE CURRENT—One of Canada's longest-running curling championships, the highly-coveted Baxter Cup, is celebrating 100 years on February 7-8 in Little Current and Espanola. It is one of the few sports events to have never missed a single year, including during World War II and the COVID pandemic.

"It is just fun and the competition between the two towns is great," said John Hodder, a Baxter Cup trustee from Little Current told The Expositor. "It is probably the longest running competition taking place between teams from two different towns."

"The Baxter Cup was launched in 1925 when Little Current Hardware Store proprietor George Baxter invited the men from the Espanola Curling Club and the Little Current Club, who had taken their curling game from the rink to the hallways of Little Current's Mansion House (located at the site of the current Anchor Inn) using 'thunder mugs" (chamber pots), and offered a trophy if they finished their competition back at the curling rink," said Dave Gallant, Baxter Cup trustee, Espanola Curling Club vice-president. "With that auspicious beginning, the Baxter Cup was

A beautiful silver trophy was crafted and given to the team that had the most points after 16 gamed of curling were played with each game lasting 12 ends. "Four games were played at a time, meaning that the curling clubs would have to visit each other twice to get all of the games in. 100 years later the Baxter Cup gets awarded to the team that has the most points after 10 games of curling are played, five in each club, with games now lasting a more manageable eight ends," said Mr. Gallant. "The Little Current Curling Club first won it in 1925 and the trophy now rests at the Espanola Curling Club, who were winners

"The long-standing but friendly rivalry between the two clubs is believed to be one of the longest consecutively fought for sports trophies in Canada,' said Mr. Gallant. "When it started, there was only a rail line connecting the two communities. Players had to travel the 50 kilometres by train, carrying their own curling rocks which were stored in the cowcatchers at the front of the en-

Mr. Gallant noted that the annual competition continued despite frequent challenges, including the Great Depression, World War II, countless winter storms, the COVID-19 pandemic and the cup being stolen (and found). "Rumour has it the trophy took an accidental dip in Lake Huron's North Channel decades ago, when some locals took it fishing with them."

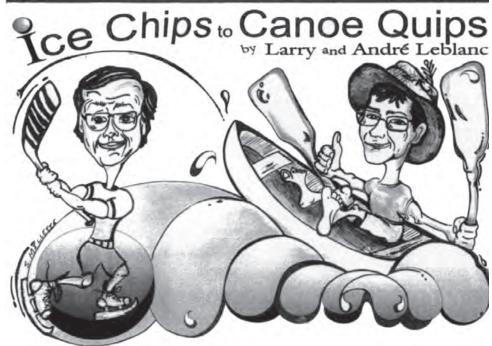
In spite of all of the challenges, John Hodder from the Little Current Curling Club holds the record at 62 (and counting) for the most Baxter Cups competed in over the years.

The  $100^{\text{th}}$  Baxter Cup will be competed with five games played on February 7, at the Little Current Curling Club, followed up with five more games on February 8 at the Espanola Curling Club.



'Baxter Cup' - The Baxter Cup Curling championship is celebrating its 100th anniversary in February, 2025. This is one of Canada's longest-running curling championship, held annual between the Little Current and Espanola curling clubs.

## Manitoulin Sporting Life



#### Panther Points!

U13 Manitoulin Panthers travelled to North Bay this past weekend to play in the Easy Nipissing Vipers' Pre-Christmas Blast tournament. Playing one game Friday and two games Saturday, shots were fired, goals were made, with a 5th place result in their division. The team put up a good fight and played their hearts out all weekend. While they gave it their all on the ice, the real highlight was the team bonding and the fun they shared off the ice. Great memories were made, and they came together even stronger as a team.

U15 The Panthers also competed in the Pre-Christmas Blast, going undefeated in Round Robin play. The semi-final matchup was a close one on Sunday. The Panthers were down by a goal to the Temiskaming Shores' Puckhounds in the 3rd period and pulled their goalie. The Hounds buried one in the empty net to make the final score 5-3.

The U18 Lady Panthers travelled to Sudbury on Saturday to face off against the U18-BB Lady Wolves. The first game of the doubleheader was an exciting game, ending in a 3-1 win for the Wolves. The Lady Panthers came out flying in the second game of the day, ending it with a 1-1 tie.

Coming up, the girls will be taking on Temiskaming Shores for another doubleheader on Saturday in Espanola. On Sunday, December 15th the girls will host their second annual game against the Wikwemikong Tribal Police and are hoping their fans will bring non-perishable food items to donate to the Manitoulin Food Bank before the Christmas holidays.

Win or lose, Panthers, it is all great, experience!

#### Off the Rock, Hockey!

Mindemoya's Jack Bridgeman and his Copper Cliff U16-AA Reds teammates are off to the International finals in Newmarket in January after winning the Sudbury Regional Silverstick championships. For Jack and four of his teammates it was their second win in a row, after taking the title as Nickel City Sons U15-AA last year.

The Reds are off to a strong start to their season, a solid effort in the Ottawa Capital Gold Rush tournament in September, with their 5 - 1 league record and their Silverstick win leading them to an impressive #6 provincial ranking! The boys are looking forward to competing with teams from Toronto, Los Angeles, Philadelphia and Delaware in Newmarket. Good luck Jack, go Reds!

Congratulations to Max King who plays for the Nickel City Cubs U-15 AA squad. They took home the Sudbury Regional Silver Stick over the weekend! Good luck at the International, Max!

#### **Manitoulin Minor** Hockey

With about a third of the following teams are leading their divisions in the Manitoulin Minor Hockey League. In U11, the Manitowaning Wolves are atop the table. The U13 division has Gore Bay and Mindemoya, tied for first. In the U15's Mindemoya is undefeated and leads Manitowaning by 2 points. In U18, the M'Chigeeng Thunderbirds are first, leading the Gore Bay Bruins by one point, although Gore Bay has a game in hand.

NOHA plea! A friendly reminder from the Northern Ontario Hockey Association (NOHA) to spectators at all minor hockey games. The goal of play is for the kids to develop their individual skills and team tactics while having fun playing this great game. While it is understandable that passions get ignited watching the games, fans are encouraged to refrain from using negative or abusive language toward players and officials. Keep it fun out there!

#### Assiginack is Active!

Assiginack Township has released their free, holiday arena schedule that spans from December 24th to January 4th (except for the statutory holidays). There is afternoon skating from 1 – 2, spongepuck, from 2 – 3PM with a few evening skates from 6:30 - 8PM. The free icetime has been made possible thanks to generous donations by local businesses and service clubs!

Manitowaning also has a unique, priceless, exercise program. People of all ages complete multiple hill climbs interspersed with exhilarating, fresh air rides back to the bottom of their large exercise apparatus and repeat. People in the 'Big Smoke' the season on the books, would shell out big bucks for this regimen.

> Some people just call it their sliding hill, but it is so much more! The top of the hill is at the former Information Booth right off Highway 6 and is getting lots of use. The booth is now a convenient and delicious canteen, featuring pizza, subs and more. The Twisted Sister is open most weekend afternoon evenings. Check them out on Facebook.

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

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# M.S.S. Kids in the Halls



## Alexandra Wilson-Zegil

With only two weeks until the Winter Break, the holiday spirit is in full swing at MSS. The halls have been decorated with Christmas ornaments and posters. One of these posters is advertising the 12 Days of Christmas event, organized by the Student Council. Annually, different clubs in the school organize a fun activity to help students celebrate. The first event of the 12 Days of Christmas was a Christmas Kahoot, which brought students together for holiday trivia. The excitement doesn't stop there, as there are events lined up for every school day until the Winter Break. These activities are designed to keep the holiday cheer going until students break for Christmas.

Unfortunately, MSS had two snow days this week. On Wednesday, December 4 and Friday, December 6, heavy snowfall led to the cancellation of buses. As a result, Friday's planned event, which offered free hot chocolate to students, was also cancelled. While the snow days disrupted the schedule, they gave students and staff time to get caught up and relax.

In other upcoming festive events, Headstrong, the high school's mental health awareness group, is hosting a Christmas baking exchange on Friday, December 13.

This event invites students to share their homemade treats with each other, so that each participant goes home with a new platter of baked goods than they came in with.

Another highly anticipated event is the talent show, scheduled for December 18. Sign-ups are now open for students interested in showcasing their talents in singing, skits, poetry and more.

MSS has announced the installation of new skate sharpener equipment. Students and staff can now get their skate sharpened at school for five dollars per pair. The proceeds from this service will go towards supporting the athletics department.

The past weekend brought great news from members of the school's cross-country team. Several students competed in the Canadian National Cross-Country Championships. Newly graduated student, Brodie Pennie, ran an 8 km race in just 26 minutes, while Xavi Mara completed a 6 km race in 21 minutes and 42 seconds. Wyatt Williamson-Wright also participated in the 6 km race, finishing with a time of 22 minutes and 47 seconds.

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

## **Help Wanted!**





## Carpenter

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

Rainbow District School Board is now accepting applications for a **Carpenter.** 

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

Interested candidates should apply by **3pm Monday December 16**, **2024** and submit a cover letter, resume and names of three (3) references.

**David Farrow**Board Chair

**Bruce Bourget**Director of Education

rainbowschools.ca



210 boul Mead Blvc Espanola, ON P5E 1R5 Telephone/Téléphone: (705) 862-785C Fax/Télécopieur: (705) 862-7805 http://www.msdsb.net

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

At Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB, we welcome new and diverse talent! We are currently searching for our next Integrated Program Assistant.

#### What You Offer

- Effective oral and written communication, organization and problem-solving skills
- Exceptional knowledge of Microsoft 365 Applications
- Ability to understand and interpret provincial statutes, regulations and policies
- Ability to work with computer programs relevant to client files, third-party inquiries and data collection.

## What We Offer

- Competitive salary
- Employer-matched pension plan, group health benefits which includes vision, dental, drug and extended health benefits, and a wellness program that is available to spouses and children
- Career growth
- Diverse and inclusive work culture
- Continuing education for staff

For more information on this position and how to apply please use this QR code.





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

## **Help Wanted!**



## **Now Hiring!**

Food & Beverage Servers
Bartenders
Laundry Attendant
Housekeeping
Line Cooks

Please apply in person at the front desk with a resumé and be prepared for an interview.

Wages are negotiable.

Manitoulin Hotel & Conference Centre 66 Meredith St. E. Little Current, ON POP IKO





#### **OF ASSIGINACK**

BOX 238, MANITOWANING, ONT., P0P 1N0 (705) 859-3196 or 1-800-540-0179 www.assiginack.ca

## seeks MUNICIPAL CLERK

The Township of Assiginack is seeking to fill the full-time position of **Municipal Clerk.** 

Reporting to the Chief Administrative Officer, the Municipal Clerk is responsible for a wide range of legislative, administrative and customer service oriented services.

## Preferred Education and Experience:

- Completion of post secondary studies in public administration or similar discipline
  - CMO designation or willingness to obtain
- Minimum three years working experience in municipal office with progressive experience
  - Working knowledge of municipal and related legislation
    - Effective communication skills
    - Organizational and time management skills
    - Highest level of personal integrity

A detailed job description and salary scale are available upon request.

Qualified candidates are invited to submit a detailed resume no later than 4:00 pm, Friday, December 20, 2024 to:

Alton Hobbs, CAO PO Box 238 Manitowaning, ON P0P 1N0 ahobbs@assiginack.ca

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## OPP locate overdue hiker in Killarney Provincial Park

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With the assistance of the West Nipissing OPP members, Emergency Response Team, and OPP helicopter, the person was located about two days later by the OPP helicopter with minor injuries and transported to the area hospital by EMS as a precaution," reported the OPP.

The OPP also reported that the incident is a good reminder to everyone as to how the what3words app offered free by Android and Apple devices can help in situations like this one.

"The app labels every three squared metres with a unique three-word location

## **Help Wanted!**



## WHITEFISH RIVER FIRST NATION

## **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY** POST-SECONDARY & ADULT EDUCATION COORDINATOR

Term: Full-time (35 hours per week) Salary Range: \$56,800-\$67,820/year plus group benefits and pension (subject to education and/or experience)

The Post-Secondary and Adult Education Coordinator will provide guidance in the development, planning and execution of multiple complex programs in support of and in alignment with the department's strategic plan to reach the vision and mission of the department and WRFN. The Post Secondary and Adult Education Coordinator will establish and maintain strong internal and external partnerships and strong connections to students and adult learners to support the successful completion of school and facilitate entry into careers

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- Address any challenges adult learners face in overcoming barriers to learning and education to help them achieve their full potential.
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#### **Counselling and Collaboration**

- Interact regularly with all students through virtual or in-person meetings.
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- Develop a list and process for emailing students and/or providing regular information via Constant Contact to Communications personnel for dissemination.
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- Class G Driver's licence, reliable vehicle and the ability to travel.
- Experience in delivering presentations and in meeting coordination.
- Advanced computer skills in Microsoft Office Suite (Outlook, Word, Excel) and proficiency in promotional computer software.
- Previous experience working within a First Nation education sector would be an asset.
- Excellent interpersonal communication skills.
- Strong organizational and interpersonal skills and the ability to work with minimal supervision.
- Thorough knowledge and understanding of best practices in advising and career coaching.
- Experience developing and maintaining school partnerships.
- Knowledge and appreciation of Anishinabek Culture, traditions, language and history.
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- Knowledge of Indigenous culture, history and beliefs.
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- Strong analytical and problem-solving skills, professional manner, tact, diplomacy, and ability to work well with all levels of school staff and students.
- Strong and accurate data entry skills and intermediate skills with databases.
- Demonstrated ability to handle conflicting priorities and deadlines; to interpret and advise on policy.
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- Patience and ability to develop collaborative relationships with internal and external constituents.
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## Applications must be submitted by noon on December 13th, 2024

Interested applicants must submit a current resume, cover letter. two (2) work-related references, one (1) character reference (with contact information) and applicable education diplomas/certifications to:

> Confidential: Post-Secondary & Adult Education Coordinator Whitefish River First Nation 7-A Rainbow Ridge Road PO Box 188, Birch Island, ON POP 1A0

Email: jobapplications@whitefishriver.ca • Fax: (705) 285-4532

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## WHITEFISH RIVER FIRST NATION

## is seeking a dynamic and experienced HEALTH MANAGER 2nd Posting

Salary Range: \$75,120-\$89,700 (including group pension and health benefits)

\* Subject to education and experience or a combination of both

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

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

#### **KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:**

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

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

#### Relationships and Team Building

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

#### **Human Resources**

Provide guidance, direction and support to staff:

- Supervise, coach and direct staff.
- Monitor and address employee performance and conduct performance reviews.
- Coordinate staff professional development and address any training needs.

### Financial Management

To assist in the preparation and monitoring of the Health Unit Budget:

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

#### **Interagency Participation**

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

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

#### Administration

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

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

#### **OUALIFICATIONS:**

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

## **KNOWLEDGE REQUIREMENTS**

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

## Applications must be submitted by noon on December 16th, 2024

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

> Confidential: Health Manager Whitefish River First Nation c/o Human Resources 17-A Rainbow Ridge Road PO Box 188, Birch Island, ON POP 1A0

Email: applications@whitefishriver.ca • Fax: (705) 285-4532 Miigwetch to all who apply; however, only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

# Mindemoya Mice by Claire Cline

#### Claire's Picks

- 'Bad Liar' by Tami Hoag
- 'On The Hunt' by Iris Johansen
- 'The President's Lawyer' by Lawrence Robbins
- 'The Bourne Shadow' by Brian Freeman (Robert Ludlum)
- 'The House of Cross' by James Patterson

'Bad Liar' – Small town labels are hard to shake. Hometown hero, fallen angel. Can anyone every escape their past? A murder victim is dumped at the dead end of a lonely country road. The only leads go to the family of a hometown hero, Marc-suddenly gone missing-and a mother desperate to find her grown son, a recovering drug addict Robbie also missing for eight days. As Sheriff Detective Annie Broussard starts investigating the disappearance of both men it quickly becomes apparent that nothing is as it seems in the lives of either. A good read.

**'On The Hunt'** – (No. 1 in the Kira Drake series.) Kira Drake has come to Paris with her highly trained golden retriever, Mack, to investigate the horrific bombing of a museum in the shadow of the Eiffel Tower. What she doesn't know is that one powerful man has a special reason to find the person responsible. Jack Harlan has all the money in the world, but it can't bring his brother back. His sibling was murdered years ago during the theft of a scientific discovery that could have made the world a better place. Now after a four year search, he learns that the Paris bombing was the work of the same twisted man. Kira and her dog are in demand by law enforcement agencies all over the world but Harlan convinces her to continue the investigation for his own purposes, wherever it may lead on the globe. So, against her better judgment Kira finds herself on the hunt, placing her trust in Harlan.

'The President's Lawyer' – I really enjoyed this novel. A high-stakes legal thriller following a Washington, DC, litigator who is hired to defend his best friend, the former President of the United States against a murder charge. This is a thriller that will keep you guessing right to the end.

'The Bourne Shadow' - Like most spies, Jason Bourne lives in the shadows. But for Bourne, whose entire memory was stripped away by a bullet, those shadows hide dangerous secrets. When a desperate stranger in Zurich asks for help, she calls him by the name David Webb, which is the identity he left behind vears ago to become Jason Bourne. This woman tells him an incredible story concerning Bourne and her sister, of which he remembers none. But when the Swiss Bistro erupts in violence where their meeting was held, he finds himself on the run, chasing the ghosts of his very first Treadstone mission. A good read.

'The House of Cross' - Supreme Court candidates are being murdered and Alex Cross and John Sampson are handed the case. In Washington, DC, the president-elect is planning her inauguration. The list of Supreme Court candidates is highly confidential—until it becomes evidence in Detective Alex Cross's toughest investigation. One candidate is gunned down, a second is stabbed and a third is murdered on a city street. Cross is the FBI's top expert in criminal behaviour. For the sake of his family, his city, and his country, he must put himself in the most dangerous place there is: inside the mind of a diabolical killer. A very good read.

Well, the end of 2024 is nearing its conclusion and Christmas is just around the corner. I want to send a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all the library patrons that make our library the success story it is. May you have nothing but happiness in 2025.

To my staff thank you for being there and helping me so much especially this year, which wasn't my best due to health reasons.

And to my library board, I thank you for your understanding and your support as always but especially this year.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,

Claire

# Visit manitoulin.com to view more job opportunities!

## **Help Wanted!**



#### KINA Gbezhgomi Child and Family Services

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

## We are currently inviting applications for the following employment opportunities: Sudbury:

- Transitional Home Supervisor
- After Hours Youth Outreach Worker
- Child and Youth Worker
- Housing Support Worker
- (Full-Time and Casual)Team Assistant

#### **Sudbury or Manitoulin:**

- Case Aide
- After Hours Worker
- Youth Cultural Support Worker
- Volunteer Driver: Open Recruitment

#### Manitoulin Island:

- Child Well Being Worker (Full-Time and Contract)
- Education Support Worker
- Education Liaison
- Youth Outreach Coordinator
- Youth Connection Worker

#### \*All postings close December 20, 2024 at 4 pm EST\*

To apply, kindly send your application to our Human Resources department at **hr@kgcfs.org**, ensuring to specify the position title in the subject line. For comprehensive job descriptions and to access the postings, please visit our website at:

#### www.kgcfs.org/employment-opportunities

At KGCFS, we are steadfast in our dedication to fostering a work environment that is accessible to all, in accordance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act and the Ontario Human Rights Code. Should you require any accommodations during the recruitment process, please do not hesitate to request them. We sincerely appreciate your interest in joining the team; however, only candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.

As a condition of employment, the successful candidate will be required to provide the following documents: a Satisfactory Criminal Reference Check and/or Vulnerable Sector Check (dated within 3 months of the application date), Driver's Abstract and Proof of Liability Insurance.

Thank you for considering a career opportunity with us.



4 Robinson Street, Little Current, ON POP 1K0

We are seeking

## **Registered Dental Hygienists**

1 Permanent Full-Time Position1 Permanent Part-Time Position3 weeks paid vacationGenerous remuneration

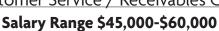
Please forward your resume to info@cassondentistry.com

Visit our website at: www.cassondentistry.com

## **Help Wanted!**



MUNICIPALITY OF CENTRAL MANITOULIN <u>EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY</u> <u>Customer Service / Receivables Clerk</u>



The Municipality of Central Manitoulin is seeking applicants for the position of Customer Service/Receivables Clerk.

Further information, including a job description, is available on our website at

www.centralmanitoulin.ca.

Resumes will be received until the position is filled.
Please hand in your resume at the office address below or email to Denise Deforge at **ddeforge@centralmanitoulin.ca**.

Denise Deforge CAO/Clerk Municipality of Central Manitoulin 6020 Highway 542 P.O. Box 420

Mindemoya, Ontario POP 1S0 ddeforge@centralmanitoulin.ca Phone: (705) 377-5726 Fax: (705) 377-5585

# M.S.S. Kids in the Halls



## Alexandra Wilson-Zegil

With only two weeks until the Winter Break, the holiday spirit is in full swing at MSS. The halls have been decorated with Christmas ornaments and posters. One of these posters is advertising the 12 Days of Christmas event, organized by the Student Council. Annually, different clubs in the school organize a fun activity to help students celebrate. The first event of the 12 Days of Christmas was a Christmas Kahoot, which brought students together for holiday trivia. The excitement doesn't stop there, as there are events lined up for every school day until the Winter Break. These activities are designed to keep the holiday cheer going until students break for Christmas.

Unfortunately, MSS had two snow days this week. On Wednesday, December 4 and Friday, December 6, heavy snowfall led to the cancellation of buses. As a result, Friday's planned event, which offered free hot chocolate to students, was also cancelled. While the snow days disrupted the schedule, they gave students and staff time to get caught up and relax.

In other upcoming festive events, Headstrong, the high school's mental health awareness group, is hosting a Christmas baking exchange on Friday, December 13.

This event invites students to share their homemade treats with each other, so that each participant goes home with a new platter of baked goods than they came in with.

Another highly anticipated event is the talent show, scheduled for December 18. Sign-ups are now open for students interested in showcasing their talents in singing, skits, poetry and more.

MSS has announced the installation of new skate sharpener equipment. Students and staff can now get their skate sharpened at school for five dollars per pair. The proceeds from this service will go towards supporting the athletics department.

The past weekend brought great news from members of the school's cross-country team. Several students competed in the Canadian National Cross-Country Championships. Newly graduated student, Brodie Pennie, ran an 8 km race in just 26 minutes, while Xavi Mara completed a 6 km race in 21 minutes and 42 seconds. Wyatt Williamson-Wright also participated in the 6 km race, finishing with a time of 22 minutes and 47 seconds.

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

## **Help Wanted!**





## Carpenter

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

Rainbow District School Board is now accepting applications for a **Carpenter.** 

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

Interested candidates should apply by **3pm Monday December 16**, **2024** and submit a cover letter, resume and names of three (3) references.

**David Farrow**Board Chair

**Bruce Bourget**Director of Education

rainbowschools.ca



210 boul Mead Blvc Espanola, ON P5E 1R5 Telephone/Téléphone: (705) 862-785C Fax/Télécopieur: (705) 862-7805 http://www.msdsb.net

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- Lived experience as an Indigenous student and person accessing post-secondary programs.
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- with all levels of school staff and students.
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## WHITEFISH RIVER FIRST NATION

## is seeking a dynamic and experienced HEALTH MANAGER 2nd Posting

Salary Range: \$75,120-\$89,700 (including group pension and health benefits)

\* Subject to education and experience or a combination of both

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

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

#### **KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:**

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

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

#### Relationships and Team Building

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

#### **Human Resources**

Provide guidance, direction and support to staff:

- Supervise, coach and direct staff.
- Monitor and address employee performance and conduct performance reviews.
- Coordinate staff professional development and address any training needs.

### Financial Management

To assist in the preparation and monitoring of the Health Unit Budget:

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

#### **Interagency Participation**

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

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

## Administration

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

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

#### **OUALIFICATIONS:**

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

## **KNOWLEDGE REQUIREMENTS**

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

## \*For a detailed job description, please email hrmanager@whitefishriver.ca Applications must be submitted by noon on December 16th, 2024

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

> Confidential: Health Manager Whitefish River First Nation c/o Human Resources 17-A Rainbow Ridge Road PO Box 188, Birch Island, ON POP 1A0

Email: applications@whitefishriver.ca • Fax: (705) 285-4532 Miigwetch to all who apply; however, only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

# Mindemoya Mice by Claire Cline

#### Claire's Picks

- 'Bad Liar' by Tami Hoag
- 'On The Hunt' by Iris Johansen
- 'The President's Lawyer' by Lawrence Robbins
- 'The Bourne Shadow' by Brian Freeman (Robert Ludlum)
- 'The House of Cross' by James Patterson

'Bad Liar' – Small town labels are hard to shake. Hometown hero, fallen angel. Can anyone every escape their past? A murder victim is dumped at the dead end of a lonely country road. The only leads go to the family of a hometown hero, Marc-suddenly gone missing-and a mother desperate to find her grown son, a recovering drug addict Robbie also missing for eight days. As Sheriff Detective Annie Broussard starts investigating the disappearance of both men it quickly becomes apparent that nothing is as it seems in the lives of either. A good read.

**'On The Hunt'** – (No. 1 in the Kira Drake series.) Kira Drake has come to Paris with her highly trained golden retriever, Mack, to investigate the horrific bombing of a museum in the shadow of the Eiffel Tower. What she doesn't know is that one powerful man has a special reason to find the person responsible. Jack Harlan has all the money in the world, but it can't bring his brother back. His sibling was murdered years ago during the theft of a scientific discovery that could have made the world a better place. Now after a four year search, he learns that the Paris bombing was the work of the same twisted man. Kira and her dog are in demand by law enforcement agencies all over the world but Harlan convinces her to continue the investigation for his own purposes, wherever it may lead on the globe. So, against her better judgment Kira finds herself on the hunt, placing her trust in Harlan.

'The President's Lawyer' – I really enjoyed this novel. A high-stakes legal thriller following a Washington, DC, litigator who is hired to defend his best friend, the former President of the United States against a murder charge. This is a thriller that will keep you guessing right to the end.

'The Bourne Shadow' - Like most spies, Jason Bourne lives in the shadows. But for Bourne, whose entire memory was stripped away by a bullet, those shadows hide dangerous secrets. When a desperate stranger in Zurich asks for help, she calls him by the name David Webb, which is the identity he left behind vears ago to become Jason Bourne. This woman tells him an incredible story concerning Bourne and her sister, of which he remembers none. But when the Swiss Bistro erupts in violence where their meeting was held, he finds himself on the run, chasing the ghosts of his very first Treadstone mission. A good read.

'The House of Cross' - Supreme Court candidates are being murdered and Alex Cross and John Sampson are handed the case. In Washington, DC, the president-elect is planning her inauguration. The list of Supreme Court candidates is highly confidential—until it becomes evidence in Detective Alex Cross's toughest investigation. One candidate is gunned down, a second is stabbed and a third is murdered on a city street. Cross is the FBI's top expert in criminal behaviour. For the sake of his family, his city, and his country, he must put himself in the most dangerous place there is: inside the mind of a diabolical killer. A very good read.

Well, the end of 2024 is nearing its conclusion and Christmas is just around the corner. I want to send a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all the library patrons that make our library the success story it is. May you have nothing but happiness in 2025.

To my staff thank you for being there and helping me so much especially this year, which wasn't my best due to health reasons.

And to my library board, I thank you for your understanding and your support as always but especially this year.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,

Claire

# Visit manitoulin.com to view more job opportunities!

## **Help Wanted!**



#### KINA Gbezhgomi Child and Family Services

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

## We are currently inviting applications for the following employment opportunities: Sudbury:

- Transitional Home Supervisor
- After Hours Youth Outreach Worker
- Child and Youth Worker
- Housing Support Worker
- (Full-Time and Casual)Team Assistant

#### **Sudbury or Manitoulin:**

- Case Aide
- After Hours Worker
- Youth Cultural Support Worker
- Volunteer Driver: Open Recruitment

#### Manitoulin Island:

- Child Well Being Worker (Full-Time and Contract)
- Education Support Worker
- Education Liaison
- Youth Outreach Coordinator
- Youth Connection Worker

#### \*All postings close December 20, 2024 at 4 pm EST\*

To apply, kindly send your application to our Human Resources department at **hr@kgcfs.org**, ensuring to specify the position title in the subject line. For comprehensive job descriptions and to access the postings, please visit our website at:

#### www.kgcfs.org/employment-opportunities

At KGCFS, we are steadfast in our dedication to fostering a work environment that is accessible to all, in accordance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act and the Ontario Human Rights Code. Should you require any accommodations during the recruitment process, please do not hesitate to request them. We sincerely appreciate your interest in joining the team; however, only candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.

As a condition of employment, the successful candidate will be required to provide the following documents: a Satisfactory Criminal Reference Check and/or Vulnerable Sector Check (dated within 3 months of the application date), Driver's Abstract and Proof of Liability Insurance.

Thank you for considering a career opportunity with us.



4 Robinson Street, Little Current, ON POP 1K0

We are seeking

## **Registered Dental Hygienists**

1 Permanent Full-Time Position1 Permanent Part-Time Position3 weeks paid vacationGenerous remuneration

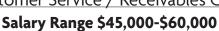
Please forward your resume to info@cassondentistry.com

Visit our website at: www.cassondentistry.com

## **Help Wanted!**



MUNICIPALITY OF CENTRAL MANITOULIN <u>EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY</u> <u>Customer Service / Receivables Clerk</u>



The Municipality of Central Manitoulin is seeking applicants for the position of Customer Service/Receivables Clerk.

Further information, including a job description, is available on our website at

www.centralmanitoulin.ca.

Resumes will be received until the position is filled.
Please hand in your resume at the office address below or email to Denise Deforge at **ddeforge@centralmanitoulin.ca**.

Denise Deforge CAO/Clerk Municipality of Central Manitoulin 6020 Highway 542 P.O. Box 420

Mindemoya, Ontario POP 1S0 ddeforge@centralmanitoulin.ca Phone: (705) 377-5726 Fax: (705) 377-5585