

ulk of the works are displayed. We are also on display at the Hanti Coffee Bar downtown and at the Fountain health food store in St. Catharines. Other water-themed projects can be found around Mill Street Elora Shops in the Green Space. A show reflects local concerns about water, with the artist poised to buy the Water Bot Company, which has accepted the formation of a local chapter of the Council of Canadians and the Union of Residents' group Our Water. Many of the artists taking part in the show have agreed to donate some percentage of their sales to the Our Water group. Let's celebrate water - not take it for granted," the show's organizer, artist Peter Skoggard, celebrates how beautiful it is, how we enjoy it, and how we need it."

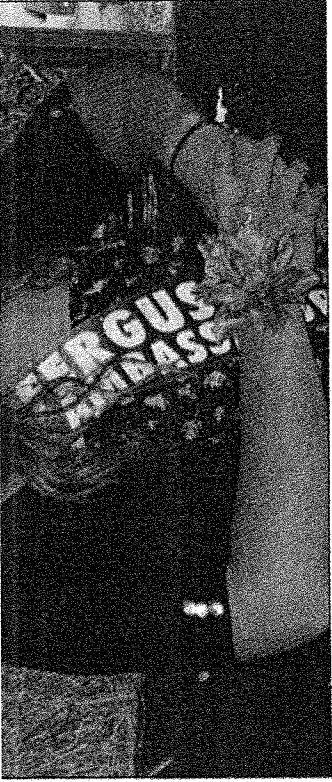
a historic fair that I am so excited to be a part of."

As the local fair ambassador, Rogerson has worked to spread the word about the importance of local agriculture and the fair to ensure a successful turnout the following year. She loves to show younger kids the many exhibits to enter. The Fergus Fair has exhibits for many to showcase produce, livestock and homecrafts.

"Fairs bring the community together and I think that is the most important thing and the

Rogerson is sticking to what she knows best, and that is the fall and harvest season. Although her speech last year was on the same topic, her year of attending parades, conventions, and district meetings have made her more comfortable on stage and her speech writing has become much stronger.

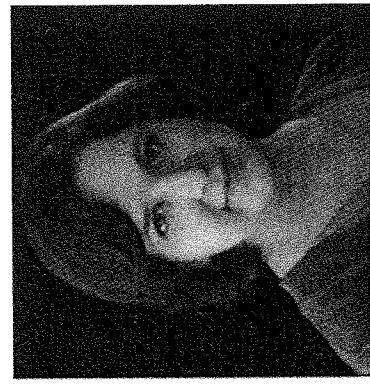
Rogerson has also been researching the history of the CNE, she stated she is fascinated by its rich history and how it has become one of the world's largest exhibitions.



Fergus ambassador Courtney Rogerson

"I am very excited as the ambassadors are very encouraging to each other and with CNE competition fast approaches, but I don't really see it as a competition, as all the Rogerson said.

Local writer creates unique fantasy series



J.M. Frey

By Francis Baker
FOR THE ENTERPRISE NEWS EXPRESS

J.M. Frey has a lot of writing to do in the next few months.

The Fergus native has the first volume of a fantasy trilogy coming out this December - and is in the process of writing the second book, due out next summer - as well as other projects that are going to keep her busy well into the future.

Frey grew up in Fergus before moving to Toronto to get involved in TV, comic conventions, writing and acting, and has now returned partly to focus on the various writing projects that will be filling her next months.

The Untold Tale is the first book of the new trilogy, The Accidental Turn, and like Frey's first acclaimed science fiction novel Triptych, it's not

a traditional genre story.

"What's the point of rehashing the same sorts of narratives?" she says. "Other people have already done the space opera, or the violent alien invasion, or the sword and sorcery fantasy, or the heroic steampunk fighter pilot. There's no need for me to tread those paths again. I'd rather walk the fringes."

Continued on page 2

Fergus - Elora News Express Aug 19, 2015

Local writer creates unique fantasy series

Continued from front

The Untold Tale transports people from our world into a fictional fantasy world - but with several twists. The main character is a woman who wrote a thesis on a fictional

series of typical fantasy novels from the 1980s - and who then finds herself in the world of those novels after the published story finishes. But she's not the narrator - we see the story unfold through the eyes of the fantasy hero's shy younger brother, a character who's typically written into these kinds of stories just to flesh out the hero's life.

The book explores what it means to be "not the hero" in a world that's been invented for the hero, Frey says.

"I love to tell stories from a perspective that is just on the rim of the action," she says.

"History is written by the victors, they say, which has always made me wonder how the losers would tell it. Or the victor's personal assistant or dog-walker. How is the same tale told when it's being related by someone who isn't in the center of it? Someone who isn't the hero?"

The idea also developed out of Frey's reaction to the science fiction and fantasy she grew up reading, where almost invariably the role-model protagonist is a big, muscular, heroic man, and woman are relegated to trophies, prizes, decoration or victims - or to the stereotypical "chained bikini" warrior. There are few heroic females for young women interested in the genre to identify with, and often when female authors do include strong female characters in books, they're belittled as "Mary Sues" - wish fulfillment roles for the author.

"I guess that was the reason I started writing," she says. "I was sick of looking at what I love and it not loving me back."

Creating The Untold Tale also involved setting up the

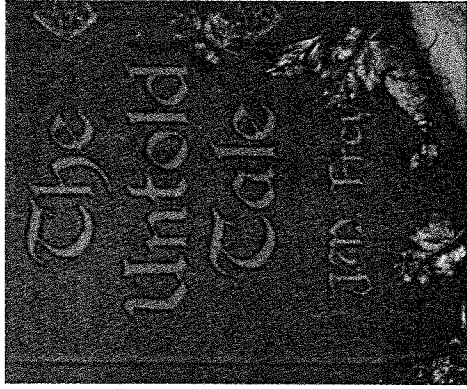
and she and her publisher Reuts's marketing team created Elgar Reed social media feeds, and have invited fans to get involved in the fantasy world of Kintyre Turn.

The Untold Tale is scheduled for release in December, the second volume The Forgotten Tale is planned for summer next year, and the third should be released December 2016.

Frey is also writing the first draft of a screenplay promised to a production company by December, and is working on another three-book deal expanding a novel she wrote three years ago. She's written two novellas that take place in the Untold Tale universe, and also plans to continue voice acting.

Triptych, her first book, ended up winning two Lambda Awards and top reviews from Publishers Weekly in 2011. Since then, Frey has secured an agent, Laurie McLean of Fuse, and published short stories, written comics, and a novel under a pseudonym. She met with Reuts over The Untold Tale late last year, and the deal for the trilogy was signed in March this year.

"I don't like to be idle," Frey says.




fictional fantasy series at the heart of the story - an eight-book fantasy series from the 1980s and '90s called The Tales of Kintyre Turn by fictional writer Elgar Reed.

"There is no such series, of course," Frey says. "I had to make up all that, too. And I did a lot of research to make it as realistic as possible. Things like what kind of fantasy was being written in the 80s in North America, and what sorts of allegories they were filled with, that kind of thing."

Her goal was to make both the fantasy world and the fictional book series as plausible and believable as possible.

Frey wrote basic back cover details and titles for the fictional eight books in the series



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