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See story on Page 3

# The MANITOULIN EXPOSITOR



Vol. 141, No. 17 \$1.43 + GST

Little Current, Ontario

Wednesday, September 9, 2020

## Little Current fish and gamers build salmon, rainbow trout spawning pool at Bass Creek

by Warren Schlote  
SHEGUIANDAH—Manitoulin Streams Improvement Association, in partnership with the Little Current Fish and Game Club (LCFGC) and government funders, has completed another project on Sheguiandah's Bass Lake Creek to enhance the spawning habitat for salmonids.

"It felt really good to get this done. There's always little challenges, like water coming down that you have to divert to do work on the stream bed, but the crews did a great job and it didn't take very long," said Seija Deschenes, project co-ordinator at Manitoulin Streams.

Workers created a spawning pool for salmonids (which include salmon and trout species) as they move up Bass Lake Creek from Sheguiandah Bay on Lake Huron, upstream of the fish ladder. These fishes move inland to spawn and these improvements will support future generations of the fishery.

LCFGC president Bill Strain told The Expositor that he first suggested the project three years ago. Since then, engineers have completed site designs, the non-profit has raised funds to complete the work and arranged for contractors to redevelop the site.

"It feels great to see this done. This is our fifth project on the riv-

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Part of the work in the Bass Lake Creek project involved digging a hole that was later covered by a thick layer of spawning gravel.



Wikwemikong High School principal Maureen Peltier and 2020 graduate Evanson Peltier-Pitawanakwat epitomize the atmosphere at the outdoor graduation event held at Thunderbird Park. Students, staff and families gathered to celebrate the moment after a months-long COVID-19 delay. See story and pictures on Page 5.

photo by Michael Erskine

## Lakeview students back Sept. 21

M'CHIGEENG—Last Thursday night, M'Chigeeng chief and council approved Lakeview School's return to school plan and policies.

"We have shifted the start date of school for the children to September 21 and ending June 30, 2021," Ogimaa-kwe Linda Debassige told The Expositor. "In

the next two weeks, we are supporting our educators with training and setting up their respective classrooms to be safe and ready for when children return."

The ogimaa-kwe noted that the school is still awaiting enrollment numbers as to how many students will be attending school in person or virtually.

## Sandhill cranes' impact on farming; farmers hope for a legal hunt

by Michael Erskine

WATERLOO—Farmers have been lobbying for a solution to the growing problem of Sandhill crane depredations on their grain crops. The large migratory birds currently enjoy protected status in Ontario after their numbers were severely depleted. Known as the 'ribeye of the sky,' the creatures were a very popular game bird before their precipitous decline in the mid-20th century.

Since Sandhill cranes became protected their numbers have rebounded significantly and Island farmers have joined the call for a renewed hunting season. A study seeking to establish the interactions between the cranes and agriculture is looking to obtain access to Island farm fields in order to gather data.

The Canadian Wildlife Service (part of Environment and Climate Change Canada) and the University of Waterloo will be conducting year two of its study on Sandhill cranes and how their movements relate to agricultural land uses. According to the study proponents, information from the study will be vital to understanding the nature of conflicts between Sandhill cranes and agricultural producers and how those conflicts can be mitigated.

This year, study crews will be working the fields between Sturgeon Falls and Sault Ste Marie, along the Highway 17 corridor, including a survey on Manitoulin Island. A rough schedule calls for the Azilda area to be studied between September 9-16; St. Joseph's Island, Echo Bay and Bruce Mines between September 17-24; Manitoulin Island between September 25-October 2; and West Nipissing between October 3-8.

Study researchers will be looking to access agricultural fields where cranes are actively feeding or at rest throughout the day. Crews will be capturing cranes using a rocket-propelled net, attaching transmitters to the birds, then releasing them.

Farmers interested in providing access to their fields for this important study can contact Manitoulin's acting agricultural development officer, Julie Poirier Mensinga, at julie.poiriermensinga@ontario.ca. Registrants are asked to provide their name, physical address of their home farm and an approximate number of cranes using their fields.

## Tehkummah assumes cost on Bowerman Trails in SBM

by Warren Schlote

SOUTH BAYMOUTH—The Township of Tehkummah has agreed to take out a liability insurance policy for Dick Bowerman's trail system on the unopened road allowances of South Baymouth, though a long-term maintenance effort on the wooden structures is required to keep them viable into the future.

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Eunice and Dick Bowerman stand atop one of the structures Dick built by hand on the Bowerman Trails. He is seeking support with the upkeep of the system.

photo by Warren Schlote

## TIFF featuring Autumn Peltier documentary

by Warren Schlote

TORONTO—Wiikwemkoong water walker Autumn Peltier is hitting the virtual silver screen on September 14 at the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) in 'The Water Walker,' a short documentary film about her advocacy work for safe, clean drinking water in Canada and across the world.

"It's almost a bit of an overwhelming feeling," Autumn told The Expositor, adding that she will be taking part in a virtual question-and-answer session after the free 6 pm screening at TIFF.net.

"I believe this TIFF launch is going to be huge for Autumn and her story, and for Indigenous people and our quest to let people



Water advocate Autumn Peltier is the focus of the short documentary 'The Water Walker.'

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# RDSB mandates non-medical masks for students during pandemic

by Tom Sasvari

SUDBURY—Rainbow District School Board (RDSB) has made it mandatory for all students in Grades 1-12 to wear non-medical or cloth masks at school, while Kindergarten students can wear non-medical masks or face shields when school begins next week.

At an RDSB meeting Tuesday, the board considered a motion that had been deferred at its August meeting, that all students (K-12) wear masks at school.

"This motion was deferred at our last board meeting, to allow us to seek additional information," said board trustee Margaret Stringer. "Health units and health officials in the province have determined that anyone aged two and up—customers, clients, visitors—have to wear masks in pub-

lic buildings and public spaces, with exceptions. And there have been a number of school boards that have passed motions requiring all students to wear masks in schools and many have been supported by their local health unit."

Ms. Stringer listed off numerous school boards, several being of the same general size



All students in Rainbow schools from Grades 1-12 will have to wear face coverings during COVID-19.

Shutterstock

as the RDSB in terms of schools and students, that have passed similar resolutions.

"I believe that for many parents the issue of mask wearing is the biggest consideration they have taken as to whether their children attend school in person or continue distance learning," said Ms. Stringer. She said children, along with adults, have

been required to wear masks in public. And she pointed out of all students, kindergarten students would have the most difficulty in physically distancing from other students because they might not have a full understanding of why they need to do so.

"There is no sense in having rules for everyone, having to wear masks in public buildings and places, and then having one group of students in schools not having to wear masks in classes that may have between 20-25 students," said Ms. Stringer.

"I would like to propose an amendment be made to the motion, that with reasonable exceptions (such as a doctor's recommendation that a student not wear a mask), students in Grades 1-12 wear masks and

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# Hare says education is best way to mark 25th Ipperwash anniversary

ANISHINABEK NATION—Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Chief Glen Hare says the best way to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the shooting death of Anthony "Dudley" George at Ipperwash by an Ontario Provincial Police sniper is through continued public education.

"On September 6, 1995, we lost a warrior. His fight was to protect the land of his people of Ipperwash. This loss is another example of systemic racism that we continue to fight today; working with our people who are dealing with years of treaty rights infringement, inherent rights not acknowledged and unsettled land claims," states Grand Council Chief Hare.

Since the unarmed protestor's death on September 6, 1995, there has been a public inquiry and some 100 recommendations from the report of the Ipperwash Inquiry that was released by Justice Sidney Linden on May 31, 2007. The Anishinabek

News online featured a summer series comprised of 16 articles that examined themes such as history, policing, heritage and burials, public education and treaties. All of the articles are intended to reflect on what happened and what is happening today.



Glen Hare

"From the report of the Ipperwash Inquiry, it was found that there is a lack of recognition and respect of inherent, aboriginal and treaty rights and how these exhaustive issues together pose a barrier to maintaining healthy relationships between Anishinabek First Nations, government,

and police services," says Grand Council Chief Hare. "Frequently, Anishinabek people who exercise their treaty and aboriginal and inherent rights find themselves under the scrutiny of not only police services, but by a public ignorant to the history of First Nations people and colonialism who have not received or soug-

education on First Nation treaty and aboriginal rights. A way to counter ignorance and to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the shooting death of Dudley George and the legacy of his brother Sam is through continued public education efforts."

Efforts put forth by the Anishinabek Nation for public

education include lobbying and participating in the inquiry, commemorative events, news releases, books, teacher's kits, Treaties Recognition Week events and participating in the bi-lateral table relationship with Ontario. Next spring will see a full launch of treaty education web-based resources.

# Time to start decorating for Harvest Glory Days

MANITOULIN—Friday, October 2 is coming: do you know where your pumpkins, corn stalks, scarecrows and hay bales are?

You'll need to know where you can find them so you can decorate the outside of your home, business, church or community hall in time for the Friday, October 2 deadline to enter your proud handiwork in the 2020 edition of Harvest Glory Days.

Harvest Glory Days (this year is the eighth annual event) is both a call to decorate in the fall/harvest theme and, at the same time, it is a friendly competition among Man-



It's that time of year again. Get your harvest-themed decorations ready, like this Gore Bay entry from last year.

itoulin Island towns, hamlets and First Nations, to see which ones boast the most individual decorat-

ing efforts and so qualify them as 'Harvest Glory Days Award Winning Communities' that testify to the community spirit of the citizens of these champion towns, First Nations, hamlets or villages.

Communities that have won the right to be judged 'best decorated' in the Harvest Glory theme are rewarded by The Manitoulin Expositor, sponsor of Harvest Glory Days, with a large metal sign, suitable for roadside posting, that testifies to the community spirit of this particular place.

Last year, Gore Bay was a first-

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# OCNA's This Old Newspaper recycled newsprint contest now taking submissions until October 31

## Paper art submissions on display at Turners Art Gallery

LITTLE CURRENT—The deadline for the provincial 'This Old Newspaper' contest has been extended until Halloween and Manitoulin's two oldest businesses, The Expositor and Turners of Little Current, have teamed up to showcase the ingenious works of Manitoulin Islanders.

So far, The Expositor has received three submissions—a 1920s flapper-style dress and headband from Diana Parrill of Sheguiandah, a woven purse free from any materials other than newsprint from Jessey Mandoshkin of Aundeck Omni Kanning First Nation and an eight-foot long swing bridge replica atop a

globe, all made from recycled Expositors, by Gord Sople of Mindemoya.

At the Manitoulin West

Recorder in Gore Bay, Tom Sasvari has received a set of candy dishes from Mona Lewis, crafted

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# Lorne Agawa has worked at the Wiiky dollar store since day one

When the shelves and merchandise were first being installed in Wiikwemkoong's Your Dollar Store With More Lorne Agawa was there. "I've been here right from the very beginning," he said, adding that there is a lot about his job that he loves.



Lorne Agawa

If he isn't helping folks find what they need at the store, Mr. Agawa is likely to be found out fishing or hanging with his family back home.

"I usually take my kids out onto the land," he said. Although he hesitates to label what he does "land-based teachings," much of what he describes would fit in that label quite comfortably.

"Goose hunting, fishing, learning to live off the land."

With the advent of the pandemic, Mr. Agawa admits it's a challenge, but there are also some silver linings to be mined from the experience as well. "I try to get my kids off the internet," he said. "With hunting season coming up, my son is looking forward to moose camp."

Mr. Agawa said that he does a lot of work in the outdoors. "I do a lot with Luke (Wassegijig of Wasse-Giizhik Tours and Accommodations in Wiikwemkoong) and having a job that is flexible is great," he said. "If I don't have to come in until 1 pm, I can go fishing in the morning, take people out on the water."

In a normal year, Mr. Agawa takes members of the community shore fishing, although that has been curbed by the pandemic restrictions.

"I take people shoreline fishing, sometimes Ontario Works, and show them what they need to know to be able to go fishing," said Mr. Agawa. "It's about sustenance and promoting a healthy lifestyle. "There are a lot of people around who have issues with alcohol," he said. "This gives them something positive to do."

Mr. Agawa knows that path. "I will be 14 years this September 10," he said. "It's a much better way to live."

Your Dollar Store With More is chock full of inexpensive and handy items, the perfect place to source party favours, decorations and small toys and back to school items. The Expositor grabbed a new fast charge cord for a cellphone at a very reasonable price.

Remember that when you shop locally, you're supporting friends and neighbours like Lorne Agawa at Your Dollar Store With More.



## Open for passengers

ABOVE: United Manitoulin Islands Transit (UMIT) board members, executives and guest musicians gathered for an open house at the AJ Bus Lines garage in Little Current on Friday, September 4 to introduce the public to the Island's transit service. From left are board member Rose Shawanda, Michel Bertrand and Guy Dumas of March of Dimes Canada, executive director Joahna Berti and guest musicians Marsha Coffey, Sunny O and Brian Fox.

INSET LEFT: Guests enjoyed custom bus stop cookies at the event.

photos by Warren Schlote



# Keith Hopkin creates S.S. Caribou model to cure COVID blues

by Keith Hopkin

SCARBOROUGH—COVID-19 began spreading across Canada around March 2020 or earlier. Hundreds of thousands of people lost their jobs as businesses closed down. The Canadian government asked its citizens to stay at home, stay six feet apart and wear masks to prevent the spread of the virus. So, day after day, Ann and I stayed at home with not much to do except watch TV and do odd jobs around the house. Boredom was setting in and the wife and I were getting on each other's nerves.

So on June 29, I got this idea of constructing a model steamship to pass the time away and do something worthwhile as I sat at home. In the past I built a few model ships so building models was not entirely new to me.

Due to my fondness for the Manitoulin Island and the early steamships that came to the many ports around the Island, I decided to build the steamship named the Caribou. The Caribou was launched from her home port of Owen Sound in July 1904. The S.S. Caribou was a wooden hull ferry, 185 ft. long, 33 feet wide, 5,997 tons and carried a crew of 24. The Caribou serviced the "turkey trail" once a week from Owen Sound to Michipicoten and Pukaskwa. The ship's meandering route carried Algoma Pioneers and all their worldly belongings to the many ports scattered along Georgian Bay, Manitoulin Island, the North Channel, Sault Ste. Marie, and up to Gargantua Harbour, Michipicoten, Michipicoten Island and as far as Pukaskwa Depot.

As one of the only means of transporting freight and goods to the majority of these tiny settlements along the shoreline, the S.S. Caribou and her sister ship, the S.S. Manitou, also conveyed tourists, food, poultry, cattle, horses, vehicles and barrels of fish for the Dominion and Booth fishing companies. Built to accommodate 40 passengers, the Caribou frequently carried up to 100 from Sault Ste. Marie to the booming mining camps of Michipicoten and Wawa.

The advent of affordable cars and the spread of paved highways further into northern Algoma meant the end of the more dramatic, but less efficient, water route. In 1947 the S.S. Caribou was purchased by M.J. Dacey and beached near Bell's Point, east of Sault Ste. Marie, with dreams of becoming a possible dining and tourist operation. But instead the hull rotted and the ship was dismantled.

The S.S. Caribou had faithfully served the people of the Manitoulin Island and along the North Shore for over 42 years.

Steamship models like the Caribou cannot be bought commercially. If I wanted to have model ships on my layout, I would have to build them myself. I chose HO (railroad model) scale (1/87th size) for my models since I have an HO scale CPR-themed model railway and my model would have to be to the same scale as my layout to look right.

Since the model of the Caribou must have a flat bottom to be able to sit on my flat harbour, I had to build what they call a "water line" model. In other words, the model would have to have a flat bottom.

Since there are no drawings available (that I know of) for reference to build my model, I provided my son Jeremy with a straight on horizontal photo of the Caribou (courtesy of Buck Longhurst) and he took this photo and with his computer skills he made it to HO scale and with the result the model is 20 inches long. I printed off this photo and used it as my template to construct my model. The photocopies of this HO-adjusted photo are my blueprints to construct almost every detail of the ship.

The main bottom portion of the hull is made from a pine board that is sawed, sanded and shaped to the desired size. The top portion of the hull, the walls of the cabins, the floor and the roof are all made of various thicknesses of cardboard that have scale 1" x 6" stripwood glued to the cardboard sides. Each window opening is cut to size with an Exacto blade and sanded to the correct shape. The lifeboats are sawed, cut and sanded from blocks of pine to the desired shape. The brass portholes, the anchor and the brass railings on the main deck, upper deck and the wheelhouse roof are bought commercially from Cast Your Anchor. The smokestack, stack wires, whistle, steam pipe, lifeboat davits, flagpoles and other brass piping and wires are bought from hobby stores and made into various objects. The two tall masts are made from 3mm dowels. I used various acrylic paint colours to paint my model with. My son Jeremy produced the Caribou lettering that you see on my model including the Canadian flags on the bow and stern.

I have about 14 photos in my possession of the Caribou taken over the 42-year period that she sailed on the Great Lakes. I chose to paint my model in the colours after the merger of the Owen Sound Transportation Company and the Dominion Transportation Company with a black hull up to the freight rail, upper works white with fancy name boards and the stack buff, then a narrow band of blue and a black smoke band on top. My model closely represents that period with a bit of modeler's licence thrown in.

*Keith Hopkin, originally from Spring Bay, has had a decades-long passion for all things railway and North Channel steamship and has created several model ships based on those vessels that would have plied Island waters over the years.*



This Marine Rail Museum photo shows the Caribou's starboard side.



Keith Hopkin recently built an HO-scale model of the S.S. Caribou, a ship that served many ports on Manitoulin Island on its route between Georgian Bay and Pukaskwa Depot. In inset photo, top right, is a side view detail shot of the model.

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# The MANITOULIN EXPOSITOR



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Little Current, Ontario

Wednesday, September 16, 2020

## Gt. Lakes/Georgian Bay Foundation blames IJC for high water

### Claims fisheries will suffer from inaction at controls at St. Clair River's outflow

by Michael Erskine

MIDLAND—There is no mistaking the frustration in the voice of Georgian Bay Great Lakes Foundation (GBGLF) chair Mary Muter as she discusses the latest challenges in dealing with the International Joint Commission (IJC), the agency that oversees the joint waters of the US and Canada.

"We've had enough," said Ms. Muter, pointing out that the range of water levels inflicted on the Great Lakes ranges from six to seven feet. "Wetlands thrive when that range is between five and five-and-a-half feet. We lost huge wetlands habitats because now those wetlands are flooded."

While the wide range in water levels may bedevil shoreline communities, for small fish they are a matter of life and death. "The little fish are getting eaten," she said. "They have nowhere to hide. This will have a huge impact on the fishery in the Great Lakes."

The GBGLF alleges that the current high water situation

afflicting the Great Lakes, and particularly Lake Huron/ Michigan, is directly linked to the mishandling of the outflow rate from Lake Superior into Lake Huron at Sault Ste. Marie and that agency's ongoing foot dragging in dealing with the flows through diversions out of the Great Lakes.

Ms. Muter noted that the IJC has boasted of substantially increasing the outflow from Lake Superior, while at the same time refusing to even measure the outflow through the St. Clair River, let alone take action to mitigate and manage those flows.

Ms. Muter notes that the combined impact from this past year's increased outflow from Lake Superior into Lake Huron and the outflow through the St. Clair River and Chicago diversion have resulted in water levels on Lake Huron being eight inches higher this year than they need to be.

That estimate comes from studies utilizing the IJC's own data and conducted by a highly quali-

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Participants in the Anthony Mandamin march pass the Wikwemikong Tribal Police Service station in Wikwemkoong. The marchers hope to find answers and bring closure to the family of Anthony 'Antz' Mandamin who have waited 14 years for resolution in the years-long cold case.

photo by Warren Schlote

## Many Wiiky citizens turn out to march for answers to Antz Mandamin's death

### \$50,000 reward still stands for answers to 14-year-old mystery

by Warren Schlote

WIKWEMKOONG—The family and friends of the late Anthony 'Antz' Mandamin gathered for a memorial march through Wikwemkoong September 5, adopting

a new tone this year to encourage a resolution to the 14-year cold case surrounding his death.

"Chi miigwetch for being here. This is the area where Anthony had his last few breaths but ... we

need to put the pieces together to find out what went on," said Hazel Fox-Recollet, a relative through Mr. Mandamin's dad's side of the family.

Ms. Fox-Recollet spoke those words when the march reached a small roadside memorial along Kaboni Road, southeast of the town of Wikwemkoong. Close to 100 people took part in at least some of the day's events.

There, elders offered a prayer and smudge and Nimkii Osawamick and Matthew Stevenson drummed an honour song.

Mr. Mandamin died at age 25, 14 years ago. Police say a driver hit him around 6 am on September 16, 2006, as he was walking home from a house party along the roadside.

However, some family members suspect that the death may not have been a simple hit-and-run. Mr. Mandamin's brother died in 1999 and while the official narrative is that he fell from a cliff, the family believes someone may have pushed him. They fear suspicious circumstances may be at play in Mr. Mandamin's case, too.

Ms. Fox-Recollet said it was ...continued on page 12

## Craft founders in Mudge Bay; well-prepared boaters rescued

by Warren Schlote

MUDGE BAY—A family is fortunate that they had taken appropriate safety precautions after their boat began taking on water in the North Channel and they successfully made it to shore after calling for help.

At 4:40 pm on Saturday, September 12, OPP Sergeant Mike Patterson, who was off duty at the time, received a call from his neighbour John McKeen to state that his son-in-law and granddaughter were

out in a boat on the North Channel. The engine was not working and the boat was starting to sink.

Near the JD4 buoy, the boat appeared to have hit a shoal and began slowly taking on water. The boaters called 9-1-1 and Mr. McKee to tell them they were in trouble.

Police near Little Current were busy with a separate call of a boat in distress near Low Island and could not immediately respond.

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## Tobermory entrepreneur seeks partners in MS Norgoma rescue

by Michael Erskine

EAST HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT—The fate of the Norisle sister ship Norgoma rests in the hands of the Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula

(MNB) council and staff, as plans to move the historic vessel from its temporary berth in the Purvis shipyard at Sault Ste. Marie hinge upon finding an agreement to allow the ship to secure a new home in Tobermory.

Mike Goman, a real estate professional with 40 years of experience and lifelong links to both Tobermory and Manitoulin, delivered a presentation to the MNB council on behalf of Real Estate Investors Inc. (TREII). TREII has negotiated an agreement with the City of Sault Ste. Marie to acquire the Norgoma conditional on securing a berth for the vessel in Tobermory—otherwise the future looks grim as the historic ferry could be sold for scrap.

The Expositor caught up with ...continued on page 13

## Group sports, other activities in holding patterns

by Warren Schlote

MANITOULIN—Island recreational programmers are planning their winter offerings as the cooler weather creeps closer, with some having already decided whether or not to run and others seeking registration estimates to identify whether to attempt a season or not.

"I'm unable to dance in my old locations and I haven't wrapped my head around yet if it's safe to even do so," said Maja Mielonen, who teaches youth ballet classes at her business, Classic School of Dance.

Ms. Mielonen normally conducts her classes in the upstairs of the Little Current-Howland Recreation Centre, which currently serves as Manitoulin's COVID-19 field hospital.

Her winter-spring season this past year faced an untimely end during the March shutdowns.

"We were unable to do our big performance in the spring, which was sad because they're huge productions and loved Island-wide. It would have been our 25th so we missed a milestone there—that hurt a bit," she said.

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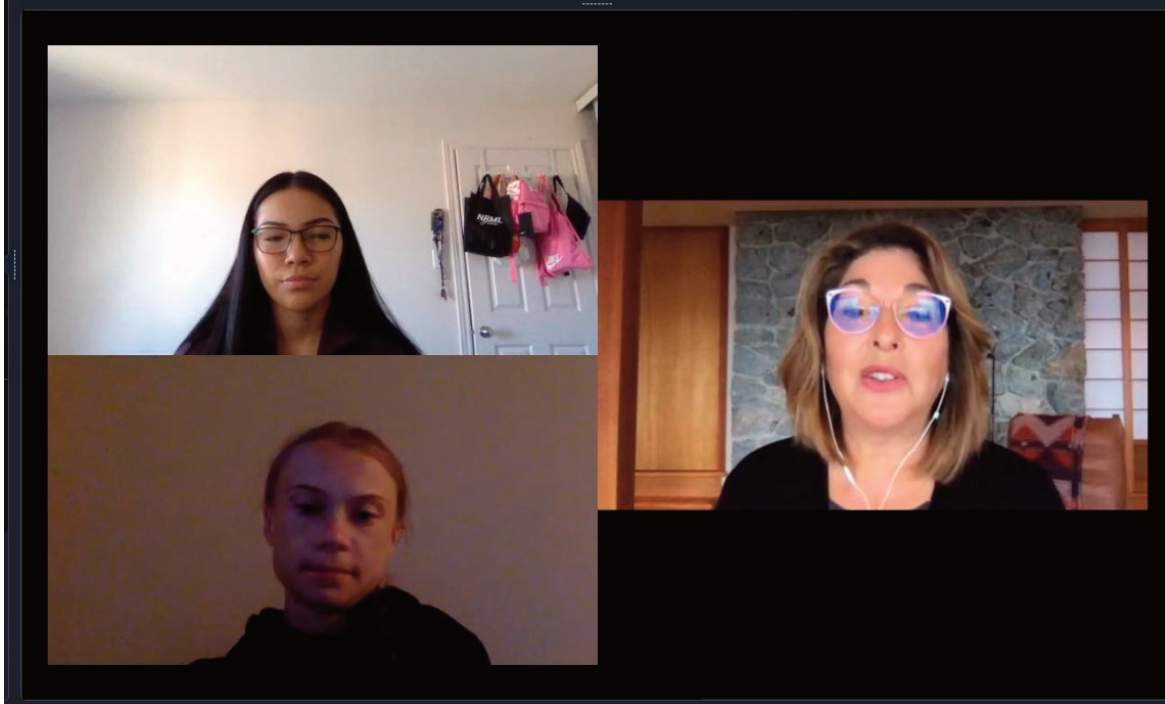
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tiff | Bell Digital Talks



Swedish teenage climate activist Greta Thunberg, bottom left, and Wiikwemkoong water walker Autumn Peltier, top left, took part in an online discussion panel moderated by best-selling author Naomi Klein following the presentation of two documentaries at the Toronto International Film Festival.

photo by Michael Erskine

## Autumn Peltier and Greta Thunberg share virtual podium in TIFF forum

by Michael Erskine

TORONTO—The Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) faced serious challenges this year as it adapted to an online format during the pandemic. Two complementary documentaries about youth activists, Sweden's Greta Thunberg (Nathan Grossman's 'I am Greta') and Wiikwemkoong's Autumn

Peltier (James Burns' 'The Water Walker'), were shown at the festival this year and were followed up with a question and answer panel 'Youth for Change: A Conversation with Autumn Peltier and Greta Thunberg' moderated by bestselling author Naomi Klein.

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## Island person tests COVID-positive

### 100th case for Health Sudbury and Districts

MANITOULIN—On Wednesday, September 16, Public Health Sudbury and Districts (PHSD) confirmed a COVID-19 case on Manitoulin Island, the 100th case in its service area. The patient received their positive test on September 14 from a test performed in an Island assessment centre. This is Manitoulin's fifth case of COVID-19 since the pandemic's start.

PHSD has deemed the case as travel-related and the patient is currently self-isolating with contact tracing underway. PHSD will notify all close contacts directly. If you are not contacted by PHSD, you are not considered at risk.

Lynn Foster, CEO of Manitoulin Health Centre, stated in a press release issued September 16, "The management and staff of the Little Current and Minde-

moya locations of the Manitoulin Health Centre wish to remind the public to remain calm. We must continue to follow and encourage others to follow public health

guidance."

These measures include: washing your hands often and when visibly dirty for 15 seconds; cover-

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## Manitoulin boasts rare monarch roost

### Entomologist tracks butterflies to south shore staging spot

by Joe D. Shorthouse

MANITOULIN—Studying monarch butterflies on Manitoulin Island has been a passion for my wife Marilyn and I for the past 15 years. We use our trailer at a campground near Sheguiandah as a base from which we drive about the Island searching for monarch caterpillars



This south shore monarch was tagged while nectaring September 7.

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## Manitoulin Lodge likely to lose 17 beds as province mandates end to multi-bed wards

### Additional burden of care will be borne by Island's hospital sector

by Michael Erskine

GORE BAY—The COVID-19 pandemic is impacting many lives across the globe and the ripple effects of the efforts to combat the spread of the virus are having unforeseen consequences. One of those consequences is the loss of as many as 17 beds at the Manitoulin Lodge long-term care facility in Gore Bay.

The Lodge is the only nursing home on Manitoulin that still has a ward system for some of its residents and new regulations out of the province mean that ward rooms will no longer be allowed. The Lodge is not the only home facing this situation. Max Stern, a public relations consultant for the Ontario Long-term Care Association noted that the association had run its own simulation on the numbers across the province

should such a policy be implemented immediately.

"We do have information I can share on the reduction of beds across the province without three and four bedroom wards," said Mr. Stern. "It is approximately 4,000."

The beds at the Lodge will be phased out through attrition, but the strain that the loss of beds could place on the long-term care situation on Manitoulin could be severe. The impact will be felt much further, however, as the ripples stretch out to Manitoulin Health Centre (MHC).

"We have heard that directly related to COVID, the province will be closing three and four bed wards," said Paula Fields, vice president of clinical services at the MHC. "The hospital is defi-

...continued on page 8

## Manitoulin Transport, Gore Bay face down ransomware demands

by Warren Schlote

MANITOULIN—The threat of computer ransomware attacks continues to be present across the globe, including on Manitoulin Island, where trucking juggernaut Manitoulin Transport has recently faced such an attack and other groups are preparing to avoid them in the first place.

"It happens to more companies than we know. You don't think you're going to get hit, and then you do," said Jeff King, president of Manitoulin Transport.

Ransomware is a type of malware (tech-speak for any software that seeks to damage or disrupt a computer system) in which the attackers lock down a user's computer and demand payment in exchange for opening it up again.

Authorities strongly discourage paying the ransom, both because it can encourage hackers and because there is no guarantee of recovering stolen data.

If an attacker has locked down a computer without stealing copies of its data, a user can wipe their hard drive and start over, losing all of their files in the process. If that user has made regular backups of their data, they can safely restore all of their information.

If hackers have stolen data and threaten to leak it online, the dilemma becomes more complex. This is more common in institutions and is what happened to the Gore Bay trucking company.

Manitoulin Transport was relatively fortunate in this case. Attackers breached their system on July 30 and when the company

...continued on page 10

**JUDGING TAKES PLACE  
OCTOBER 3 & 4**

**GET READY TO HELP PUT YOUR  
COMMUNITY IN THE RUNNING FOR**



**HARVEST  
GLORY DAYS  
2020**

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- 2. **EMAIL** YOUR INFO TO [expositor@manitoulin.com](mailto:expositor@manitoulin.com)
- 3. **FILL OUT THE FORM** BELOW AND BRING IT INTO THE MANITOULIN EXPOSITOR OFFICE (1 MANITOWANING ROAD, LITTLE CURRENT)

**DEADLINE FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2 AT 5 PM**

Judging will take place Saturday, October 3 and Sunday, October 4 with winning communities announced in the October 7 edition of The Manitoulin Expositor and online on [manitoulin.com](http://manitoulin.com) together with photos and a list of registered decorators to encourage people to come and admire your handiwork.

*Harvest Glory Days is sponsored by The Manitoulin Expositor*

For any further information, please contact The Expositor Office by email at [expositor@manitoulin.com](mailto:expositor@manitoulin.com) or call 705-368-2744. This event is organized as a public service by The Manitoulin Expositor.

**YES!** I will be decorating our (please check as applicable):

Business or Organization (please give name): \_\_\_\_\_

Home     Church     Community Hall     Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

at (address): \_\_\_\_\_

in the community of: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to The Expositor Office by mail, fax or email (via the website version of this form) See above.

# Harvest Glory Days countdown!



Is your address on the list? Will your community win?  
See Page 16 for how to register by 5 pm this Friday, October 2

# The MANITOULIN EXPOSITOR



FISHING • YACHTING • CAMPING • HUNTING

"Published Weekly On the Largest Freshwater Island In The World"

Vol. 141, No. 20 \$1.43 + GST

Little Current, Ontario

Wednesday, September 30, 2020

## Island bogs important defences to ravages of climate change

*Bogs' peat moss a natural sink for carbon storage*

by Lori Thompson,

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter  
LITTLE CURRENT—The 382 acre Bidwell bog nature preserve and hiking trail certainly doesn't attract the attention of its nearby neighbour, the Cup and Saucer, but this unassuming piece of land is a star in its own right. The property is a diverse mix of forest, rare savannah landscape and peat bog. Escarpment Biosphere Conservancy (EBC), which owns the preserve, calls it a "rare ecological community at this latitude."

The Bidwell bog contains rare plant species including swamp pink, rare cotton grasses and flowered sedge. Orchids can be seen in season. There's another reason to celebrate the bog: peatlands are natural carbon stores, contributing to climate regulation and a healthy biodiversity.

While the Bidwell bog itself is not particularly large (likely a small southern remnant of Canada's vast northern muskegs), the more than three million square kilometres of global peatlands represent almost three percent of the earth's land surface and contain greater than 550 gigatonnes of carbon, which represents more than 42 percent of all soil carbon and exceeds the carbon stored in all other vegetation types, including forests. This occurs as large amounts of carbon are fixed from the atmosphere into plant tissues through the process of photosynthesis; the carbon is locked away in the peat soils.

Peat is made up of sphagnum and other mosses. These hold a large amount of water and contain compounds that inhibit decomposition. Peat builds up slowly over centuries and is mostly found in northern latitudes. Because it accumulates carbon

...continued on page 12



The Bidwell bog, located on its namesake road, is owned by Escarpment Biosphere Conservancy and is a perfect specimen of a healthy bog, which does its part to mitigate climate change effects.

photo by Lori Thompson, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

## MSS, Wiky High School, public schools cancel all intra-school sports activities

by Warren Schlote

M'CHIGEENG—Pandemic restrictions have led Manitoulin Secondary School (MSS) and Wikwemikong High School (WHS) to cancel their entire fall athletics seasons for extracurricular events, unless the public abides by health policies to stop the emerging second wave of COVID-19 enough to allow a reduced season to proceed in the coming months.

"It's looking very bleak, which is unfortunate. At this point, for us, we will not be having any fall teams," said Jordan Smith, program leader for sports and physical education at MSS.

At the start of the school year, MSS athletics organizers had been trying to run a stripped-down schedule of golf, volleyball and cross-country running.

Then, schools in Algoma District scrapped all sports this fall. Although those schools are beyond Rainbow District School Board boundaries, they competed with Island and Espanola secondary schools given their close proximity on the North Shore.

Rainbow board policies are based upon provincial directives that prescribe best practices to ensure the highest chances of keeping school communities healthy.

Hockey spans across both semesters and is considered neither a fall nor a winter sport, though the organization process begins around Halloween.

"Unfortunately, at this point, there won't be a hockey team. A lot of that comes down to the fact that we would be travelling to Sudbury all the time and we're not even allowed to do field trips," said Mr.

...continued on page 6

See also:  
**Elementary schools cancel external sports events**  
on Page 6

## COVID-19 limits MFR outreach as demands grow; agency seeks \$900K renovations grant

by Alicia McCutcheon

MINDEMOYA—Manitoulin Family Resources (MFR) and its many divisions (the violence against women (VAW) shelter Haven House, the food bank and the thrift store) have all seen a great deal of changes during the COVID-19 pandemic, and not in their favour. But MFR, serving Manitoulin and area since 1984, is hoping that government funding being offered through the Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board (DSB) could help.

Marnie Hall, MFR executive director explained to The Expositor that when Haven House was first built in 1984, it was created for a capacity of 10 women and children. With new physical distancing rules in place that must be adhered to because of the COVID-19 pandemic, that original template no longer works and shelter capacity has been reduced. Ms. Hall admitted that trying to secure safe quarters to extend shelter space has been difficult both in terms of ensuring the safety of a woman or family in off-site premises but this also is sometimes difficult in terms of having to compete with seasonal tourists for rooms in the hospitality sector, which are a hot commodity during the summer months and which are also often the first choice for MFR when alternative shelter is sought out.

"This is definitely a priority for us," Ms. Hall said regarding shelter beds.

...continued on page 12

## Central council plans to consult rink users on its decision to only open Prov Bay arena

by Michael Erskine

CENTRAL MANITOULIN—A delegation from the Mindemoya Thunder hockey team slammed Central Manitoulin council for making the decision to not open the J.H Burt Memorial Arena in Mindemoya for the 2020-2021 season without first consulting the user groups that would be impacted. The town was set to decide to only open the Providence Bay War Memorial Community Arena.

Mindemoya Thunder President Brian Phelps said the issue was of huge importance to his members. "My inbox has been flooded with emails after the news," he said, pointing out that the organization

...continued on page 8

## Friday final day for Mindemoya, Manitowaning OPP offices



The Manitowaning detachment office of the Ontario Provincial Police, located along Highway 6, will be closed effective this Friday, October 2.

by Warren Schlote

MANITOULIN—This is the final week of regular Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) operations in the Manitowaning and Mindemoya detachments, both of which will be closing as of this Friday, October 2 as the officers who formerly reported to those sites transition to working from the new mega-detachment in Little Current.

"We're learning to live with it; there's nothing more we can do. Unfortunately, some people are losing the sense of security they had to have the detachment here in town. Hopefully it's going to work out the way (police) have promised, that front-line operations won't

...continued on page 6



The Mindemoya detachment office, located along Highway 542/King Street, will also be closed this Friday.

ALL-MANITOULIN CANDIDATES' NIGHT: TONIGHT AT MSS, 7 PM

# The MANITOULIN EXPOSITOR



Vol. 140, No. 20 \$1.43 + GST

Little Current, Ontario

Wednesday, October 2, 2019

## Manitoulin voices heard in worldwide climate change conversation

### Wiikwemkoong's water warrior Autumn Peltier speaks at UN Climate Summit

*'You can't eat money, you can't drink oil,' she tells UN*

by Michael Erskine

NEW YORK—The following is a transcript of Wiikwemkoong water warrior Autumn Peltier's address this past Saturday to the hundreds of delegates gathered for the United Nations 2019 Global Landscapes Forum at UN headquarters in Manhattan. Autumn is the Anishinabek Nation Water Commissioner.

Opening with the traditional formal greeting of boozhoo, Autumn identified herself by her spirit name and went on to identify her dodem and community of Wiikwemkoong in her native Anishinaabemowin before switching to English for the benefit of her audience.

"I would like to thank the Global Landscapes Forum for having me here today to share my concerns and share why my people have a sacred connection to the water and lands. I would like to start by sharing that the work I do is in honour of my great auntie Biidaasige-baa (Josephine Mandamin); if it weren't for her lifetime commitment and sacrifices to create the awareness of the sacredness of water, I would not be standing here today. She inspired me to do this work as she was an elder when she began. I thought about who would keep doing her work one day. I just didn't expect that day would come as soon as it did. She created the Mother Earth Water Walks. She walked around all the Great Lakes more than once. She did this because the elders began to see changes in the lands, medicine, animals and waters.

...continued on page 17



**A CALL TO ACTION**—Participants in the Call to Action for Climate Change first gathered at Waggs Wood before walking to the Welcome Centre and back. Fifty people of all ages joined the rally. See story on Page 6.

photo by Betty Bardswich

## Acknowledged pedophile priest's activities pre-date his ordination

### Fr. Epoch worked at Spanish Residential School

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** The following story contains information about sexual abuse that took place in Wiikwemkoong during the mid-to-late 20th century. This information may be disturbing to those who have suffered from sexual abuse. Support is available 24/7 through the First Nations and Inuit Hope for Wellness Help Line at 1-855-242-

3310 or the Manitoulin Family Resources crisis line at 1-800-465-6788.

**by Warren Schlote**  
WIKWEMKOONG—Father George Epoch S.J., one of the worst sexual abusers in Canada's history, is part of a pending class action for abuses alleged to have

...continued on page 12

## CMPS students clear they will not tolerate their elders' climate sins

by Alicia McCutcheon

MINDEMOYA—Hot on the heels of the September 24 meeting of the Rainbow District School Board (RDSB) where trustees approved a motion that the RDSB declare a 'climate change emergency' and Friday global student-led protests on climate change, the students of Central Manitoulin Public School (CMPS) made their own plea to the public.

CMPS students are encouraging the people of Manitoulin, including fellow students, to write letters over the week of October 7 to all levels of government to express their frustration at the lack of movement on climate change action.

"The students at CMPS, and countless other students, are upset and concerned that our planet's health has been put on the back burner," a press release from the students states. "We want change now. We need it now. We officially challenge you to challenge all schools in our board, as well as challenge other boards and schools, and challenge them further to challenge others all across the nation, to join us in writing letters to our government illustrating our upset and concern over the precarious state of our planet, its ecosystems and climate. On the week of October 7, mail your students' letters of concern to parliament. Even Kindergarten kids can help by drawing pictures, writing words or short sentences. We also encourage you to challenge other students, schools, boards, provinces, parents and friends. Write a letter.

Make your voice heard. Join the movement."

In an Expositor interview held the day before the worldwide protests, including a protest held in Mindemoya last Friday, several CMPS students gave up their lunch hour to discuss their fears and concerns with this reporter. The school was dark, honouring its commitment to going one hour without lights along with other Rainbow schools that day as a conversation starter.

Grade 8 student Annie Balfe said she would like to see a world that uses less plastics and worries what those plastics are doing to our oceans and waterways.

"Especially single use plastics," Autumn Davy, a Grade 7 student, added.

Abbie Heins, a Grade 7 student, shared that she and her mom use special reusable bags when they go shopping to avoid the plastic shopping bags.

Tessa Prior, in Grade 7, agreed and says her family re-uses the plastic bags when they do get them from the grocery store for future shopping trips.

"The government needs to be told," Tessa said. "The government can do something about it."

"In the future, we're going to be the ones who have to deal with it even though it's not our fault," Annie said matter-of-factly. "Our parents destroyed the world."

Tessa said she hopes the government encourages Canadians to buy electric cars instead of gas.

Venzel Fowler, a Grade 6 student, reminded everyone that in

...continued on page 6

## Harvest Glory Days

### Have you decorated? Have you contacted The Expositor Office?

This is the list, as of press day, of the decorated locations on Manitoulin that have contacted The Expositor Office with their civic addresses. There are lots more who haven't yet contacted the paper to put themselves and their communities in the running for best decorated in the Harvest Glory Days theme.

To register please contact The Expositor Office by email at [expositor@manitoulin.ca](mailto:expositor@manitoulin.ca) or call 705-368-2744 (daytime) or visit [Manitoulin.ca](http://Manitoulin.ca) and download the form and submit it. Deadline is sometime this Sunday, October 6. See ad on Page 20.

Little Current: Manitoulin Centennial Manor, 3 Cows and a Cone, Downtown Little Current and 52 Robinson Street.

Sheguiandah: Throughout the village of Sheguiandah, Townline Road off Highway 6 South, Centennial Museum of Sheguiandah, Howland Seniors Hall, Sheguiandah city limits sign, Fish Ladder Viewing Station and 7 Tekumah St.

Sheguiandah First Nation: 49 Mukwah Miikan.

Manitowaning: 47 Arthur Street, 67 Albert Street, 526 Cardwell Street and 42 Walcot Street.

Tehkummah: Corner of Government Road and 10th Sideroad.

Mindemoya: Highlights at the four corners of town and all of Mindemoya.

Gore Bay: 69 Highway 542, the entrance sign to community, municipal office, entire downtown core, homes throughout the town.

Providence Bay: 4247 Mutchmor Street and much of Mutchmor Street.

Spring Bay: 950 Perivale Road East.

Silver Water: 320 Silver Lake Road and 570 Silver Lake Road.

The community of South Baymouth.

Township of Gordon-Barrie Island: 407 Lighthouse Road.

## 'Big Wild Year' Part IX

Ongoing series follows couple's commitment to eat what they can forage for one year.

See story on Page 22





# Elemental Festival 2019 celebrates the many forms of art on Manitoulin

by Warren Schlote

KAGAWONG—This year's Elemental Festival by 4elements Living Arts was one for the ages, offering heart-pounding musical performances and a variety of hands-on workshops for people to embrace the best of the arts on Manitoulin.

"I'm really happy with how it turned out," said 4elements Living Arts executive director Kirsten Nelson after the event's closing ceremony Sunday afternoon. "I knew the visual arts were going to be good but I haven't gone to see live music for a while. I forgot what an electric feeling that is."

Advisor elder Josh Eshkawkogan opened the festival on Thursday evening by acknowledging the Seven Directions. The M'Chigeeng Ladies' Drum Group offered their assistance as well.

Anishinaabe singer-songwriter Ansley Simpson delivered a stellar folk performance to close the evening.

Friday afternoon saw an interactive writers' circle workshop led by Ella Jane Myers of the Northern Initiative for Social Action, held at the Park Centre in Kagawong and along the Billings Connection Sculpture trail.

That evening, Sean Ashby took to the stage at the Park Centre. He began by wishing he had a 'hype man' but his music easily spoke for itself. The backup guitarist for Sarah McLachlan played a set that bridged several genres.

Saturday featured a kids' turtle art workshop with Mishiikenh Kwe (Autumn Smith), an Anishinaabe artist with family in Wiikwemkoong. This was followed by Pierre Harrison's 'Play, Learn, Think!' workshop that fused science with arts.

The events moved to Kagawong's Old Church on the Hill for an afternoon of free music.

The set featured Duncan Ross Cameron and Brittany Goldsborough, Robbie Shawana and finally Jenna Maisonneuve, who was joined by Mr. Cameron on fiddle for several tunes.

Later that evening, Marcel Bénéteau opened the headliner show at the Park Centre with his blend of French-Canadian folk music, sharing the stories of the tunes as well as their meaning in English.

Mr. Cameron and Ms. Goldsborough's Celtic band Fagroongala came up next, with the addition of Cristina Masotti on fiddle and vocals. The audience enthusiastically clapped, stomped and sang along with their repertoire. Some spontaneous dancing erupted to some of the more upbeat music and Mr. Cameron occasionally switched instruments during songs.

Sunday saw an art workshop and drum performance with Veronica Johnny in the morning followed by a vocal workshop with opera singer Everett Levi Morrison for vocalists of all skill levels, whether seasoned performers or just car karaoke masters.

The afternoon drew the action back to the Old Church on the Hill for another musical showcase, featuring Ethan Theijsmeyer, Everett Levi Morrison and then Voices North Singers. The latter group welcomed Evansville's masterful young crooner Ellie Maxwell, fresh from her Toronto trip to become a finalist in the Canadian National Exhibition's Rising Star Talent Competition.

Following the showcase, Ms. Nelson and Mr. Eshkawkogan brought the festival to a close with the help of board member Susan Snelling.

Ms. Nelson said she had already been making plans for the next edition of the Elemental Festival.

"I'd like to see even more of a variety of the arts. We didn't have any dance this time," she said. "I do like the workshop format because I like how people see themselves as creators. I would like to make as many opportunities for that as possible."

The Elemental Festival received 50 percent funding through the local festivals component of the Canadian Heritage Program. A representative from the government was present to see how the grant was being put to use.

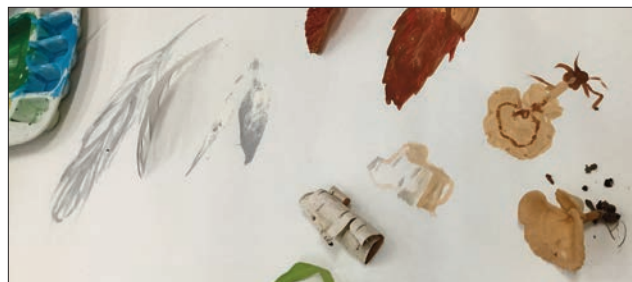
"She said she was impressed with what she saw, and that she's never seen a festival 'this local,' which is funny because we had people from all over the Island here, not just in Kagawong," said Ms. Nelson.

She thanked the many people who had supported the event, from the weekend's volunteers and production team to the organizers.

"We couldn't do this without the community's support," she said.



The Kagawong Park Centre was packed on Saturday evening for a night of music, beginning with Marcel Bénéteau who played a slate of French Canadian folk music and got the audience to sing along.



There were several workshops throughout the weekend for all ages including this 'painting from nature' creation by Phyllis Cacciotti.

photo by Kirsten Nelson



Mindemoya's Jenna Maisonneuve played an excellent set Saturday afternoon, featuring acoustic music of a variety of genres. Sudbury musician Duncan Ross Cameron, right, joined in on several tunes.



Sudbury's Fagroongala played an energetic, foot-stomping and hand-clapping array of Celtic, Newfoundland and French Canadian music and displayed great mastery of multiple instruments.



Masterful musician Sean Ashby played an incredible number of instruments in his high-energy performance.

photo by Michael Erskine



Evansville's next superstar Ellie Maxwell sang thrice with Voices North Singers at the Old Church on the Hill Sunday afternoon.

photos by Warren Schlote

START PLANNING NOW FOR

# HARVEST GLORY DAYS 2019

Decorate to win the  
SMALL COMMUNITY SPIRIT AWARD SIGN!

Decorate to win the  
LARGE COMMUNITY SPIRIT AWARD SIGN!

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**HARVEST GLORY DAYS THEME!**  
THE MORE "CORNERS" THAT ARE DECORATED,  
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For any further information, please contact The Expositor Office by email at [expositor@manitoulin.ca](mailto:expositor@manitoulin.ca) or call 705-368-2744. This event is organized as a public service by The Manitoulin Expositor. Judging will take place the week following Thanksgiving. DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES: OCTOBER 6, 2019

YES! I will be decorating our (please check as applicable):

Business or Organization (please give name): \_\_\_\_\_

Home    Church    Community Hall    Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

at (address): \_\_\_\_\_

in the community of: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to The Expositor Office by mail, fax or email (via the website version of this form) See above.



# Happy Thanksgiving

• Harvest Glory Days on Manitoulin - take in some colour and check out our seasonal decorating. Follow the guide on Page 22

**IT'S FIRE PREVENTION WEEK! SEE PAGE 18**

# The MANITOULIN EXPOSITOR



FISHING • YACHTING • CAMPING • HUNTING

"Published Weekly On the Largest Freshwater Island In The World"

Vol. 140, No. 21 \$1.43 + GST

Little Current, Ontario

Wednesday, October 9, 2019

## Naval veteran, active volunteer Allan Tustian passes at age 100

by Michael Erskine  
MINDEMOYA—Second World War veteran Allan Tustian was a familiar presence at Remembrance Day services over the past 75 years, but his



Allan Tustian

face will be missing from the ranks in the future as the popular old sailor has sailed on to join the many comrades and friends who have left us before him.

Mr. Tustian served in the Royal Canadian Navy and took part in the storied Battle of the Atlantic, helping to protect the vital maritime link that provided the lifeline that shored up Britain as the bulwark of democracy during its darkest years, 1940 to 1943. Aptly described as a "long and bloody battle in the harshest conditions on the gray seas of the Atlantic" in the memoir 'Allan Tustian and the Battle of the Atlantic' (edited by Jeanne (Tustian) Lefebvre and Wayne Neal), that epic struggle saw our nation lose 33 ships and 1,308 Canadian sailors—and Mr. Tustian was there in the very thick of it.

Mr. Tustian fell in love with the water at the young age of eight, travelling the waters of Manitoulin with his sister Jean Hodgson and her husband Joe in 1927. "The waves fascinated me," he recalled in his memoir. He worked maintaining boats and motors on the docks of Treasure Island until the winter of 1940, when he moved to the big city of Toronto in search of work. By 1941, he decided to enlist.

Surprisingly, the navy was not ...continued on page 19



**HARVEST GLORY**—In Manitowaning, Delmer and Leslie Fields have some help in their garden, or at least during Harvest Glory Days. See who won what in the friendly inter-community competition, plus a list of registered participants and a map on Pages 22 and 23 and photo gallery at [www.manitoulin.ca](http://www.manitoulin.ca).

## Pedophile Fr. George Epoch, SJ, cut a wide swath of destruction

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** The following story contains information about sexual abuse that took place in Wiikwemkoong during the mid-to-late 20th century. This information may be disturbing to those who have suffered from sexual abuse. Support is available 24/7 through the First Nations and Inuit Hope for Wellness Help Line at 1-855-242-3310 or the Manitoulin Family Resources crisis line at 1-800-465-6788.

by Warren Schlote  
WIKWEMKOONG—It was on April 23, 1990, according to the Kitchener-Waterloo Record, that

the story of Father George Epoch began to unravel. That's the date when the priest at St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church in Cape Croker reported the allegations he had heard from one of his parishioners about what Father Epoch had done to the complainant.

Two years later on August 30, 1992, Jesuit Provincial Superior Father Eric Maclean travelled to Cape Croker and offered an apology to the victims of Father Epoch. A further two years later, the Jesuit Fathers of Upper Canada ...continued on page 15

## If Mindemoya's Old School building survives, benefactor offers to cover costs of replacing the roof

by Betty Bardswich  
MINDEMOYA—The Mindemoya Old School Repurposing Committee (MOSRC) meeting was held in council chambers October 7 with Mayor Richard Stephens and councillor's Steve Shaffer, Linda Farquhar and Dale Scott in attendance. It is the hope of the citizen committee that their mandate will be extended by council and will be pleading their case on October 17.

The final feasibility report was on the agenda with member Jan McQuay saying, "We have been taken over by events."

Councillor Farquhar added, "I think we should look over the report more than we have. Study it further."

Mayor Stephens responded by saying that the report was made redundant as it was based on an addictions clinic taking over the school and there was no longer interest in this. At this point committee chairman Ted Williamson said that the environmental report was bad news too. "And we can't sell it," committee member Joanne Smith pointed out.

Ms. Smith then went on to talk about the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP). This is a \$30 billion 10-year infrastructure program cost-shared between federal, provincial and municipal governments. The Ontario/Canada agreement commits to \$407 million in federal

funding and \$320 million in provincial funding to the Community, Culture and Recreation stream. Cultural facilities, for example, would include museums, cultural centres and commu-

...continued on page 17

## Memorial banner recognizes students who died in care at residential schools

*Island family names on the list*

by Warren Schlote  
GATINEAU, QUE.—An estimated 4,200 young Indigenous people across Canada died in the residential school system, with 2,800 named victims being honoured at a recent memorial ceremony in Ottawa and the acknowledgement of hundreds more death records that remain nameless.

The National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTR) is a federal body designed to safeguard, maintain and publish information that ties Canada to its troubled legacy of the residen-

...continued on page 21

### Early Deadline

The Expositor Office will be closed next Monday for Thanksgiving. The deadline for classified ads, social correspondence, letters to the editor and display advertising will be 4 pm this Thursday, October 10.

The staff at the Expositor would like to wish our readers and their families a happy and enjoyable Thanksgiving.

## Canada Votes ~~2019~~ See Page 3

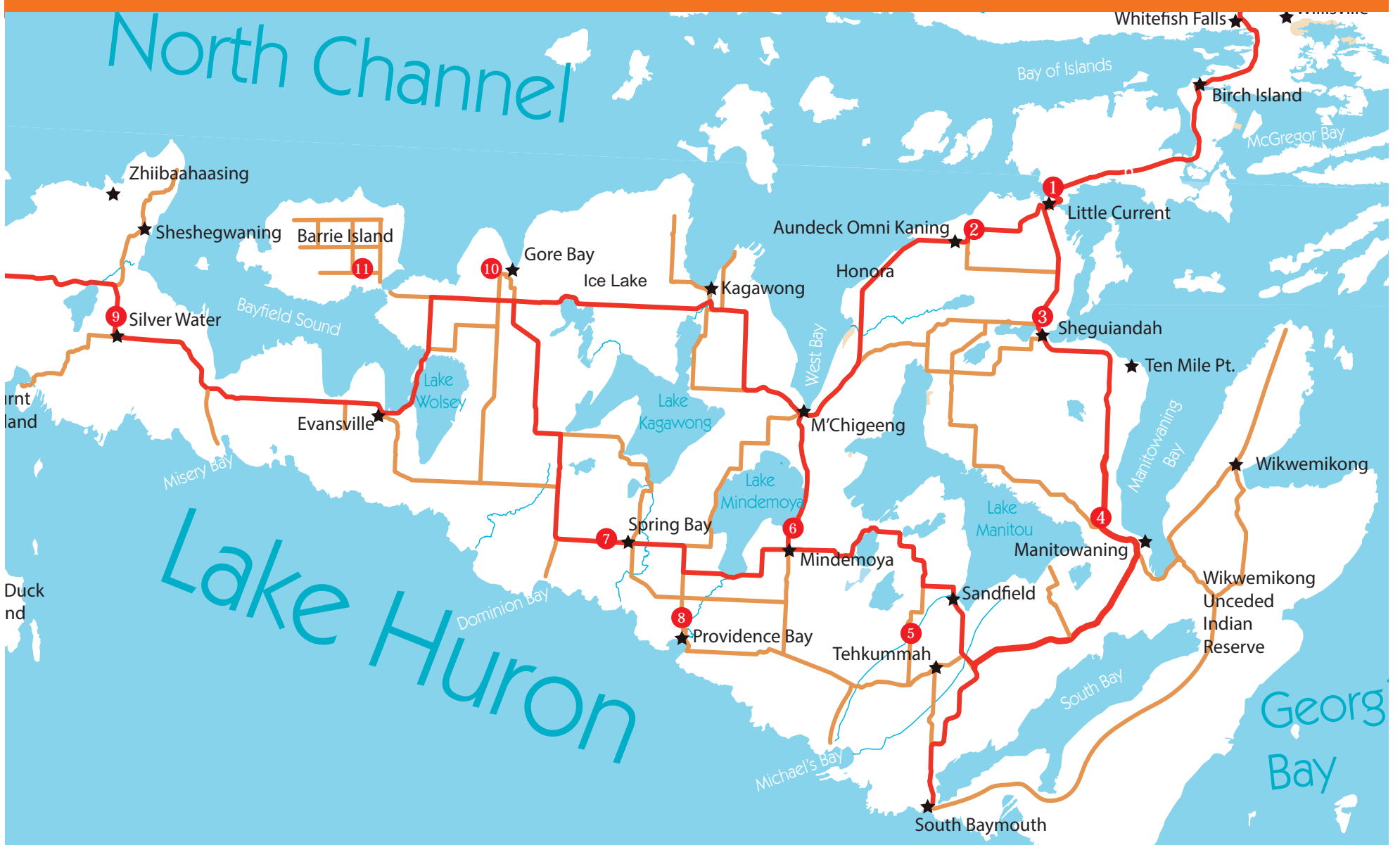
Learn about the candidates and their platforms from The Expositor's all candidates' night coverage On Page 5

Read the candidates' responses to the three TRC recommendations they would prioritize



# HARVEST GLORY DAYS

Fall driving tour map  
of decorated communities



**1 Little Current**  
Centennial Manor  
3 Cows and a Cone  
Town Office Entrance  
Canada Post Entrance  
Downtown Little Current  
52 Robinson Street  
533 Hwy 540  
Throughout the town

**2 Aundeck Omni Kaning**  
70 Hill st.

**3 Sheguiandah**  
Townline Road off Hwy 6 South  
11, 18, 19, 27, 33, 63, 69, 100, 108, 115,  
120, 117, 164, 164, 126  
Sheguiandah Centennial Museum  
Sheguiandah Seniors Hall  
Sheguiandah city limit sign  
Fish Ladder Viewing Station  
7 Tekumah St.  
Batmans Mill  
Bridge  
Playground  
McDougal St. Dock 63  
Mill St. White Haven 78, 70, 64, 56  
Limit St. 5, 10, 13  
Hwy 6 10862  
Highway 6 10741  
Highway 6 10700  
Townline East 11  
David St 12  
Robert St. 3  
Robert St. 5  
49 Mukah Miikan

**4 Manitowaning**  
47 Arthur Street  
67 Albert Street  
526 Cardwell St  
42 Walcot Street  
58 Vankoughnet St  
97 Wellington Street  
135 Albert St  
118 Queen Street  
Throughout the town  
146 Arthur St.

**5 Tehkummah**  
Corner of Government Rd  
and tenth sideroad

**6 Mindemoya**  
Highlights at the four corners of town  
Throughout the town  
community living hub

**7 Spring Bay**  
950 Perivale Road east  
Dawson Resort at 1420 Perivale Road  
East  
38 Parkville Rd West  
Throughout the town

**8 Providence Bay**  
4247 Mutchmore Street  
12 Mutchmore Stret  
5247 Mutchmore Street  
5227 Mutchmore Street  
5148 Hwy 551  
Throughout the town

**9 Silver Water**  
320 Silver Lake Road  
570 Silver Lake Road  
20550 hwy 540  
20358 Hwy 540 west  
Community hall  
Across the Road from Community Hall  
Village of Silver Water

**10 Gore Bay**  
69 Hwy 542  
22 Phipps St  
Entrance sign to community  
Municipal office  
Entire downtown core  
Homes throughout town

**11 Gordon/Barrie Island**  
407 Lighthouse Road

**Plus!**  
More Harvest Glory Days  
decorations this year  
on most sideroads and in every  
community.  
*(in addition to the  
formal registrations)*  
See the photo gallery  
online! [manitoulin.ca](http://manitoulin.ca)

# Harvest Glory Days



## Four communities named as Harvest Glory Days champs

MANITOULIN—Thanksgiving Weekend is upon us and so is the time to announce the winners of the best decorated Manitoulin Island communities in The Expositor's annual Harvest Glory Days friendly inter-community competition.

This year there is a change. Sort of. Since the inception of this fall event six years ago, Manitowaning has owned the "Large Community" decorating honours as there has been tremendous community buy-in there.

This year, once again, Manitowaning will have another leaf to add to its community spirit sign (that the prize The Expositor Office gives to winning communities.)

This year, however, the honour will be shared with Gore Bay. The "Gateway to Western Manitoulin" also did an excellent job this year, in particular the downtown where business people (and others) outdid one another to create large displays of scarecrow art, in every imaginable pose.

Overall community buy-in in Gore Bay also increased this year as a drive around the residential area of the town will demonstrate. So Manitowaning and Gore Bay are, this year, deemed to be tied for first place so a new sign has been commissioned and will be delivered to Gore Bay to install.

Congratulations to Manitowaning for excellent cross-town decorating and to Gore Bay for meeting the challenge.

In the medium-size community category, Sheguiandah has, for the second year, outdone itself with displays at every civic address post, the enormous one at the fish

viewing platform on Bass Creek, Linda Burnett's home at the Highway 6 Townline Road intersection, the Howland Seniors' Hall, the churches, the museum and at Batman's Mill and numerous others.

Congratulations Sheguiandah. The Expositor Office has ordered a 2019 "winners" leaf for your roadside Harvest Glory Days sign.

In the small communities category, Silver Water has once again convinced virtually everyone in the hamlet to decorate seasonally in the Harvest Glory Days theme for the competition and so a 2019 leaf will be coming to this community for their sign. (They are also multi-time winners.)

Thank you to everyone who decorated in every community and at many farm gates as well.

In the medium-sized community category, two-time winner Providence Bay must be acknowledged as the runner up to Sheguiandah.

For a list of the addresses, by community, of people who decorated and registered with the paper, please see Page 22. There is a map to help find these places on the same page along with some representative photos.

But there are so many more decorated homes and businesses all around Manitoulin so please enjoy them.

There is a photo gallery of Harvest Glory Days decorated homes and businesses, by community, that you can find at [www.manitoulin.ca](http://www.manitoulin.ca).

Happy Thanksgiving.

**FOR AN ISLAND-WIDE GALLERY, VISIT MANITOULIN.CA**

