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Photo: Sacred Heart Catholic School students show off their decorated paper bags, which will be used by the Espanola LCBO to remind holiday revelers not to drink and drive.

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By *Chloe Kneer* - Both Sacred Heart Catholic and A.B. Ellis Public School students participated in a campaign from the LCBO to decorate blank liquor store bags with messages to remind adults not to drink and drive this Christmas and New Year, or at any time. The custom bags will be given out with purchases at the LCBO in Espanola during the holiday season. Some of the captions were very poignant such as "Your family needs you" and "Drive sober or get pulled over!" Sacred Heart principal Syndy Withers is proud of the students for their work,

Continued on back page...

Honda FALL EXCURSIONS EVENT

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Continued from front page...

Students Against Impaired Driving

saying, "It was a great effort by all of them."

The OPP reminds everyone that their Festive RIDE program is on now through January 2, with officers checking for not only drunk, but also drug-impaired drivers. The minimum fine

for a first-time impaired driving offense is \$1,000. A second offence carries thirty days in jail and a third offence will land you in jail for 120 days.

Almost 7,000 drug- and alcohol-related charges were laid last year by the OPP.

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Merry Christmas



As we celebrate the birth of our Saviour, we recognize that this can be a difficult time for many people. We would like to send our prayers to them and especially to any members of our school family who are grieving their loved ones this holiday season. We hope that you will cherish your memories and that you will take comfort in knowing that those you miss are safe in the arms of God.

from the Staff of
Sacred Heart Catholic School

THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

Wishing You a
Merry Christmas

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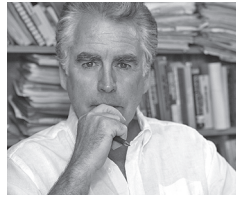
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My Buying Power Has Gone Bust

Big or small, I'm having difficulty buying things these days. Not long ago I became so frustrated at not being able to buy a new car with a manual transmission, I started looking for a good used one. Automakers are phasing out stick shifts and driving schools don't have such cars.

This is just not right. Some of these kids will grow up to be bank robbers and what'll they do when they carjack a getaway vehicle with a standard transmission? Lunge and lurch their way into custody, that's what! It's just not right.

So at one point I was considering buying a used Subaru Forester and I located one at a dealership north of Toronto. I was headed north anyway, so I stopped at the lot and met with this kid in sales who was cool, well-dressed and having a fight with his girlfriend on his cell phone. We had to drive to a nearby muddy parking lot because they're building a bigger dealership on the property next door. The car is navy blue, dirty and as I open the passenger door, it catches on the front fender.

"Not a problem," says the kid. He assures me that it was just a minor accident and the new door hasn't

been lubricated and adjusted. He'll take care of it right away. (For a "pre-owned vehicle," an accident is a "two-car exterior adjustment.")

So I get into the car which has mud on the floor mats and smells of cigarette smoke. I turn the ignition and nothing happens. Thinking I must be doing it wrong, I get out, he gets in and ... the battery is dead.

The kid phones back to the shop to have somebody come over with a battery charger and as we're standing there waiting, he looks at me and says: "So you wanna buy it?"

Normally I'd have been shocked but in my previous life I was a marketing rep for 3M Company. I know the Cardinal Rule of sales – never be afraid to ask for the order. Plus the kid is staring straight into my eyes, waiting for my answer. Rule #2 – never look away once you've asked for the order, it's a sign of weakness. "I can drop the price a bit. You wanna buy it?" he says. I'm trying very hard not to laugh because I know what it's like to live on sales' commissions so I said to him, I really did: "Well, if the brakes fail and the steering wheel comes off in my hands, then yeah, you got yourself a deal."

Continued on page three...

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Continued from page two...

I left in my 12-year-old Forester which is coming apart at the seams but maintains a very reliable stick shift.

Yesterday I drove into Canadian Tire to buy one of those big square flashlight batteries. The sales guy tells me that Eveready has a special – flashlight and battery for the same price as the battery I need. Trying hard not to add to disposable materialism, I buy just the battery. I get it home and it doesn't work. I toss the flashlight in the recycle and return to Canadian Tire to switch the newly purchased battery for the Eveready special. Back home with my new flashlight and battery and it doesn't work either. After unscrewing the lid, I see there's no damn bulb in the flashlight. I call the store. "Don't tell me the Eveready Special includes the battery but not the bulb!" I say, annoyed.

The clerk goes to the display and reports back to me that none of them have bulbs! Now we got a storewide recall on our hands. She puts me on hold, for her manager. As I explain my predicament for the second time, I am trying to force the old bulb from my original flashlight into the new one. But there's no hole in the new flashlight for the old bulb which, may or may not be dead. The manager is also puzzled by flashlights without bulbs and he puts

me on to a woman who has no time for this nonsense. "Did you press the 'on' button on your flashlight when you got it home?" Well, when I spotted the missing bulb, I really saw no point in turning it on. "Of course, I turned it on! What kind of idiot do you ...?"

"Turn it on. Right now." Parts, old and new are flying all over my desk as I reassemble the new flashlight, press the button and ... yeah, that's a pretty strong beam Eveready's got going there.

"Okay, it's on, but there must have been something wrong with the connections because ..."

"L-E-D," she says. "It's an LED flashlight. No bulb necessary."

The one thing I take pride in is that whenever I've been made a fool of, I am somehow able to come back with a very witty retort.

"Oh," I said. "LED, huh?" "No problem, Hon. Have a nice day."

Hon? She probably thinks I'm 83-years-old, incapable of operating a flashlight but cute for my age. And I don't care what she says, Eveready should damn well put an LED "No Battery Required" warning on their flashlights ... so as not to confuse children.

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

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COMMUNITY LIVING ESPANOLA'S 2016 CASH CALENDARS ARE HERE
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TICKETS ARE ONLY \$20 EACH. Prizes include \$100 Daily Draws and THREE \$1,000 Draws during the months of January and February 2016. The calendars are being sold at the Espanola Mall and/or Winkel's or you can drop by the office at 345 Centre Street (Hours: 8-12 or 1-4 Weekdays). **MOOSE SHOUTOUT TO ALL THEIR SUPPORTERS!**

Merry  Christmas




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Carol Hughes, MP
Algoma-Manitoulin-Kapuskasing

While Christmas can be the best time of the year with festivities and celebrations at almost every turn, it can also be the most difficult time of year. Just as good cheer can be amplified throughout the holiday season, so can those emotions that are associated with pressure and adversity. Whether this is because of temporary problems or long-term struggles, for many individuals Christmas can be a time of year that is endured more than celebrated. Part of the reason for that is the timing of the holiday, with Christmas just a week from the New Year, is a natural time for us to take stock of our situation. Individuals looking for employment at this time of year will certainly feel the additional pressure.

Employment struggles are daunting at any time, but the search for work over the holidays can be extra tough as many workplaces reduce hours or even take time off. The knowledge that it just takes a bit of patience can ring hollow when forced to wait for something so important. People struggling with money also feel pressure, and often this travels hand in hand with employment challenges. The tradition of gift giving can be a cash crunch for the best budgeted among us. For those struggling with finances, it

can be a hurdle that is difficult to overcome. Add to that the messaging of buy, buy, buy that seems impossible to avoid and it's easy to see how financial stress can become all-consuming as Christmas approaches.

I have heard people bemoan the commercialization of Christmas my entire life, but we can't take in any form of media these days without being bombarded with advertising and popular culture messages that are designed to coerce our behaviour in a number of ways. While we can acknowledge the way this can be a burden on the cash-strapped, it can also be a powerful reminder of how lonely a person can be too.

We don't have to look beyond the fairly uniform representation of how we should celebrate the holiday - with family and friends - to understand how many individuals can struggle at this time of year. Whether a person is depressed, perpetually lonely or simply distant from their friends and family, this season that is supposed to be joyous can be anything but.

I am not trying to say that we have to change how we celebrate Christmas or enjoy the holidays, but I do think it is important to remember those among us who are less fortunate. Much of what I have written about can be improved upon and I am motivated to do my best in my public role to work for better outcomes. That said, we can all be aware and show our compassion through the holidays towards those among us who could use a little help, company, or just understanding.

Merry Christmas and
 Happy New Year!

**Milestone Birthday Fundraiser For
 Webbwood Woman**



Photo: Alana Grant with her dog Atlas

Cystic fibrosis is an incurable genetic disease where the sufferer has thick mucus clogging their lungs. Scarring from infection eventually suffocates the patient as it leaves the lungs unable to supply enough oxygen to the body. While each case is different, the average life expectancy for someone diagnosed with cystic fibrosis is 31.

Sufferers must endure a litany of physiotherapy, drugs and inhalers, along with rigorous exercise to loosen the mucus in the lungs. Often, patients feel drained and exhausted. Immune systems of sufferers are also compromised due to the heavy use of antibiotics to keep infections at bay.

The good news is, with determination and discipline, CF patients are living longer.

Webbwood resident Alana Laderoute Grant is a shining example. Not expected to make it through her teens, Grant decided to live her life to the fullest and is usually seen snowshoeing, bike riding, or on

long walks with her dog, Atlas. She has remained extremely active, and as a result, will be celebrating a huge milestone next month: her 40th birthday. To mark the occasion, some of Grant's friends are holding a birthday celebration/cystic fibrosis fundraiser. All of the festivities are open to the public and the date to save is January 16, 2016.

The evening will start with a greet and mingle from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m., then a dance party from 8:00 p.m. – 1:00 a.m. There will be a silent auction, door prizes and light lunch. Admission is free and it all takes place at the Webbwood Eagles Club. The goal for the evening is to raise \$1,000 towards CF. If you would like more information, contact Cora-Lee Ertler at certler@live.com or 705-618-3685.

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DIANA'S DOG GROOMING - Hi there from Diana's Dog Grooming, Christmas bookings are fast being filled! If you want your dog smelling and looking gorgeous for Santa Paws, don't leave it too late to book. All grooming is on a one to one basis via appointment. Ensuring that the most nervous elderly and puppies benefit from a positive experience. Salon trained to a high standard I offer grooming with a difference. A warm welcome awaits you and your dog at Diana's Dog Grooming. Call to make an appointment at 705-688-3591 Espanola. 12/22

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FOR SALE - Limited amount of dry wood, hardwood. Call Greg 705-822-4734. 12/15

Espanola Police Reports

On December 1, a 23-year old female was to attend Espanola Court to answer to drug possession charges, stemming from an incident in August 2015. The female attended her first appearance in November, but failed to re-attend on the December court date, and a Bench Warrant was issued for her arrest.

On December 10, an Espanola Police Officer on duty in Provincial Offences Court, noted that the female was in attendance for a traffic matter, and upon confirming the warrant, the female was arrested and charged with Failing to Appear in Court. She was held for a Bail Hearing in Sudbury Court on December 11.

On December 5, at 12:20 p.m., a member of the Espanola Police Service was conducting routine patrol northbound on Centre Street, when he observed a vehicle in front of him that appeared to be travelling at a higher rate of speed than the posted 40 km/h zone. The officer activated the police vehicle's radar unit, which confirmed that the vehicle was travelling at 62 km/h.

After stopping the vehicle for the speeding infraction, the officer noted the overwhelming smell of freshly burnt Marijuana coming from inside the vehicle, and when the driver was questioned about the odour, the driver said that he'd smoked a joint at 6:00 a.m.; however, the officer could see a partial Cannabis cigarette in the center console. As a result of his observation, the officer arrested the driver and passenger, and during a search incident to arrest, the officer located a total of 61 grams of Cannabis-Marijuana, and a partially consumed can of beer.

The driver, a 28-year old Sudbury resident, was charged with:

1. Possession of a Controlled Substance sec. 4(1) CDSA;
 2. Speeding sec.128 HTA;
 3. Drive Motor Vehicle No Currently Validated Permit sec. 7(1)(a) HTA;
 4. Fail to Surrender Licence sec. 33(1) HTA; and
 5. Drive Motor Vehicle with Open Container of Liquor sec. 32(1) LLA
- He will appear in Espanola Court on March 16, 2016 to answer to his charges.

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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Recipe

Both these casseroles can be prepared the night before, and popped into the oven in the morning. Perfect for when you have company, are hosting a brunch, or Christmas morning.

Christmas Morning Wife Saver Casserole

- ❖ 6 thick bread slices, crust removed, cubed
- ❖ 1 lb ham cut into ½ inch cubes
- ❖ 8 oz cheddar cheese, cubed
- ❖ 8 eggs, beaten
- ❖ 2 cups milk
- ❖ 1/8 – ¼ tsp thyme
- ❖ ½ tsp dry mustard



Day before serving grease a 9 x 13 dish. Sprinkle bread, ham and cheese evenly over the bottom. Beat eggs, milk, thyme, and mustard. Pour over. Cover and refrigerate overnight. Remove from refrigerator in the morning while you preheat the oven to 325 degrees. Bake uncovered, 1 hour or until edges are slightly brown and a knife comes out clean when tested.

Sausage-Hash Brown Breakfast Casserole

- ❖ 1 pound mild ground pork sausage
- ❖ 1 lb frozen hash browns
- ❖ 1 onion, diced small
- ❖ 1 1/2 teaspoons salt, divided
- ❖ 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- ❖ 1 cup shredded Cheddar cheese
- ❖ 6 large eggs
- ❖ 2 cups milk

Cook sausage in a large skillet over medium-high heat, stirring until sausage crumbles and is no longer pink. Drain well. Prepare hash browns according to package directions, adding onion and 1/2 teaspoon salt and pepper. Stir together hash browns, sausage, and cheese. Pour into a lightly greased 13- x 9-inch baking dish. Whisk together eggs, milk, and remaining 1 teaspoon salt. Pour evenly over potato mixture. Bake at 350° for 35 to 40 minutes.



COMMUNITY NOTES

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North Shore Search And Rescue Raffle – Grand prize \$3,000 certificate for any Expedia Travel destination, plus 3 other prizes. Draw date is December 24 (winner notified December 25). Call Judy for tickets and information at 705-869-4520.

St. George's Church Christmas Eve Service - Thursday, December 24 at 6:30 p.m.

Free Christmas Dinner – December 25 at 4:30 p.m. at the Lighthouse across from the Royal Bank Espanola. Everyone welcome. If you can join us or need a ride, please call Joan, 705-869-1648 or Camilla, 705-869-4415.

Annual Free Christmas Dinner in Massey - Friday December 25, 4:00 at the Legion in Massey. Reservations call Penny 705-865-2467 or Shirley 705-844-2511.

French & English Story Hour – Starting Tuesday, January 5 at 9:00 a.m. at the Espanola Public Library, for 10 weeks. French Story Hour will be on Wednesdays. For more info and to sign up call 705-869-2940.

Spaghetti Supper – Saturday, January 23 at Massey Legion from 5:00 till 7:00 p.m. Home Made Bread, Cinnamon Buns for sale.

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

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

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

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