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 April 22, 2014 Issue 16 - Volume 18

Expanding The Police Beat:
 Espanola Police Service presents to neighbouring townships. If adopted, no OPP costing for more than five years in Espanola.



By *Chloe Kneer* - Four years ago, now Deputy Mayor Jill Beer was a candidate running for municipal office. Beer canvassed the Town of Espanola door-to-door, promising taxpayers that they would get an OPP costing for policing during the next term of council. An OPP costing is something that residents have long wanted in order to compare contracting with the OPP versus what is currently being spent on maintaining a municipal police service. Since that time, the contract between the town and the Espanola Police Service has been renegotiated to include severance packages that will make it more difficult and expensive for Espanola to disband the municipal police force, and current council voted down the prospect of an OPP costing. Last Monday night, Beer (who sits on the Police Services Board), along with Clerk Cynthia Townsend, Deputy Police Chief Steve Edwards and Police Services Board member Cheryl Kay made the second of two presentations to McKerrow (the first being in Nairn Centre the week prior) on

Continued on page four...

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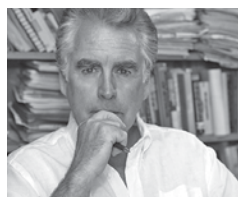
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All The World's A Circus

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The Cat Café - Amaretto Almond Coffee With Lots And Lots Of Attitude

"Cats have it all," said poet and singer Rod McKuen, "- admiration, and endless sleep, and company only when they want it." Now they have it all in one place - the Café Chat l'heureux in Montreal's Plateau Place, will soon be the site of North America's first ever North American cat café.

Poets have often pointed to two surefire retreats from the miseries of everyday life - cats and music. You get that and much more at the Café Chat l'heureux - cats, music, muffins, tea, pastries, sandwiches and specialty pet products. I'd love to have the Sticky Lint Roller concession. It's the only place on the planet where your pet can get a tuna juice Chinese tea. The place will be also known as "The Happy Cat" in English, a good choice but I'm sure somebody in the brainstorm sessions was seriously tempted to call it "The Cat House."

Owner and creator Clément Marty visited similar feline-focused establishments while travelling in Japan and South Korea. Convinced the concept would fly in his hometown of Montreal, Marty put out an online SOS and cat-crazy people provided \$40,000 in start money in no time at all.

The café full of purring for balls is the fun part. The serious messages that underscore the project are raising awareness of the treatment of animals,

the calming benefits of "cat therapy" and the facilitation of cat adoptions. Our humane societies and SPCA's are sadly and seriously overpopulated with cats.

Can you imagine a coffee house filled with sprawling cats - on laps and couches, on tables and perches, in the window and off the walls - cats. The owner plans to hire a great big German Shepherd to sit security at the door. Dogs of course will not be allowed except - and you'll want to live stream on the café for this one - except on April Fool's Day.

Having written a couple of books on the subject of cats, I consider myself a bit of an expert. Which is why I believe that after about a week of catering to several hundred cats, the café will have no choice but to add a "complaint department." Oh yeah, I can see it now.

The Tabbies think the stray cats should be kept out in the alley and not be allowed to wear collars.

"The Calico got into the kitchen. How come we can't go in the kitchen?"

"That Ginger Tabby! She's got some temper on her!!"

"Oh sure, he says he's a Hemingway but has anybody actually counted his toes?"

And of course, the Ukrainian Levkoy keeps hissing at the Russian Blue for invading her territory.

"And those two Siamese twins? They're

Continued on page three...


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Continued from page two...

just plain crazy."

A "Take A Number Complaint Department" is what they'll need at the cat café.

Kittens will have to sit in high chairs provided and breastfeeding will be restricted to the "Mother's Milk Only" corner. Mostly the cat café will be the site of one very long communal nap. Until the last Saturday of the month ... that's "Live Mice Day." Yeah, then the place will look like a Walmart Superstore at midnight on Black Friday.

And catnip? Lots and lots of catnip. The skunky, pungent odour of weed will be so strong the neighbours will think Marty is operating a downtown grow-op.

They decided against screening movies at the café and instead they're going to show the same film clip over and over again all day long. It's a video of dogs playing "fetch." Most of the cats tip over laughing. None of them ever get tired of watching it.

Years ago, I wrote captions for a book of cat paintings, funny portraits of cats in various domestic predicaments. I finally settled on the title of

Cattitude. The attitude of the cat is best described by the subtitle of that book: "If cats could talk, yours probably

wouldn't even be speaking to you right now."

In ancient times cats were worshipped as gods. Today they're trying to return to the good ol' days.

Don't get me wrong. I love the little buggers but they can make Simon Cowell look "unarrogant."

I would like to see a roll call at the United Nations in which the leader of every nation in the world has to give a brief and honest report on how they protect and provide for the country's creatures, helpless animals that put their lives in human hands.

"The greatness of a nation and its moral progress," said Mahatma Gandhi, once the gentlest and most powerful soul on earth, "can be judged by the way its animals are treated."

Whenever somebody comes up with a new way in which to better care for the little critters, it should make us all feel good. Pets - they make us crazy and they make us better people.

For comments, ideas and copies of Malcolm & Me - Life In The Litterbox, go to www.williamthomas.ca

Hearing Voices? They Might Be The Voices of Spring

By Grant Lewis - Ah, the good old days of 1996 ... when Dallas won the Super Bowl; the Yankees won the World Series, and Colorado won the Stanley Cup (or was it the Leafs? I think not.) The Russians were dealing with the Chechens and the Brits were dealing with mad cow disease.

In Massey, however, big events were happening. A small group of singers mainly from St. Andrew's United Church, under the guidance of Florence Erickson got together to present the first of many Good Friday Cantatas. Hope Jackson was the piano accompanist. Because of the solemnity of the day, the music was mournful, sad, and heavy in keeping with Good Friday. We were also limited to performing in as many churches on one day. It would not work to perform a Good Friday Cantata before or after the actual day!

Because Easter was usually a harbinger of Spring (this year excluded), the group was up for a more playful, entertaining and light presentation. Thus the Voices of Spring was born. Florence chose the music, Betty Sheffield played the piano and the rest of us sang with newfound gusto.

The concerts contained, and still do, an eclectic mix of religious, classical, Broadway, folk and country music. There is always something for everybody.

Sixteen years later we are still at it. Florence chooses the music, Dianne Emiry plays the piano, and the rest of us still sing with gusto! Even with more gusto some say!

And we are multi-lingual to boot! We have sung In Spanish, Italian, Latin, French, and Japanese. Apologies to all the Spanish, Italians, French and Japanese out there ... we try our best. However, Julius Caesar et al would be proud!

This year the tradition continues. The Voices of Spring will be performing Sunday, April 27 at St. Sebastian's in Spanish, Sunday, May 4 at Zion Lutheran in Massey and Monday, May 5 at Webbwood Public School. All performances are at 7:00 p.m. There will be a goodwill offering at each performance. In Webbwood, all monies collected will go to support the Breakfast Club program at the school.

Everyone is welcome...maybe the Voices of Spring can actually bring on Spring! We will try our best.



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Expanding The Police Beat

behalf of the EPS to expand their policing area to include Baldwin and Nairn/Hyman Townships. The presentations included positive details for the communities, including the ability of the EPS to provide an increased level of service for less money, increased community presence, and 24-hour access, 7 days a week. McKerrow and Nairn would have to commit to a five year contract by May 1 of this year in order for new officers (number unknown) to be recruited starting this June with service beginning in January, 2015.

Townsend laid out the economics of the proposal for McKerrow, stating that the contract would give the township "financial stability" and will cost \$163,500 the first year, with 2% increases annually. She estimates that over the five year contract, McKerrow residents stand to save \$250,000 versus remaining with the OPP, whose costs she emphasized were uncertain.

Townsend arrived at the 2% increases by pointing out that the Consumer Price Index has been just under 2% the last several years. However, Espanola Police Service budgets have, on average, increased by just over 7%, not including wage increases, for the last decade.

Including McKerrow and Nairn in their catchment area will require EPS to hire more officers and equipment, including vehicles. The subject of cottage patrol emerged and those in attendance were told that snowmobile and boat patrol would be possible. EPS expressed interest in having the power to enforce by-laws, with fines going to Baldwin Township. When asked if the EPS would undergo a rebranding, Townsend said, "There are no plans to rebrand; this is a contract for services only."

Espanola residents who were in attendance at the meeting had several concerns, not the least including the fact that contracts

of this nature would preclude an OPP costing for Espanola for more than five years. In other words, even the next council could not ask for an OPP costing, as the contract would out-run their term in elected office. Long-time Espanola resident Bill Foster presented his own police service comparison last year with the findings that during this five year contract, if Espanola were to disband its municipal force in favour of the OPP, Espanola taxpayers would save \$6,000,000.

There was also concern regarding logistics, including major events requiring more police presence (would the new townships be billed accordingly?) and familiarizing officers with the new terrain (at whose cost?) Then, there is also the looming possibility that the province may eventually mandate OPP service for all communities under 10,000 population regardless.

While unverified, if the province makes such a mandate, how

will the decision affect early withdrawal penalty clauses in these contracts with other communities? And, given the disparity in the annual increase in the contracts and the actual budget numbers, Espanola ratepayers are concerned with the prospect of winding up subsidizing policing services to the outlying areas.

Because townships must be in proximity to each other in order for them to share police services, the onus is on Baldwin Township to issue the make-or-break decision in regards to the contracts. McKerrow can opt in and Nairn can opt out, but McKerrow cannot opt out and Nairn opt in.

When asked does she perceive any benefit to Espanola residents if these contracts are entered into, Townsend replied, "Yes, I believe there will be benefits. I believe it is premature to comment on this issue until the respective councils have made the decision to pursue this."

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Recipe

I whipped up this salad for supper last night and it was very tasty if I do say so myself. It does take a little bit of preparation but it can be a complete meal if you add a layer of taco meat. I cooked a pound of hamburger with a package of taco mix and added it as a layer to the salad. It will make a perfect meal in the summer when you don't want to have your oven on and would be a hit at a BBQ or potluck. I'm giving you the recipe as I got it, but due to time restriction I didn't get to try the dressing. I made a simpler one using Thousand Island dressing, sugar and taco seasoning. I served this dressing on the side.



Tex Mex Layered Salad

Dressing:

One 10-ounce can original tomatoes (chilli flavoured)
8 ounces sour cream
3 ounces cream cheese, softened
1 teaspoon ground cumin
1 medium garlic clove, minced

Salad:

6 cups chopped Romaine lettuce (or a mix of Romaine & Iceberg)
One can black beans, rinsed and drained
One 15-ounce can corn or 1 ½ cups frozen, cooked in the microwave
2 medium avocados, peeled and sliced or diced
3/4 cup jarred roasted red pepper strips
1 cup shredded sharp cheddar cheese
One 6-ounce can sliced black olives, reserve a few for garnish
1/4 cup sliced green onions
Additional chopped lettuce, shredded cheese and olives for garnish

Prepare the dressing: Place dressing ingredients in a large bowl and use an electric mixer to combine until smooth. Set aside while you prepare the salad. Prepare the salad: Layer the salad ingredients in a large glass bowl in the following order: 4 cups of lettuce, black beans, corn, avocado, red peppers, 2 more cups of lettuce, cheese, and olives. Spread the dressing on top. Then use a few sprinkles of chopped lettuce, cheese, olives and green onions to garnish the top. Cover and refrigerate for up to 2 hours, or serve immediately.

*This salad is vegetarian as written, but you can easily add a layer of taco-seasoned chicken or ground beef to the salad.

*You can also make a dressing out of a small bottle of Thousand Island dressing, ¼ cup of white sugar and a tablespoon of Taco seasoning

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Please ensure you request any required **prescription(s)** in advance. You may request that your pharmacy forward to Dr. Chouinard needed prescription renewals so that Dr. Chouinard can review and renew them as needed, accordingly.

For **any other matter**, patients are directed to attend an available medical clinic at the Family Health Team situate at 801 McKinnon Dr, Espanola, ON, or another medical clinic which may be available to them.

To obtain **emergency or urgent care** in Espanola, please attend the nearest emergency medical department at the Espanola Regional Hospital and Health Centre situate at 825 McKinnon Dr, Espanola, ON.

If you have been referred to a specialist, that specialist will also be notified.

Dr. Chouinard will follow up with any existing **lab results** for tests that Dr. Chouinard has ordered.

Your **medical records** will remain at the Espanola Family Health Team unless your written authorization, as required by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, is received to transfer them to another physician. Please contact the Espanola and area Family Health Team at 705-862-7991 for further details and/or to verify any associated fees that the Family Health Team may charge.

Patients are encouraged to register with Health Care Connect to help find a family health care provider. To register with the program, simply call 1-800-445-1822. You will need a pen, some paper and your OHIP card when you call Health Care Connect. You can also register for Health Care Connect online by entering your information at www.ontario.ca/healthcareconnect.

Thank you for the opportunity to be a partner in your medical care. Best wishes to you,

Dr. Erin L. D. Chouinard
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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The One Tot Stop Day Care is looking for a student for summer employment in Espanola.

Employment will start on July 2nd and last for 7 weeks. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age, returning to school in September and must like working with children.

If you are interested, please send your resume and cover letter to

The One Tot Stop Day Care, Box 695 Massey, ON P0P 1P0;
email: onetotstop@bellnet.ca,

or drop off at The One Tot Stop Day Care, 128 Park St. Espanola, ON.

Deadline for applicants is May 5th 2014.



NOW HIRING:

Registered Practical Nurses

We offer flexible hours and exemplary wages.

Applicants must be certified in first aid/ CPR and must be in good standing and have a current CNO registration. We service Espanola, Manitoulin Island and the North Shore.

TO APPLY CONTACT:

New Direction Health Care Services

c/o Terri Buck-Orr

Box 1004

Little Current, Ont. P0P 1K0

Email: ndhs@outlook.com

Phone: 705 368 3669

Fax: 705 368 0620

Jeremy's

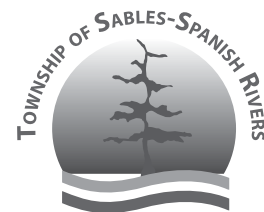
NOW HIRING FULL TIME POSITIONS AVAILABLE

CASHIER SALES ASSOCIATE IMMEDIATE OPENING

Fax Resume to 705-869-5770

Deadline to Submit

April 29, 2014



Employment Opportunity

Parks & Recreation Programs Operator

The Township of Sables-Spanish Rivers is accepting applications from interested individuals to work as Parks and Recreation Programs Operator. This is a part-time position for the purpose of designing, implementing and operating in-house programming for all age groups. The days and hours of work will be varied and flexible as required by the programs being offered.

The successful candidate will possess excellent organizational and leadership ability in order to provide activities for all ages and to recruit volunteers and provide educational components regarding active living. Further information on the position outline and objectives is available at the municipal office or at the Massey Arena.

Applications will be received by the undersigned until 4:00 p.m., Friday, May 2, 2014.

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

11 Birch Lake Road
Massey, Ontario P0P 1P0

Fax: 705-865-2736

Email: inquiries@sables-spanish.ca

COMMUNITY NOTES

Espanola Spartans Flea Market & Auction - Knights of Columbus Hall 399 Mead at Second, April 26. Doors open at 8:00 a.m. Fundraiser for the Espanola Spartans Track and Field Running Clubs at Espanola High School

Vote For Reilley - Reilley Wilson is a 14 year old quadriplegic boy in need of a new wheelchair van to help him get around. Join the group Vote For Reilley on Facebook and help him win during Mobility Awareness Month.

Call For Nominations - Sables-Spanish Rivers Council is requesting nominations for "Senior of the Year" and "Youth Volunteer". Please submit your nomination no later than noon on Wednesday, April 23 to the Township Office.

Good Food Box - Save money on fruits and vegetables. Large (\$17) or small (\$8) available. Call the Queensway Pentecostal Church to order. 705-869-1700.

Family Playtime (drop-in) - Espanola Public Library, starting Wednesday, April 30 from 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. for children under 5 and their caregivers.

Ladies Night at the Espanola Seniors' Drop-In Centre - Thursday May 1 7:00 p.m. Homemade natural products. Guest speakers to talk about their mission trip to India. Everyone welcome. Donations appreciated. Call Carol at 705-869-5304.

Fish Fry and Dance - Espanola Curling Club, Friday May 2 starting at 6:00 p.m. Dinner 6:00 p.m. - 8:30

p.m., dance 9:00 p.m. - 2:00 a.m. Tickets from members or call Bill Giles at 705-869-6237.

Trades/Career Day - Espanola High School, Thursday, May 8 from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. If your business would like to participate, contact Dean Riggs at riggsd@rainbowschools.ca

Massey Street Cleaning - Supported by the Inter-church Council on May 10 (weather permitting, May 24 if bad). Meet at the Massey Bible Chapel at 9:00 a.m.

Prizes for most bags picked, youngest picker, and oldest picker, lunch supplied.

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