

# Youth group creates poetry book to fund trip to Winnipeg

By **EMILY YATES**

Special to *The Independent & Free Press*

Knox Presbyterian Church's youth group has produced a book of poetry to raise funds for a mission trip to Winnipeg this August.

Lisa-Dawn McKenzie, leader of the youth group, will be accompanying the group of Neil McKenzie-Sutter, 18, Holly McKenzie-Sutter, 16, Susannah McKenzie-Sutter, 14 from Norval and Carly Bravo, 20, Sharena Clendening, 15, Shee-

na Clendening, 15 and Robert Stepner, 14 of Georgetown.

The group will depart for Winnipeg on August 14 and will spend three days in the city, then three days at the Keeseekoowenin Reserve, a three-hour trip from the city. McKenzie explains the trip is to "acquaint youth with the situation of Canadian Native people."

The trip was organized by Presbyterian Church in Canada's Youth in Mission branch in co-operation with Winnipeg Inner-City Missions, an organiza-

tion that is committed to aiding native Canadians and families in the inner city.

The trip will cost \$6,400, and Knox Presbyterian Church has given the group a grant of \$1,000, promising another \$1,000 through internal committee fundraisers. The Presbyterian Church in Canada has given the group \$2,000 and the youth raised \$750 from cookbook sales they produced in the fall and \$1,000 through smaller sales during Christmas.

"So far we've made about

\$600 (from the poetry book sales)," says McKenzie, who hopes to raise another \$800.


"It's been so heartwarming to experience the grassroots support for youth in Georgetown through this project," says McKenzie.

The poetry book sells for \$25 at Knox Presbyterian Church in Georgetown, The Freckled Lion on Main Street, Norval Presbyterian Church and online, [knox youth.sumacksix.com/seedlingspoetry.html](http://knox youth.sumacksix.com/seedlingspoetry.html).

Called *Nature Poems from*


*Canada for Young Children*, it was originally created to read to Beaver Scouts, ages 5 to 8, and is comprised of poems written by McKenzie. The colour illustrations were done by members of the group going to Winnipeg. The book is divided into seasons, with the simpler poems appearing at the beginning.

The group will also be hosting a chili dinner with games to follow at Norval Presbyterian Church this Saturday starting at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5 per person or \$8 per family.



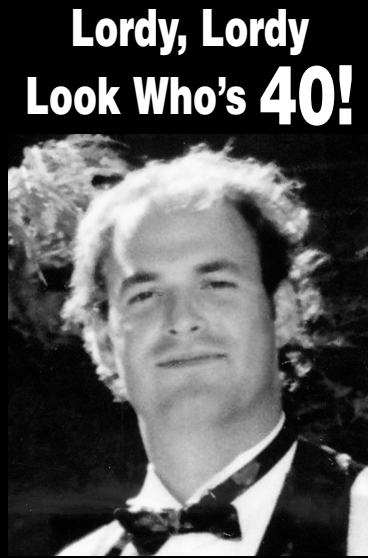
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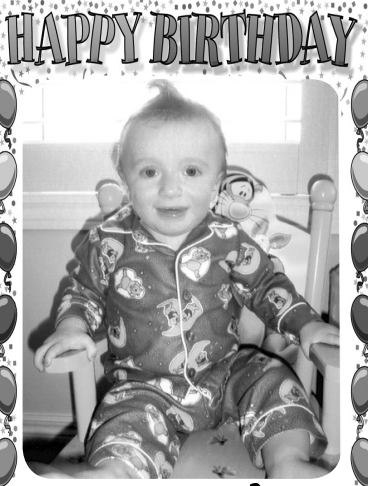
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