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**AB Ellis Hosts Cardboard Boat Races**



By Rosalind Russell - Skills Ontario cardboard boat races were held in Espanola in late January with plenty of action.

It might have been storming outside, but it was swim suits, cheers and plenty of action at the Espanola Regional Recreation Complex.

Having a pool can make for plenty of fun and some serious bragging rights with cardboard and duct tape.

AB Ellis students knew that and although they didn't win, the students, staff and volunteers enjoyed hosting more than 120 elementary students from northeastern Ontario.

They were all there to build a boat made of cardboard and duct tape, see if it floats, and then race.

Continued on page four...

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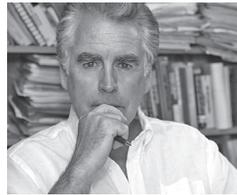


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## Here's How You Know You're In A Driverless Car

The driverless car is coming at us faster than Nick Nolte with the pedal to the metal and an open bottle of rum on the passenger seat. The AV or automated vehicle is truly a transportation revolution and one which the world is poorly prepared for. Like the rush to get legalized marijuana on the streets of Canada and ... wait! Can you imagine those two worlds colliding?  
 "Ah, dude. You just scarfed the last piece of pizza and also ... there's nobody driving this car!"

"I thought Larry was driving."  
 "Larry got out at the last set of lights."  
 "Yeah, which we blew through!"  
 Currently 40 companies including Apple and Uber are testing their automated vehicles on California public roads while testing in Ottawa has just begun. Experts expect to see some driverless cars on the road in three years and mass production in five years. Forget cars for the moment, Tesla has unveiled its prototype autonomous truck, the Roadster which will be "the fastest commercially produced vehicle on earth." A 'platooning' system will synchronize the movement and braking of a series of trucks travelling together allowing them to tailgate each

other at high speed and save energy. Wait. Didn't we already have that system? Remember the Convoy song? "Come on and join our convoy. Ain't nothin' gonna get in our way. We gonna roll this truckin' convoy cross the USA!" Back then a fleet of trucks speeding down the highway was dangerous and highly illegal. Now it's the future of transportation!  
 As usual the revolution is being driven by the machines and not the people. U.S. scientists who altered road signs ever-so-slightly found the AVs missed the instructions 73% of the time and reacted in error. Much like myself, a driverless car cannot understand public graffiti. Volvo's animal detection system can identify deer, elk and caribou but kangaroos throw it into a tizzy.  
 Driverless vehicles will transport people, collect garbage and eliminate parking and in so doing, put an awful lot of people out of work. It could enhance car pooling but also increase traffic congestion and emissions. And nobody can figure out how to program driverless vehicles to get the hell out of the way of police, fire and ambulance services.

Continued on page three...

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*Continued from page two...*

No matter, with all the faults and unknown consequences, the AVs are on their way. So where does that leave you? Confused. I know. I've got your back. Or is that your front in reverse? Okay, here's how you know you're operating in the world of driverless cars.

- You're a little taken back by Uber's AV ad that highlights their new mission statement: "Safety Third!"

- You don't know what to make of the sign on the car in front of you: "Baby Onboard And Behind The Wheel."

- Watching Blackberry invest \$100 million in making software for AVs and remembering how RIM, their parent company melted down in a matter of months – you have your new driverless car refitted at Radio Shack.

- You're just not sure about the little old lady in the driverless car holding a sign that reads: "Honk Twice If You Think I'm Being Held Hostage."

- The driverless technology is so advanced, old guys will not be able to drive more than ten miles with their blinkers on.

- You're uncertain about the Kijiji ad: "Get a pre-owned driverless car for your spouse! What a trade!"

- On your first day with your new AV, the navigational system instructs you to "Please reduce speed and enter the roundabout ... No! Not that way! Are you completely stupid? Get me the hell outta this thing!"

- You notice that not only has road rage increased with driverless cars, passengers now have two free hands to make very rude gestures.

- Your driverless car tells you

it's about to change lanes all by itself and you think wait, my AMC Gremlin used to do that but it never gave me a heads up.

- Without warning, your Google mapping system gets into a fight with your Microsoft software and you find yourself flat on your back on the curb with tire tracks on both arms.

- You're just pulling out of the driveway in your new self-driving Tesla when the news on the radio reminds you that their SpaceX program has had a half dozen launch failures and crashes.

- In Florida where older drivers have shrunk below the steering wheel, AV technology will digitally reproduce the image of a real driver behind the wheel, probably Christopher Plummer.

- The all-new Driverless Popemobile is considered a miracle by the Catholic Church resulting in a new title for Tesla CEO ... Saint Elon Musk.

- Despite your protests, your driverless car stops and picks up a hitchhiker who keeps going on and on about how "You off like three or four people and suddenly everybody's calling you a serial killer!"

And finally, old habits being the hardest things to change, your wife will continue to sit in the backseat of your driverless car and criticize the onboard computer.

For comments, ideas and copies of The Legend of Zippy Chippy, go to [www.williamthomas.ca](http://www.williamthomas.ca)

## Energy Information Session in Massey

The Township of Sables-Spanish Rivers is hosting a public Community Energy Needs session.

The Township and Green Economy North want the community's feedback on the energy issues affecting them. The session will provide information on community

energy planning, and offer the opportunity for comment on the energy needs of residents, businesses, and community organizations.

It will be held on Thursday, February 22nd at 5:30 pm at the Massey & District Community Centre.

## Candidates Information Session in Espanola

Anyone considering running for council may want to take in a candidate's information night hosted by four municipal councils.

Espanola and the townships of Sable-Spanish Rivers, Baldwin and Nairn & Hyman townships are jointly hosting a candidate information night for the upcoming election.

Paul Casson of the Wishart Municipal Group, as well as

Timmins Mayor Steve Black and Sudbury councillor, Evelyn Dutrisac, are the keynote speakers.

They will focus on the role and responsibilities of council and what a potential candidate must consider if they want to run for office.

The seminar will be held on Thursday, March 29th at 7:00pm at the Espanola Royal Canadian Legion.

## Espanola Police Reports

On December 30, 2017, the Espanola Police Service received a complaint that a male was utilizing the social media app Snapchat to contact women in the Espanola and surrounding area, attempting to obtain images of women in various stages of undress; the male also shared sexually explicit images, purporting the images to be his own.

During the investigation, the Espanola Police Service identified five women who were contacted by the male utilizing Snapchat profiles shbe941 and jjb00794, and in at least one of these instances, the female contacted was under the age of 18-years old, constituting the offence of Luring.

On January 26, 2018, the Espanola Police Service arrested 26-year old Jonathan Bond of Whitefish Falls, and charged him with:

- 1)Adult Luring a Person Under 18 years of Age by Means of Telecommunications;
- 2)Distribution of Child Pornography; and
- 3)Adult Fail to Comply with Recognizance.

At this time, police are asking anyone who may have been contacted by Snapchat profiles shbe941 and jjb00794, to contact the Espanola Police Service at 705-869-3251.

A publication ban was issued during Jonathan Bond's Bail Hearing this date in Sudbury Court, prohibiting the release of any information in any document or broadcast or transmitted in any way that could identify the victim or a witness in this matter. Anyone who fails to comply with the order, may be found guilty of a criminal offence.

**Anyone with information on any of these crimes call Espanola Police Service at (705) 869-3251 or remain anonymous by calling Sudbury Rainbow Crime Stoppers locally at (705) 222-TIPS (8477) or toll free at 1-800-461-4899**

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Continued from front page...

## AB Ellis Hosts Cardboard Boat Races



The students had two hours to do it. The fastest teams with the heaviest boats will get the highest points. Although no local schools won

in this competition, Espanola High School secondary students will be heading to provincials in May having won the title in November, 2017.

## Cheer On Your Favourite Team

The annual Biidaaban Hockey Tournament is set with six school teams taking part. The public is invited to come out and cheer on their favourite elementary school on Valentine's Day, February 14th, as they compete in the

popular one-day tournament at the Massey Area Arena. The schools taking part include Biidaaban of Sagamok FN, St. Mary's of Massey, Ecole St. Joseph and AB Ellis from Espanola, as well as Lakeview and Pontiac from Manitoulin Island.

## Espanola Council Highlights

### Espanola OPP – the cost of renovations

Bringing the Espanola Ontario Provincial Police detachment up to standards could carry a high cost for Espanola taxpayers if the town decides to switch from municipal to provincial policing. Town of Espanola is asking for a two-month extension to the March 22nd deadline to sign a deal to switch to OPP. The costs are estimated at just over \$420,000 and does not include the cost of renovations for the municipal police station.

Council waited four months for the estimate for renovations of the OPP detachment on Highway 17, a cost that would be borne by the taxpayers.

It's not known if the OPP will agree to the extension.

Town staff continues to crunch the numbers and will have

them available for public review in late Spring.

### Town of Espanola releases draft budget

Espanola town council has directed departments to go back to the drawing board on their 2018 budgets.

Espanola CAO Cynthia Townsend says both the Espanola Police Service and the library proposed budgets are too high.

She says the police alone want a substantial increase of nearly half-a-million dollars.

Townsend adds with pulling from reserves, the budget sits at just over a four per cent increase, but it could be lower. Council agreed and passed a motion that the two departments come back with decreases.

The next budget meeting will be held later this month.

## Open House Shows Off Student's Initiative



There is no doubt the students and staff of Espanola High School are proud of their school, if 'this month's information night and tour is anything to go by.

A special display, There's A Feather In The Stories by Jayson Stewart's Appreciating Aboriginal Culture class, greeted visitors at the entrance. A multi-media mobile, it contains photos of residential school victims and survivors, the institutions themselves and quotes about this part of Canadian history.

The photos represent resilience, strength and mourning, and the feathers

represent wisdom and communal healing.

Still with the story, the Grade 9 Visual Arts class has been busy as well over the last few weeks updating faded graduation bricks in the halls, which go back to the early 1980s.

The bricks were painted by graduates in the year of their convocation.

The information night was held to introduce students, parents and the public to the second semester at Espanola High.



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## Michael Mantha's News from the Park

I am sure that I don't have to remind you that Monday February 19th Ontarians celebrate Family Day. The holiday is celebrated on the third Monday each year. Ontarians work very hard to support their families and help our economy grow. But sometimes our lives are so full that it's hard for people to make the time they want and need to spend with their loved ones - young and old. We in the North especially need time to connect with others, relax and enjoy what has got to be one of the most spectacular and scenic regions with a host of opportunities to enjoy our great outdoors. I really hope everyone will plan to make the most of this year's holiday.

You don't have to have a doctorate in sociology or economics to know that life is so much more complex and trying than it was when most of us were younger or for our parents. People are having to work two or even three jobs all year long and, as a result, families suffer from breakdown. It's become the norm for young people starting out to have to rely on family for added support for basics. People are actually being forced to decide whether to put food on the table, pay their hydro or pay the rent.

Just days ago Ontario's Financial Accountability Officer (FAO) released a report that shows proof positive that life is in actual fact getting harder for Ontario families. Under the Wynne Liberals, Ontario household debt is increasing faster than the rest of Canada. People are taking on more and more debt just

to pay for the basics like rent, medicine and electricity. The time has come for us to take a new direction – one that makes life a little easier for folks like you and I.

Costs are increasing, but middle-class wages are not. According to the census, median household income growth between 2005 and 2015 was only 3.8 per cent – the lowest in the country by far, compared to provinces that saw their median income grow by more than 30 per cent over the decade. That's about 8 times more than Ontario's growth!

We just can't keep going in the direction that Kathleen Wynne has been leading us, with skyrocketing hydro, rising rents and unaffordable drug costs. The Conservatives and Wynne Liberals' plan to keep Hydro One private, driving up the cost of electricity, must be stopped. And cuts – like the Conservative's plan to cut \$6.1 billion in services we all count on – will only make things tighter for households. In terms of drug costs, New Democrats are delighted to see the Liberals adopted part of our suggestion of paying for prescriptions. But by only paying for young people under 25, this is not even a half measure. What about the thousands of others who are struggling? My office hears every week from people who say they can't afford their medication costs. Seniors and those on fixed income are still suffering and having to pay for medication out of pocket or simply go without and put their health at risk.

Kathleen Wynne loves to grandstand and say how much the Liberals are doing to help

the people of Ontario and how important each one of us is. Yet, just follow the news to see how much they really care. Look at the gas plant scandal that recently came to a conclusion in the courts. Ontarians are understandably still upset at the more than \$1 billion in public money the Liberals blew to save a few seats by moving gas plants in 2011. It's clear that there was a scramble to cover-up their motives. Families are still footing the bill, and are shocked by the lengths the Liberals will go to just to score a few political points. The guilty verdict for the high ranking Liberal official proves that that systemically the Liberals will do whatever it takes, at any cost to families, to protect themselves and their party's seats ahead of an election.

Like I said last week, "insanity is doing the same thing over and

over again expecting different results." We need to change our path - and the good news is that there really is hope for relief. New Democrats have a plan for prescription drugs for everyone, regardless of age and income. We will bring Hydro One back into public hands to get electricity bills down, and keep them down. And we'll help deliver affordable housing so families can afford to stay in their neighborhood and raise their kids in the city that they call home.

I really do believe that positive change is in the air.

As always, please feel free to contact my office about these issues, 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 or Toll free 1-800-831-1899.

Michael Mantha MPP/député  
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## OBITUARY



**MURPHY, Norma Florence** - February 3, 1933 - February 1, 2018. The family announces with sorrow the peaceful passing of a gentle lady, Norma Florence Murphy, on February 1, 2018 at Espanola, Ontario. The daughter of Lloyd and Anne (nee Senn) Nelles, Norma was born and raised in Southwestern Ontario farming country, but her heart belonged in Muskoka where she enjoyed many years of lakeside living with family and friends. Norma was

predeceased by her brother Carl, husband Donald Murphy (1989) and partner Gordon Henderson (2012). She was the beloved mother of Janet Nicks (Brian), Michael Murphy (Maria) and Timothy Murphy. Norma will be sadly missed by grandchildren Lynsey Watt, David Nicks and Melissa, Cody and Wyatt Murphy, and leaves three precious great-grandchildren: Meredith Watt and Rylan and Noah Murphy. At Norma's request, there will be no visitation or funeral service. Donations to a charity of your choice would be appreciated. The family sincerely thanks all of the kind and caring staff at the Espanola Nursing Home, especially the nurses and PSW's. They are truly God's angels on Earth.



Nicky Lamothe - PUBLISHER

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**RECIPE CORRECTION:**



In the January 30th edition of the Around&About, the amount of flour listed in the Double Peanut Butter Cookies recipe should have read 1 ½ cups of flour NOT ½ cup of flour. We are rerunning the column so that readers can cut out the correct recipe. My apologies for any inconvenience or bad batches of cookies.

**Recipe**

Peanut butter cookies are one of my favourites, so when my mother in law told me she had a recipe for them with a peanut butter centre; I asked if I could have it. She shared her recipe with me along with a sample of these double, delicious cookies. They are not only pretty to look at; they are as tasty as they sound. I can attest to this. I ate 3 before they made it home.

**Double Peanut Butter Cookies**  
(makes 2 dozen)

- 1 ½ cups flour
- ½ cup white sugar
- ½ tsp baking soda
- ½ cup shortening
- ½ cup peanut butter
- ¼ cup light corn syrup
- 1 tbsp milk
- Additional peanut butter for filling.



Sift dry ingredients together. Blend in shortening and peanut butter. Stir in the corn syrup and milk. Shape into 2 rolls; chill. Slice each roll into 1/8 to 1/4 inch thick rounds. Place half the cookies on ungreased cookie sheets. Drop ½ tsp of peanut butter onto the centre of each cookie. Cover each cookie with remaining cookie slices; seal edges with a fork. Bake at 350 degrees for 10 – 12 minutes. Let cool and remove from cookie sheet.

*Photo by Bonnie Muncaster*



**COMMUNITY NOTES**

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**Free Community Luncheons** - Feb. 13 and Feb 27, 2018 11:30 am - 1:00 p.m. at the Lighthouse, Espanola (across from the Royal Bank) NO CHARGE, EVERYONE WELCOME

**Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper** - Tuesday, February 13 from 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. at the Espanola United Church, 137 Sheppard St. Tickets Available at the Door.

**F.C.F.E. Diner de Bucheron/Lumberjack Luncheon** – Jeudi Fevrier 15, Thursday, February 15, 11:00 – 2:00 p.m. at the St. Jude Hall.

**SAVE A.B. Ellis Meeting** – Thursday, February 15. 1:30 p.m. at the Espanola United Church. Everyone Welcome.

**North Shore Angler & Hunters Meeting** – Thursday, February 15, 7:30 p.m. at the Walford Community Centre, Hwy 17.

**Family Day Celebration** - February 19 from 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the Espanola Complex there will be carnival style games, Kraft dinner and hot dog lunch, zumba, skating and swimming all for FREE!

**Children's Clothes Closet** – Calvary Baptist Church, Espanola. Wednesday, February 21, from 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. New born - size 6. Accepting donations.

**World Day of Prayer Service** - Friday, March 2 at 7:00 p.m. at the United Church of Espanola, 137 Sheppard Street, Espanola.

**Al-Anon Meetings For Families And Friends of Alcoholics** - Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m., St. George's Anglican Church, Espanola. Call 705-869-6595 or 705-869-2505 for more info.

**Drug Problem?** - We've been there. We can help. Narcotics Anonymous, meetings are Tuesdays and Saturdays 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. United Church Espanola 137 Sheppard St.

**AA Meetings At St. George's Anglican Church** – Tudhope St., Espanola, Wednesday at 8:00 p.m. and also Thursday at the United Church at 8:00 p.m.

**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.**  
E-mail: around@aroundandabout.ca

**HOME GAMES!!**

**Friday, February 16, 7:30 pm**

**ESPANOLA VS French River Rapids**

**Saturday, February 17, 7:30 pm**

**ESPANOLA VS SOO THUNDERBIRDS**

**Sunday, February 18, 2:00 pm**

**ESPANOLA VS Hearst Lumberjacks**

**99.3 Moose FM**  
Espanola's Biggest Variety

**Moose Corner**

Have an event coming up, a fundraiser, a charity gathering, contact The Moose for complimentary mcg and assistance with your event ... let Roz help you put together your event, call 705-869-6397 or email: russell@moosefm.com