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**Winter By the Numbers**

**BRRRRR**

By *Chloe Kneer* - If you think it's been a long, snowy, cold winter, you're right. But history shows that most of our winters are long, snowy, and cold, so why are we complaining? Because it's March and there seems no end in sight. While historically, we should have seen a break in the frigid temperatures last week, instead we were blasted with yet another "polar vortex" which forced temperatures to plunge lower than a starlet's neckline on Oscar night. Curious to know the numbers for this winter (...so far)? Here's your "winter by the numbers" run-down for our area:

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**Espanola Helping Hand Food Bank News**

Many community-minded people were busy raising donations for the EHHFB last month. Volunteers would like to thank the Royal Canadian Legion Ladies' Auxilliary and the staffs of Giant Tiger, Canadian Tire Corporation, and the LCBO for their efforts on our behalf. Also thanks to those folks at Queensway Place for organizing a drive. March sees the annual meeting for the EHHFB where elections will be held for selected positions on the Executive and Board of Directors. All are welcome to attend the meeting but only members may cast ballots in accordance with our constitution. Everyone is invited to come out to the Legion Saturday afternoons this month as volunteers from the food bank will be running the Meat Roll-Offs each week in March. Hope to see you there.

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# All The World's A Circus

William Thomas

williamjthomas@gmail.com

## The Funeral Business: Funny To The Last Drop

I would like to draw your attention to the healthiest and liveliest industry in North America: the death business. Recently, I spoke to a branch of the Ontario Funeral Service Association and in the audience was the ever-smiling face of a casket salesman, my old friend - wait for it - Bill Sleep. I'm not making this up. The group coordinator (nickname "Digger") asked me if it would be all right if they got the business segment out of the way first before I spoke. I agreed.

I'm not sure if you do any public speaking but usually it's a good idea to keep things light and entertaining and in the case of a humourist like myself, funny, if possible. I'm not accustomed to having somebody warm up the crowd for me, so you can imagine my surprise when four gentlemen stood up and briefed the audience on the latest mock-disaster exercises (they went well), new and innovative coffins (they go down well) and the latest in graveyard hydraulics (you go down well). Essentially, they touched on every aspect of death, destruction and near-annihilation, all of which - if I heard right - are going very, very well. Not a real "feel good" warm-up act.

By the time I addressed the group, my first duties were to get two ladies in the front row to stop crying and physically remove measuring tapes from two

competing morticians who were stalking a waiter with a bad cough.

It was the most interesting situation I've ever encountered as a speaker. So much so that I gave the four gentlemen who preceded me a list of my upcoming engagements in hopes that somehow they could arrange to be in another country on those dates.

Do not for a moment, however, think people in the funeral business do not have a good sense of humour. Far from it. In fact, I did a little research into the subject and was able to relate to them some of the lighter moments of the business of darkness. Like actual epitaphs, carved in stone by their colleagues, both here and south of the border.

From a cemetery in Innisburg Falls, Vermont: "Here lies the body of my daughter Anna, Done to death by a banana. It was not the fruit of the thing laid her low, But the skin of that thing that made her go."

On the headstone of a Canadian atheist: "Gone to see for myself."

One epitaph that many of us might laugh a little too hard at: "View this dreary spot with gravity. A dentist is filling his last cavity."

On the memorial of a man bitter to the end: "Talked to death by friends."

I am assured by Father William Parker Neal, who lives in Gettysburg and has

*Continued on page three...*

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Continued from page two...

written a book on epitaphs, that there is a tombstone in his own hometown that reads: "Here lies the body of my daughter Charlotte. Born a virgin, died a harlot. For 16 years she kept her virginity, Which is quite a record in this vicinity."

And two warnings by women about their own funeral arrangements:

Said one: "There will be no male pallbearers. Since they wouldn't take me out when I was alive, I don't want them to take me out when I'm dead."

Said the other: "Please don't let them put 'Miss' on my tombstone. I haven't missed as much as they think."

But, it is most definitely not the morticians who reveal the funny side of the funeral industry. It's the people like you - under the great stress of a loved one lost, yet exuberant in the appreciation of those who have helped you through it. The best, albeit unintended, humour in the death business lies in the thank-you notes people send to the managers of funeral homes.

"I wish to thank everyone who kindly assisted in the death of my husband."

"Thank you for providing the pallbearers for Mom. She

always loved to have men help her."

"Thank you for helping cremate my Father. It was a pleasure."

"When you returned Mother's clothes, the shoes were not hers, but they fit me. Thanks again."

"Thank you for talking me out of burying my husband at sea. Now I can visit his grave. You see, I can't swim."

"Thank you for Mother's beautiful funeral service. She was a saint and a virgin if there ever was one."

"Thank you for conducting such a lovely service for my Father. The guy who did the flowers was a little too happy, if you know what I mean. But everything worked out okay."

Said one woman to a funeral director: "Boy, I've been trying to settle this estate for nearly a year now. There are some days I wish Harry had never fallen off that ladder!"

You might as well laugh. As Red Skelton has so often said, "Nobody's getting out of this one alive."

For comments, ideas and copies of The True Story of Wainfleet, go to [www.williamthomas.ca](http://www.williamthomas.ca)

**Cleaning Out Your Closet?  
Donate A Dress To All Dressed Up!**



You can donate your clean, gently used formal dresses from the last decade. They need dresses in various sizes, colours, and styles to build up their stock.

In addition to dropping dresses off at the Sudbury and District Health Unit locations, you can host a dress drive of your own. Collect as many dresses as you can and donate them to All Dressed Up! Dress donations are taken Monday – Friday from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. at the SDHU Espanola Mall location as well as in Sudbury at 1300 Paris Street. Help give gowns and girls a chance to party.

For information or details on All Dressed Up! contact co-founder Stephanie Lefebvre at [alldressedupsudbury@hotmail.ca](mailto:alldressedupsudbury@hotmail.ca)

All Dressed Up! is a community program that gives previously loved formal dresses to high school girls who need them for free – just in time for prom.

All Dressed Up! is endorsed by the Sudbury and District Health Unit and is a partnership with the Centre de santé communautaire du Grand Sudbury.

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## News From The Park



**Michael Mantha MPP/député  
Algoma-Manitoulin**

This week NDP Leader Andrea Horwath wrote a letter to the Premier laying out our priorities; these are the priorities we are hearing from people across the province.

It's time to focus on making life more affordable for families, not more expensive. New Democrats will not support new taxes or tolls that will make life

more expensive for hardworking families. Families are feeling squeezed harder than ever, and they're working harder than ever just to stay still. The government is planning tax giveaways and loopholes for some, but asking families to pay new taxes and tolls. My colleagues and I will not support that.

The Liberals' plan asks families to pay more, while corporations pay less: the government's new HST loopholes will let corporations write off the HST on gasoline, but they're asking families to pay a new gas tax. The government doesn't have a problem finding billions to cancel gas plants or for corporate giveaways, but when it comes to transit, they believe that families need to pay hundreds of dollars more. In the north we have seen a continued erosion and cancellation of many transit services. We have lost the ONTC, we see the continued attacks on the Algoma Central Railway, we came close to

losing the Chi Cheemaun, and the list goes on.

At the same time as the Liberals are asking families to pay more, they are planning to eliminate the NDP Fairness tax, create HST loopholes for corporations, continue moving forward with new no-strings attached corporate giveaways that will cost the treasury billions

In the 2011 campaign, the Liberals said they would not impose new taxes. When Dalton McGuinty was asked if they would raise taxes, he responded "We will not." Plans put forward by the Liberals will cost families hundreds of dollars a year.

We need to see the government keep the commitments made in the 2013 budgets like getting Auto Insurance premiums down, stopping waste with a Financial Accountability Office, getting home care wait times down, and getting young people working.

In other news, this coming week is the annual Ontario Good

Roads Association (OGRA) and Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) conference.

This is an excellent opportunity for municipalities across our riding to come and have face to face meetings with Ministers and highlight their concerns.

I have heard from many municipalities and I will do my best to be present at these meeting so I too can advocate on your behalf.

The issues and concerns facing those in northern and rural communities are unique and diverse. It is important that government ministers understand these issues and work with municipalities to fix them.

As always, please feel free to contact my office about this issue, or any other provincial matters. You can reach my constituency office by email at [mmantha-co@ndp.on.ca](mailto:mmantha-co@ndp.on.ca) or by phone at 705-461-9710/1-800-831-1899.



**Once players have been placed on a team they will not be moved.**

Late registrants will not be permitted to pick their teams. Players registering late will be placed on a team based on player shortfall needs.

A fee of \$50.00 per player will be charged for late registrants (late fees will apply to anyone requesting registration after May 01 2014).

Registration will take place March 4, 6, 17, 18, 19, 25, 26, 27 at the Recreation Complex – from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Division	DOB - Children Born	Fees
U5/U7	2007, 2008, 2009, 2010	\$ 70.00
U9/U11	2003, 2004, 2005, 2006	\$ 90.00
U13/U16	1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002	\$ 115.00
U19	1995, 1996, 1997	\$ 115.00

Fees include full uniform (socks, shirt, shorts). Playing days and divisions will depend on registration.

First time registrants must bring proof of age.

2014 Season format - begins May 20th – July 18th with a two week break – players return August 5th to 15th with play downs and final wind up event on August 16th.

\*\* Tournament and competitive option for interested players. Minimum 2 travel tournaments.

**Interested in coaching, refereeing or sponsoring a team – contact Paul Kallioinen @ 705-862-0216 or Bob Rigby @ 705-869-5231**



## 3rd Annual Fibre Arts Festival Awarded Grant

Espanola's 3rd Annual Fibre Arts Festival has been awarded a Craft Projects Connections Grant of \$10,000 from the Ontario Arts Council. Volunteer organizer Jody Pilon self-funded the first two festivals with the ardent belief that the festival had the potential to become a sustainable, shoulder season attraction for the community. "The support of the OAC will open up possibilities for festival growth and development, education and mentorship" says Pilon. "This funding will be used to secure fibre masters to host workshops and give us some financial leverage to invest in more signage and marketing. We are hoping to see the festival span three days this year beginning on Friday with a day-long basket making workshop and evening lecture from a local fibre artist. Saturday will feature the vendors hall with displays, demonstrations and sales of a

variety of fibre arts. Saturday and Sunday, we hope to include a few half-day workshops and three or four "make and take" type workshops that could include anything from basic felting techniques, spinning with drop spindle or Dorset button making."

Last year's attendance was more than double that of the previous years, and Pilon is hoping to see the same increase, expecting over 1200 visitors to Espanola for the weekend.

In the meantime, she is hard at work, organizing additional fund-raising initiatives, the first of which is the Stash sale at the Espanola complex on March 22.

The 3rd Annual Pumpkin and Fibre Arts Festival is October 17-19.

For more information, contact Jody Pilon at [coordinator@espanolafibreartsfestival.ca](mailto:coordinator@espanolafibreartsfestival.ca) or visit the website at [www.espanolafibreartsfestival.ca](http://www.espanolafibreartsfestival.ca)

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## SERVICES

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## DANCE

**WEBBWOOD EAGLES** - St. Patrick's Dances. Teen dance March 14 from 8:00 p.m. - 12 midnight. \$3.00 per person. Pizza, chips, pop will be available. Adult dance March 15 from 8:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. Music by DJ, Tracy T and Mark L. Wear something green, and you may win a prize! Adult dance will have a 50/50 draw and light lunch at 11:30 p.m. - 12:00 a.m. \$10.00 per person. # 3 Centre St, Webbwood. For more info, call 705-869-4269 after 3:00 p.m. daily.

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**FOR SALE** – The historic Webbwood United Church. Opportunity knocks. Well-maintained building, 30'x100' lot. Listed for \$60,000. Chloe Kneer, broker, U-View Realty Inc, 705-583-0422.



It looks as if our unrelenting winter will continue and for those who haven't or can't book a warm-weather escape, staying busy over the upcoming March Break will be a priority. The area townships have many activities planned for children and families. Here are a few of the highlights: At Snoopy's Landing Outdoor Rink in McKerrow, open use is Monday – Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. After 4:00 p.m. and weekends are skating and hockey. Call the Baldwin Township office for details at 705-869-0225.

At the Espanola Recreation Complex, the Espanola Rivermen are hosting a pancake breakfast this Friday to kick off the March Break, followed by a free skate at 11:00 a.m. The Lions Club free swims are scheduled for Saturday, March 8 and 15 from noon – 1:00 p.m., and the Espanola Library is having a book sale March 7-12. The Sudbury and District Health Unit is offering free cooking workshops for youth ages 7-11 and 12-17; call Jennifer at the SDHU to register at 705-222-9202, ext. 491. Boogie Mountain Ski Hill in Espanola is open daily from noon – 4:00 p.m. and the Espanola Youth Centre will be open for children ages 12-17 Saturdays noon – 8:00 p.m. and Sundays noon – 5:00 p.m. at A.B. Ellis Public School. Movie night is Friday, March 14 at Queensway Pentecostal Church, with a double feature.



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## Recipe

I'm sure everybody has a recipe for peanut butter cookies, but in case you don't, I am kindly giving you one to try and add to your recipe box. Peanut Butter cookies are my favourite cookies; well they might be tied with a good chocolate chip cookie. My mouth is actually watering as I type this and I would go to the kitchen as soon as I'm done writing this and make a batch, but I have no self-control and would eat them until I burst out of my jeans and then hate myself. So I'll opt for some peanut butter on toast for my breakfast and hope that maybe a few will appear on my kitchen counter in the near future. (Mom are you reading this?) If you want to make these extra special you can add chocolate or peanut butter chips and even some peanuts.



### Good Old Fashioned Peanut Butter Cookies

- 1-1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 3/4 tsp baking soda
- 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1/2 cup butter, softened
- 1 cup peanut butter (creamy or crunchy, your preference)
- 3/4 cup sugar + more for rolling cookies
- 1/2 cup firmly packed brown sugar
- 1 large egg
- 1 tbsp milk
- 1 tsp vanilla

Preheat oven to 350. Line two baking sheets with parchment paper. In a mixing bowl, stir together the flour, baking soda, baking powder, and salt. Set aside. In the bowl of a stand-mixer fitted with the paddle attachment or a hand held mixer, beat the butter and peanut butter together until smooth and fluffy. Add the sugars until combined, then incorporate the egg, followed by the milk and vanilla. Gradually add in the flour mixture and beat until thoroughly combined. In a small bowl, put a few tablespoons of sugar for rolling your cookies. Using a medium cookie scoop, portion out your dough OR scoop out a large tablespoon of dough and roll into a ball. Roll each ball into the sugar until coated on all sides. Place on baking sheet, allowing room for the cookies to spread out while baking. Bake for 10-12 minutes, being careful not to over bake. The cookies will look slightly underdone in the center, but they are not. They will set up as they cool.

## Kids Korner

### Paper Bag Jellyfish

- One lunch- sized paper bag per jelly fish
- Paint
- Paint brush
- Glue
- Googly Eyes
- Glitter Glue
- Scissors (pinking shears are a plus)



Paint the paper bags any colour you'd like your jelly fish to be. Add the glitter. You can use loose glitter and sprinkle onto the bags when the paint is wet or use glitter glue which is less messy. Let the bags dry. Using scissors cut from the bottom of the bag up to where it folds over, into strips. Glue the googly eyes on.

## COMMUNITY NOTES

**Pancake Supper** – Espanola United Church, Tuesday, March 4 from 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Tickets at the door.

**Women's Wellness Day** - Enjoy a free day of self-care and healing on Wednesday, March 5, from 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. at the Little Current Recreation Centre. For info or to register call 705-859-3378.

**One Billion Rising**- Sing, Dance, Drum. Free and everyone is welcome to join in and rise to end violence against women and girls on Wednesday, March 5. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. at the Little Current Recreation Complex. For info call 705-859-3378.

**Webbwood Community Lunches** - First and third Wednesday of the month beginning March 5. 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at the seniors room (beside the library). Everyone welcome!

**World Day of Prayer Services** - The Massey Inter-Church Council invites you to attend at Zion Lutheran Church, March 7 at 7:00 p.m. and Espanola Inter-Church Council welcomes all people and all churches to come together for The World Day of Prayer on Friday, March 7, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at Queensway Pentecostal Church.

**Autism Acceptance Day** – Swim, lunch, and Espanola Rivermen hockey game for families who deal with autism on a daily basis Sunday, March 9. Event is also open to the public. Pre-registration is required. Email Dennis Lendrum for forms and information - pawpasno@gmail.com

**Sudbury-Manitoulin Alzheimer Society** – The Espanola and Friendship Circle support group will meet Monday, March 10 from 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. at the Espanola Seniors' Drop-in Centre. For information, call Wendy at 705-869-1137.

**Next Community Luncheons** - March 11 and 25 at the Lighthouse in Espanola (across from the Royal Bank) from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm. NO CHARGE. Everyone welcome.

**VON Adult Day Centre** - We provide activities, exercise and socializing, every Monday and Wednesday. Please call 705-869-3304 for more information.

**Chronic Pain Self-Management Workshop** – Free six week workshop for adults of all ages (caregivers welcome) Tuesdays until March 11 from 1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Call Flo to register and for location at 705-865-1209.

**The Massey Area Museum Presents An Irish Frolic** - Roast beef dinner, sing-along and story telling, at the Royal Canadian Legion in Massey Saturday, March 15 at 5:00 p.m. Tickets at Poirier's, Burk's Shell, Massey Home Hardware, or call 705-865-2271.

**STASH Sale** - March 22 from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 a.m. at the Espanola Recreation Complex. Crafts and craft-related items, equipment, books and magazines, buttons, beads, fabric, paper and scrapbooking supplies call 705-583-2326 for more information.

**Let Us Cook You Breakfast** – At St. James Anglican Church, Massey, Sunday, April 6 from 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. For info, call Ruth Ann at 705-865-2004.

**Legion Bursaries** - Applications available at the Espanola High School and Legion office for students graduating and continuing their education. To qualify you must be a child, grandchild or "other" relative of an active member of the forces, legion member or ladies auxiliary member. Deadline is April 11 to the legion office or emailed to rcl-39@persona.ca

**Toastmasters** - Develop communication and leadership skills, which in turn foster self-confidence and personal growth. Mondays 7:00-8:30 p.m. Call Pauline for details 705-869-4016.

**Free March Break Cooking Workshops for Children** – Ages 7 and up in Espanola and Massey. Children will learn to prepare simple nutritious meals. Spaces limited. Call 705-222-9202 ext. 491.

### Do you have a NOTE for the Community?

We invite not-for-profit organizations to submit information on their upcoming events in writing no later than

**Wednesdays at 3:00 p.m. 25 Word Limit.**

Fax: 705-869-3342 or E-mail: around@aroundandabout.ca

Healthy Children = Healthy Families = Healthy Communities



**Sacred Heart Childcare Centre**  
**Spaces Available!**

Financial Assistance is available for those who qualify

For More information, please call

**(705) 869-3171**

[www.ourchildren-ourfuture.net](http://www.ourchildren-ourfuture.net)

## Espanola & Area Family Health Team

### Living Healthy with Chronic Pain

Learn how to manage your chronic pain with this free

6 week program starting March 26th/14.

Caregivers also welcome. Call 705-862-7991 to register



**705-862-7991**



## TOWNSHIP OF SABLES-SPANISH RIVERS

Phone: (705) 865-2646 Fax: (705) 865-2736

Email: [inquiries@sables-spanish.ca](mailto:inquiries@sables-spanish.ca)

Box 5, Site 1, R.R.#3, 11 Birch Lake Road, Massey, ON, P0P 1P0

Website: [www.sables-spanish.ca](http://www.sables-spanish.ca)

### PUBLIC NOTICE

**TAKE NOTICE** that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Sables-Spanish Rivers proposes to enact a bylaw pursuant to Section 290 of the Municipal Act R.S.O. 2001 Part VII to adopt the 2014 Annual Budget.

The proposed bylaw will come before Council for consideration at a public meeting on Wednesday, March 12, 2014 at 7:30 pm. in the Council Chambers at 11 Birch Lake Road, Massey, Ontario. At this time Council will hear any questions or concerns from the public.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** regarding this proposed bylaw is available at the municipal office during the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday.

Dated the 4th day of March, 2014  
Kim Sloss, Clerk-Administrator

### PUBLIC NOTICE Disposal of Surplus Property

The Council of the Corporation of the Township of Sables-Spanish Rivers hereby gives notice pursuant to Bylaw 2009-36, that the property described below is hereby declared as surplus.

Salter Section 25, Pt Parcel 7-1  
Plan D-268 Units 7 & 8  
Victoria Street West, Massey

Sealed bids clearly marked "Surplus Property" shall be received until 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 11, 2014. Bids will be reviewed at the regular meeting of Council on March 12, 2014. The purchaser(s) shall be responsible for all costs incurred to dispose of this property pursuant to Bylaw 2009-36.

Highest or any bid not necessarily accepted.

Kim Sloss, Clerk-Administrator  
Township of Sables-Spanish Rivers

### WEBBWOOD RESIDENTS

You will see a very slight increase in your sewer rates in 2014 (\$1.00/month/household) as a result of improvements and upgrades to the system.

Council would like to provide you with an update on the municipal sewer system servicing your residence/business.

- We have initiated a regular maintenance and flushing program
- A camera program run over 3 years will be completed this year. This provides an assessment of the condition of the sewer line system which will benefit in proactively scheduling and budgeting upgrades or repairs where required
- Repairs to the lift station have been completed
- Lagoon upgrades are scheduled for this year

We would also like to remind residences that substances such as greases and oils are not to be flushed in the sewer system.

Thank you for your cooperation in keeping your system clear and in good condition

### SUMMER STUDENT EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Applications for summer employment are being accepted for the Public Works and Parks & Recreation Departments

Employment is conditional upon approval of grant funding.

Applicants must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- returning to school on a full-time basis during the next academic year (must provide proof of registration)
- is a student in a secondary, post secondary, vocational or technical program; priority is given to students in post secondary education
- drivers' licence with clean drivers' abstract would be considered an asset
- is legally entitled to work in Canada

*Applications will be received until 12:00 noon, Friday, April 4, 2014*

Kim Sloss, Clerk-Administrator  
11 Birch Lake Road  
Massey, ON P0P 1P0  
Tel. 705-865-2646 Fax 705-865-2736  
e-mail: [inquiries@sables-spanish.ca](mailto:inquiries@sables-spanish.ca)

### MASSEY & TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS

**MARCH BREAK – WEBBWOOD LIBRARY:** Join us for "Artventure 2014"!

- March 10th – Art work for Library (6pm – 8pm)
- March 11th – Computer Workshop (12pm – 2pm)
- March 13th – Spirit Drummer (6pm – 8pm)
- March 14th – Finish art work
- Amnesty all week!

**MARCH BREAK – MASSEY LIBRARY:** Many activities are in the planning stages e.g. Craft Day, Guitar Clinic, Family Board Game Night, Craft Day for Children, Music or Art Workshop and a Tea Party. Watch for our posters.

**SEWING BEE:** The Friends Group Sewing Bee is Tuesday, March 4th at 7:00 p.m.. Volunteers are needed.

**CAP STUDENT:** The Library has a CAP student available for computer training. Do you need some help with your iPad, KOBO or ipod? Now is the time to contact our student for assistance.

**BOARD MEMBERS:** The Sables Spanish Rivers Public Library Board is looking for community members that are willing to serve on the board. Individuals can send a letter of interest to the Township of Sables-Spanish Rivers.

For more information, please contact the Massey & Township Public Library at 705-865-2641 or Fax: 705-865-1781; [infomasseylibrary@gmail.com](mailto:infomasseylibrary@gmail.com). Our website address is [www.masseylibrary.com](http://www.masseylibrary.com).

### BRING ON SPRING AFTERNOON TEA

Come out to the Massey Area Museum's "McNenly Gallery" on Tuesday, March 4th, 2014 from 2pm – 4pm for refreshments and treats! \$5.00 per person. Proceeds to the Museum Operations.