



Domtar Reassessed by MPAC; Espanola Residents Face Huge Property Tax Hike

The Town of Espanola has received the decision from the Assessment Review Board on the assessment value of our local mill. The returned assessment for the years 2009 through to 2012 is \$9,937,000. The original assessed value for these years ranged between \$19,000,000, through to \$26,522,040. The \$19,000,000 was the assessed value arising from the previous decision for the years 2006, 2007 and 2008. The result of this impact is a refund of property taxes of approximately \$4.9 million, of which approximately \$940,000 is the education portion which will be recovered from the Ministry of Education reconciliation. The Town was prepared for a reduction in assessment to the previously determined level of \$19,000,000 however the assessed value is approximately 50% less than what was anticipated. "This news is devastating; the municipality relies on MPAC's valuations, and for the decision to be almost one-third of this figure is unacceptable. We cannot expect our taxpayers to be held responsible for this financial burden which is unduly handed to them. This situation identifies critical errors in the methodology used for calculating these values and in funding formulas which do not provide for reconciliations of prior years when such adjustments are made retroactively." said Ms. Townsend, Clerk-Treasurer/Administrator. "Residents



705-869-2130

830 Centre Street

*ALL CASH & CARRY.

WHILE QUANTITES LAST.

Espanola





Continued on back page ...

(•) • • (:

hardware

www.ourchildren-ourfuture.net





williamithomas@gmail.com

Teacher Allergic To ... Wait For It ... Students!

There are tough jobs out there. order to rate their noxious levels. (Please mites and cockroaches, birch trees and tell me this guy works in a non-smoking area!)

There are difficult jobs. In agricultural areas like Wainfleet, poultry farmers hire young guys who are quick of hand and foot as chicken catchers.

And there are demanding jobs out there like a janitor at a nuclear reactor plant. "If the dust is glowing, use the long broom!" So all these jobs are challenging enough on their own without a job-related handicap. What if a gastroenterologist comes down with a sinus problem or the chicken chaser suffers a pulled groin or worse, develops an allergy to feathers?

Now I would consider a teacher in today's schools to be holding down a position this one's going to become contagious and that is all of the above ... tough, difficult and demanding. So when a teacher has a sinus problem, a muscle pull or an allergy to that job - which requires speaking, standing and not sneezing all over the students – that job just got a whole lot harder.

But when a teacher suffers from an allergy to students, that is the grand daddy of all career enders right there! I mean that's like a seasoned politician who suddenly starts experiencing nausea and skin rashes at the faint odour of BS. Sorry but if you're an elected official who can no longer trade in the currency of verbal crap, you need to resign and find work that is honest.

Like airborne angst, it seems we're allergic to just about everything today.

A Allergies used to be related to cats and gastroenterologist is a technician who dogs, ragweed and pollen. Today people inhales human halitosis and flatulence in are finding themselves allergic to dust sesame seeds. Some people are allergic to the vibration of cars and lawnmowers. Aquagenic urticaria is an allergy to water. People today are complaining of welts and rashes and dripping noses due to sex, sweat, sunlight and shoes.

There's even an allergy called anaphylaxis which is not actually an allergy per se but a fear of having allergic reactions when you don't have the allergy at all. There is no cure because ... there is no allergy. This is not related to the allergy to peanuts ... this is just plain nuts.

But a teacher allergic to her students!?! Get used to the latest word in allergies - pedophobia - because I have a feeling spread fast like wild fire in the world of education.

Maria Waltherr-Willard, 61 years of age from Cincinnati, Ohio claims to suffer from pedophobia. She is suing the school where she used to work because she claims to be a victim of discrimination. This former teacher who does not have children of her own claims that because of the position the school district forced her to assume – that is, a teacher of young children - she developed an allergy to them.

I'm not saying Ms. Waltherr-Willard is being disingenuous here, but if airline pilots start developing allergies to passengers, we're all in serious trouble.

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351 Appleford Ave.



Call 705-869-6200 or toll free at 1-877-869-6211 to book appointments. Or come in at 721 Centre St. (next to Petro Canada)

Continued from page two...

Ms. Waltherr-Willard claims she was quite content teaching French and Spanish to teenagers in the Mariemont School District for 35 years but in 2009, she was transferred to another school with much younger children. That's when the stress, chest pains and vomiting began. That's when she began to fear her seven and eighth graders.

I can relate to that last part because although I've had no children of my own, whenever I held babies belonging to family and friends, they always puked on me. I'm serious. It was so bad I once thought of marketing my own line of aftershave called "Eau de Sour Milk." I met one such regurgitater recently, now thirty years old and with a child of her own and the first thing she did was remove my raincoat. She said it was now unnecessary. So yes, apparently you can grow out of allergies.

Whenever she came into the same vicinity as children, Ms. Waltherr-Willard claims her blood pressure shot up so high she was eventually forced to retire after two years in her new job. I'm guessing that at her retirement party, the students presented Maria with a box of peanut-encrusted chocolates and a bundle of ragweed incense sticks.

Given the history of the American jury system where a coffee to the crotch can get you \$2.86 million, do not rule out a

class action lawsuit by thirty Mariemont School District students who have developed an allergy to a teacher who is allergic to them. It's called the tit-for-tat countersue allergy.

Not having been what you would call an exemplary student myself, I'm not sure this woman is allergic to the kids themselves. Perhaps she's actually allergic to the tissue that is in the spit balls of which she took way too many in the head. Or it could be the glue on the seat of her chair that required four firemen and the jaws of life that allowed her to stand up. Or maybe she has an allergy to animals triggered by the pony she found in the backseat of her car in the parking lot. (For the record, if Mrs. Leach is still alive, I admit it was my idea but Malcolm Ferri actually managed to get Trigger in there despite the fact it was a two-door sedan.)

Just the thought of being ordered down to Mr. Hodgkin's office makes me itchy and scratchy all over. Unfortunately the statue of limitations on any sort of student discrimination suit I might launch lapsed a long time ago. Plus if I lost, I'd probably get the strap again.

For comments, ideas and copies of The True Story of Wainfleet, go to www.williamthomas.ca



A Penny For Your Thoughts? ... Not Anymore



Your wallet, which is used to over-flowing with coins, will soon be getting a little less crowded. As of last Monday, the Royal Canadian Mint is no longer distributing pennies. The move comes a year after Finance Minister Jim Flaherty announced the penny's demise. Flaherty cites the logistical challenges associated with the penny as one of the reasons for discontinuing it. Businesses doing cash transactions are being encouraged to begin "rounding" purchases. Paying by cheque, debit, or credit card won't require rounding, and the HST won't change, only the final purchase price after

taxes have been calculated But, again, only if you are paying with cash. Confused yet?

Though retailers' complaints gave the penny a stay through the holiday shopping season, they will have no choice in the matter now. However, if you've been paying attention, many businesses have already started the process of rounding your purchases. It's been a veritable "give a penny, take a penny" scenario when paying for your morning coffee for a while.

The government's official rounding recommendations are illustrated in the chart.





FOR SALE

FOR SALE - 1996 Ski-Doo Formula 3, 600cc, 5500 miles, new track, 2 seats, 2 windshields. Asking \$3200.00. Call 705-869-4827 Ask for Gerald 03/05

FOR SALE - Extra lean ground beef and minute steaks. Government inspected. Call 705-869-2333 ask for George.

FOR SALE - Heavy Duty Inglis dryer, \$75.00. Good condition, works great just not needed. Call705-869-2333.

FOR SALE - 2007 G6 Pontiac V6, under 130,000 km, comes with safety. No calls before 9:00am or after 8:00pm. Call 705-865-2663.

FOR RENT

FOR RENT IN WEBBWOOD – 2 bedroom home, 1 level. \$700.00 /month plus utilities. First and last required. Call Greg at 705-822-4734. 02/19

FOR RENT - 2 bedroom home, no smoking or pets. \$800/month + utils, available Feb 1/13. Call 705-863-0900. 02/19



SWEETHEART DANCE – DJ and live music by Out of the Vault, featuring Lauren McClure on the bass. Saturday, February 16, 2013 from 8:00 p.m. – 1:00 a.m. at the Webbwood Eagles. Tickets \$10.00/person or \$15.00/couple. 02/12

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT

KEMBALL, Jeffrey Robert - May 7th, 1961 - January 29th, 2013. It is with great sadness that the family of Jeff Kemball announces his passing at the age of 51 in Regina, Saskatchewan. Jeff is survived by his mother, Patricia Kemball, of Stittsville and his father, Robert (Rita) Kemball, of Toronto; his wife, Brenda Skibinsky and much beloved son Jacob, of Massey; and his sisters Charlotte (the late Alan) Ducsharm, of Barrie, and Kathleen (Mark) Hickey, of Stittsville. Jeff is also survived by several nephews, nieces, aunts and uncles. A memorial service was held at the Jennett Chapel of the McClelland & Slessor Funeral Home Barrie, Ontario on Saturday, February 9th. In memory of Jeff, donations may be made to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation by mail: JDRF NEO, 1600 Merivale Rd., Suite 206, Ottawa ON K2G 5J8, online: www.jdrf.ca or through the funeral home. Words of comfort may be forwarded to the family by visiting www.funeralhome.on.ca

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SERVICES

LINDEN HEATING & GAS ENERGY SERVICES - Sales and Service of Commercial and Residential Gas-Fired Appliances Serving Espanola & the North Shore. Dennis Rannelli & Linda Quenneville. Call 705-863-0000. 02/19

ESPANOLA SELF STORAGE – 6x8 and 8x10 Storage Units available in Espanola. Located behind the car wash. Call 705-869-8405. 03/19 -**R**

APP COMPUTER SOLUTIONS-Available 7 days a week. Complete Computer Repairs –Virus, Trojan & Spyware Removal – Tune Ups & System Reloads – Software & Network Installations – Flat rates available. Call 705-869-5757. 03/19-R

GAETANNE RIOPEL SEWING - Serving you for all of your sewing and stitching needs. Specialize in wedding alterations and leather. Please call 705-869-5650. 02/12



705-869-2915

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NOTICE

Friendly Massey Marathon Back On!

Looking For A Few Good Volunteers

The Massey Friendly Marathon has been a part of our summer events and identity for over 30 years. Join us in keeping the tradition alive as we mark the 37th Annual Friendly Massey Marathon! The 2013 Friendly Massey Marathon will take place July 20-21st this year, but we can't do it without you. We need volunteers and community support in order to keep this worthy event going. If you want to be part of the fun, contact Dave Stonley at (705) 582-2061 or email cstonley@eastlink.ca and get involved today!

COMMUNITY NOTES

World Day of Prayer – Friday, March 1, 7:00 p.m. at the St. Georges Anglican Church. 213 Tudhope St., Espanola. Theme "I was a stranger and you have welcomed me"

Community Luncheon - February 26 at the Lighthouse in Espanola (across from the Royal Bank) from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm. NO CHARGE. Everyone welcome.

Espanola Skating Club Annual Carnival – Saturday, March 30, at the Espanola Recreation Complex. Fund-raiser in support of the skating club. For information, call 705-862-2501.

Free Community Skate – Hosted by RBC Massey. Friday February 22, 2013 from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. at the Massey Arena. Skating, free hot chocolate, a visit with Leo the Lion, and face painting! Also stop by the RBC Play Hockey Shootout tent from 6:00 - 10:00 p.m.

Relay for Life Fund-raiser - Collecting refundable bottles, will pick up at your home. Please call Marlene Wilson. 705-869-8365 or 705-285-0048.

Espanola's Boogie Mountain Ski Hill - Hill will be open on Family Day February 18 from 12:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Beaver Lake Winter Carnival – February 15 – 17 at the Beaver Lake Sports & Cultural Club. Spaghetti supper, fireworks, snowmobile fun run, and more. Call Eija at 705-866-1506.

Turkey Supper – The United Church of Espanola, Sunday, February 17. 1st sitting at 5:00 p.m. 2nd sitting at 6:15 p.m. Takeout available. Call 705-869-2851.

Meat Roll Offs - Friday nights in February at the Royal Canadian Legion #397:00 - 9:00 p.m. Help support junior curling and the legion.

Royal Purple Lunches – March 7 serving Spaghetti. For orders call Gert 705-869-2669 or kitchen 705-869-4888 (leave message). All orders must be in no later than Tuesday evening (March 5).

Espanola Elks Cribbage Tournaments – Sunday, February 24. Preregistrations (teams of two). For registrations call 705-869-6237 or 705-869-1931.

Espanola Chess Club - Wednesdays 6:30-9:30 p.m. in the Library Conference Room. All levels welcome! Free Membership. Bring a chess set. No timers required. Call Wayne Levesque at 705-862-1617 for more information.

Lions TV Bingo – Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. Tune into Local Channel 10 or come on out to the Espanola Regional Recreation Complex.

Social Bridge - Wednesdays from 1:00 - 3:30 p.m. at the Seniors Drop In Center. No partner needed, just come and play. Call D. Allen at 705-869-0475 for information.

Do you have a NOTE for the Community? We invite not-for-profit organizations to submit information on their up-coming 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

Recipe

A decadent, red and white, cheesecake perfect for Valentine's Day. If you want to be creative you can swirl the raspberry sauce on the top into hearts.

White Chocolate Raspberry Cheesecake

- 1 cup chocolate cookie crumbs
- 3 tablespoons white sugar
- 1/4 cup butter, melted
- 1 (10 ounce) package frozen raspberries
- 2 tablespoons white sugar
- 2 teaspoons cornstarch
- 1/2 cup water

- 2 cups white chocolate chips
- 1/2 cup half-and-half cream
- 3 (8 ounce) packages cream
- cheese, softened
- 1/2 cup white sugar
- 3 eggs
 - 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Line bottom of your spring form pan with parchment paper for easy removal of the cake when it's done. In a medium bowl, mix together cookie crumbs, 3 tablespoons sugar, and melted butter. Press mixture into the bottom of a 9 inch spring form pan. Blend the raspberries and water in the blender and strain the berries through a mesh strainer to remove seeds. In a saucepan, combine raspberries, 2 tablespoons sugar, cornstarch, and water. Bring to boil, and continue boiling 5 minutes, or until sauce is thick. (Sauce ingredients can be doubled if you want extra for serving). Preheat oven to 325 degrees F (165 degrees C). In a metal bowl over a pan of simmering water, melt white chocolate chips with half-and-half, stirring occasionally until smooth. In a large bowl, mix together cream cheese and 1/2 cup sugar until smooth. Beat in eggs one at a time. Blend in vanilla and melted white chocolate. Pour half of batter over crust. Spoon 3 tablespoons raspberry sauce over batter. Pour remaining cheesecake batter into pan, and again spoon 3 tablespoons raspberry sauce over the top. Swirl batter with the tip of a knife to create a marbled effect. Bake for 55 to 60 minutes or until filling is set. Cool, cover with plastic wrap, and refrigerate for 8 hours before removing from pan. Serve with remaining raspberry sauce.

Note: Check it 15 minutes early. If it looks done in the oven it will be OVER DONE on your plate. Tap the side of the pan with a spoon and if it jiggles as "one piece" rather than like jell-o, it's done, if it doesn't jiggle at all, it's over done.

Mother May I now has her own e-mail address! If you'd like to share a recipe, life tip, or craft idea, or have any questions, you can email me at:



mothermayi@aroundandabout.ca

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Kids Korner

Giving a picture of your child in a frame they made themselves makes a perfect Valentine's Day present for family and friends. This cute Valentine's Day frame craft is made using popsicle sticks and puzzle pieces and is simple enough to do with a preschooler.

Valentine's Day Picture Frame

- A small puzzle or puzzle
- pieces from an old puzzle
- Red, white and pink craft paint
- Paint brush
- · Tongue depressors or popsicle sticks
- Glue
- Black marker
- Craft foam hearts or embellishments (optional)
- · Photo

If using a small puzzle, remove the center four pieces. Snap apart the remaining pieces. If using an old puzzle select enough random pieces to overlap around the frame. Paint the pieces red, pink or white. While the pieces dry, assemble your tongue depressors or popsicle sticks into a frame shape. Glue them together. When the puzzle pieces are dry, assemble them back together or glue them down to the tongue depressor frame as you go. If using old puzzle pieces glue them around slightly overlapping. This takes a good bit of glue. When you get all the pieces assembled, use the marker and write "I Love You To Pieces" along the bottom of the frame. Hearts and embellishments can be added. Add in a photo of your child.

Ladies' Winter Tea Wrap-Up



The Queensway Pentecostal Church hosted its Ladies' Winter Tea on Thursday, January 24th, and it was a huge success, with 100 ladies braving the cold to attend. Coffee, tea, sandwiches, and desserts were served by the Cadets and Debbie St. Onge from the VON did a presentation on the services offered in our community for the seniors and shut-ins. She welcomed volunteers to join in various programs.

Entertainment included Spotlight Dancers The from Sudbury who awed the crowd with acrobatic numbers and skilled tricks. The dancers brought a lot of excitement to the event. In 160 all, items were collected support of in Rainbow the Food Bank, well exceeding the goal of 130. The money collected

the door at was donated to both the Cadets and the VON. Local contributed businesses door prizes and the QPC is especially grateful to Home Hardware for the gift basket, Krissie Vanier for the AVON basket, Jean Country for the gift certificate, and Remedy RX for the gift basket.

The Princess Tea is slated for October. Girls of all ages are invited with their mothers, grandmothers, and guardians. It is a chance for all to dress up in their finest and receive the royal treatment. Check the Around&About Community Notes for details.





Continued from front page...

simply cannot afford a 50% tax for the previous two years, the increase for 2013, which is what expected decrease forecasted in would be required to fund this the first draft budget for 2013, liability."

this result" said Mayor Lehoux, the past three years. "This would have been the third The municipality will consecutive year our council working together with other would have been able to provide municipalities such as Dryden, stability to our ratepayers." He Thunder Bay and Fort Frances noted the tax rate decreases who are facing the same issues.

and the fact that water and sewer "I am very disappointed with rates have also not increased for

be

Bv

Chloe

Kneer

spent.

Wanna know how you stack up

as a romantic this Valentine's

Day? There is always a lot of

pressure to find the right card,

flowers, jewelry, or to prepare

the ultimate meal or dessert (see

Mother May I's cheesecake

recipe), but what does your love

really want for Valentine's Day?

Behind Christmas, Valentine's

Day is the most celebrated

"holiday" of the year...

with an average \$13 billion

shell out between \$85-\$120

for Valentine's Day, whereas

women spend about \$50.

Typically, men will

You may be surprised!



The local snowmobile clubs of All participants are required Espanola, Massey, and Nairn to have a trail permit and Centre will hit the trails this must raise a minimum of Saturday, February 17, for \$25 in pledges. The Ontario the 35th Annual Espanola-North Shore Snowarama for Clubs is hosting its "Ontario's Easter Seals Kids. place on Ontario Federation - Try Our Trails Permit at of Snowmobile clubs (OFSC) No Cost" from February 16 groomed trails, this annual event encourages winter enthusiasts to raise funds to support children and youth with physical disabilities.

Snowarama for Easter Seals Kids has become one of the most successful winter fundraisers season for Easter Seals Ontario. This year, snowmobilers from 20 communities across Ontario including Espanola-North Shore, Manitoulin Island and Sudbury, will enjoy winter festivities in this daylong, family-friendly event.

The ride will begin at Tim Hortons in Espanola for registration, from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. A ride to the Massey Fire Hall will begin at 10:00 a.m., with photographs being taken of all participants and coffee and hot chocolate being served. Riders will then be encouraged to attend lunch at Tim Hortons in Espanola, which will be partially paid through a \$5 coupon being donated to all participants. A dinner, awards ceremony, and prize distribution will take place at the Espanola Elks at 6:00 p.m.

Federation of Snowmobile Taking Family Day Long Weekend -18, 2013. You can get your "Try Our Trail Permit" online at www.ofsc.on.ca. For pledge forms, please contact Theresa Land at 705-869-1597 (Espanola), Lisa Richer at 705-865-1441 (Massey) or Rosalind Russell at 705-869-6397 (Espanola).

> Funds raised at Snowarama help children with physical disabilities achieve their potential and independence. It can cost families an additional \$10,000 to \$40,000 a year to raise a child with a physical disability and most families can't do it on their own. For the past 90 years, Easter Seals Ontario has provided families of children with physical disabilities financial assistance for expensive mobility and communication devices such as walkers, braces, and wheelchairs, Easter Seals fully accessible camps, and alternative recreational programs.

For more information, call Joanne Bowers, Special **Events Specialist**, Easter Seals Ontario at 705-566-8858 or 1-800-316-5730 ext. 6 or visit www.snowarama.org.

85% of cards are purchased by women. Men, on the

Happy

Valentine's

Day From

other hand, buy 73% of the flowers. A man will usually purchase multiple gifts including candy, flowers, or a supper out.

What do men and women say they want for Valentine's Day.

however? An online survey showed that 8% of people plan to give gift cards, but 15% would like to receive them. Only 7% plan to offer electronics, but 20% wish to receive them.

Other interesting Valentine's Day statistics:

15% of women send themselves flowers

- 8 billion: the number of Sweethearts Conversation Hearts manufactured each year

- 40% is the increase in requests for divorce lawyers around mid-February each year...so choose wisely!



early detection is critical in preventing unnecessary vision loss or permanent damage from occurring. See your optometrist regularly. They know your eyes inside and out.

