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June 30, 2015 Issue 26 - Volume 19

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All The World's A Circus

William Thomas

williamjthomas@gmail.com

China - The Global Warming Gong Show

Gearing up for the United Nations conference on climate change in Paris this December, the world's largest polluting countries are in full promise mode. In a global effort to reduce carbon emissions in the earth's atmosphere, the United States and China, the world's biggest polluters, have promised to double its previous rates of reduction, by 2025 and 2030 respectively. Recently India and China have promised to submit plans before the Paris conference outlining joint carbon-reducing targets.

In Canada we are doing nothing to combat greenhouse gases and extreme weather except denying the science they're based on. Prime Minister Stephen Harper needs to see way more starving polar bears and drowned caribou before he takes climate change seriously. By the time he does face reality, the Canadian Arctic will be a serious threat to Cuba as a year-round, warm-weather tourist destination.

With the World Health Organization attributing 7 million deaths annually to air pollution, in the struggle to clean its own atmosphere, you have to give China credit for trying. Even if their concepts and devices tend to be somewhat on the whacky side.

In central China, the city of Wuhan is considering building skyscrapers coated with a high-tech chemical that can "eat" air pollutants. I'm no expert in atmospheric dry-cleaning but if a chemical can eat carbon dioxide and sulfur dioxide, wouldn't it just love to have your lung for lunch?

One Chinese researcher in Beijing is working on an "urban wind passage" that would regulate the height and density of buildings so the smog has a "dispersal channel." If it works, death tolls would drop in Beijing but increase in the suburbs. That's like the old "non-peeing section of the swimming pool."

Another researcher has come up with a dress with sensors which would tell the wearer exactly how toxic the air is surrounding her body. No word of a male garment so if this product does work, for the sake of their health, men will have to take up cross-dressing.

One scientist is proposing to send up drones to freeze the polluted particulates and watch them fall to earth. But then you gotta shovel that stuff, eh?

In a country where you can often see the air but not across the street, the schemes to clean up atmospheric pollution are unlimited and quite artistic. In a city where almost everybody wears breathing masks in public, an artist is planning on sucking toxic particulates out of Beijing's filthy sky using a giant vacuum-cleaner-type device and then creating jewelry from the crystallized contaminants he collects. If this one works, the artist could become the world's first city-to-city vacuum salesman. Jewelry from junk in the air? Not so far-fetched when you consider that your body can now be cremated and then synthesized into a small, blue diamond which someday your grandchildren will likely sell in a lawn sale.

Continued on page three...

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Continued from page two...

Another artist, this one British and living in Beijing has invented the "air-purifying bicycle" from a generator, a fighter-pilot's mask, some hoses and filters, a motorcycle helmet and an IKEA wastebasket. He claims it delivers fresh air to the rider while peddling through the streets of the capital. Even if it does work, the bicyclist runs the risk of being mistaken for a suicide bomber.

Yet another artist, this one Dutch, is creating an electrostatic vacuum cleaner which employs copper coils to attract pollution particles from the air. It looks like a giant hula hoop creates a clear, clean path of air high above the operating

machine. It is not designed to enhance the quality of the air, only to remind people in China what clean air used to look like!??!

In Beijing you can now trade in your breathing mask for a pack of "Filterettes." With eight in a pack for ten bucks, you inhale through the filtered, unlit cigarette like a smog snorkel thereby delivering cleaner air to your respiratory system. It doesn't tell you where you point the cigarettes to obtain clean air. I'm guessing you aim it towards that urban wind tunnel or stick it into the IKEA wastebasket.

From the Chinese Academy of Meteorological Sciences

comes the top secret "Artificial Fog Removal" program that nobody will breathe a word about. We can only hope it's not a typo and the Chinese government is about to exterminate every garden ornament in the country that looks like a frog.

One unique cleansing plan will have city workers in Beijing installing huge shower heads on the top of tall buildings to literally wash the smog out of the air. The spinoff success story will be an enterprising guy on the street with a bucket of soapy water and a brush - "Huang's Parked Car Wash." I have to admit, I do love an outside shower but with soap,

not soot.

As valiant as these anti-pollution endeavors are, I have my doubts about a nation of people who do not speak to their neighbours because they cannot see them but are attempting to create clean, fresh air from hula hoops and motorcycle helmets. The world may well be doomed, having waited way too long to rid the planet of its fatal fever but the Chinese? They're going out with a giggle.

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

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- 5:00 - 5:30 am: No registrations accepted. Pick up race packages only.
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Continued from front page...

Caroline Ehrhardt: Pan Am-Bound!

be the first female to represent Canada in triple jump at the Olympics.

Ehrhardt's athletic journey, as incredible as it has been, has not been without disappointment. Three times she was denied a place on a national team. However, she persisted. After posting the announcement of her success in making the Pan Am team for Canada on her website [www.carolineehrhardt.com](http://carolineehrhardt.com), she also wrote this, "As much as this post is a long-anticipated

announcement, it's also a plea. A plea to anyone reading this who has been considering giving up on their own dream – whatever that dream may be. One of my favourite quotes is, 'Many of life's failures are people who did not realize how close they were to success when they gave up.' You have no idea how close you are to your breakthrough, so please – just keep swinging!"

Congratulations, Caroline; Espanola and the world will be watching!

Espanola Town Council Report

By Chloe Kneer – Residents of the Town of Espanola can make their voices heard at council meetings beginning on July 14 after the petitions/delegations portion of the meetings. The question period was recently passed by council and the by-law comes into effect in July.

Council discussed the Helios Whitefish River First Nation proposal that was given earlier this month regarding a solar farm in the Espanola industrial park. The project would encompass roughly 15 acres of property in the industrial park and would see the town recouping 5% of the revenues generated from the solar panels. Both Councillors Bill Foster and Ron Duplessis had expressed concern over that percentage, thinking that possibly the town should be entitled to more. Foster conducted his own research and discovered that the 5% figure aligns with what most

communities are receiving. Other concerns included the loss of the industrial lots to future potential suitors and the scale of the project, which would generate 250 kWh of power. Councillor Ron Duplessis speculated as to why it could not be increased to 500 kWh. Councillor Ray Dufour found discrepancies in the numbers asserted by Helios, which Helios admitted as an error and apologised for. Councillors Yocom, Meikleham and Foster were in support of the project moving forward, citing the jobs that could be created and the potential loss of Helios' gaining a contract if a vote were delayed and council not showing support. In a recorded vote, the motion passed with Mayor Piche and Councillors Foster, Meikleham and Yocom in favour. The proposal now goes to the provincial level for approval within the FIT program.



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Co-op Education Celebrates 24 Years



Photo: E.H.S.'s Dean Riggs with Jane Batistelli, Clinical Services Manager at the Espanola Hospital, as she accepts a recognition/memorial plaque for Eric Parlowe.

Espanola High School celebrated its 24th year of cooperative education with the annual employer appreciation luncheon at the Espanola Complex Friday, June 19. The event is a chance for employers and the co-op students that they hosted in their places of business to come together one final time before summer, and before most of them go on to college or university in the fall. Daneen Maher, who did her placement at the Moose 99.3 radio station, emceed and explained that her co-op placement helped her gain confidence in advance of going off to the police foundations program later this year. Espanola Principal Marti Punkari and co-op coordinator Dean Riggs both spoke and thanked the Espanola business community for the generosity.

in welcoming students to gain invaluable experiential education in an actual work setting.

Wayne Gervais from the Espanola Public Works department and Shelly Insley, a primary teacher at AB Ellis Public School were both recognized for their participation as co-op supervisors. Both were wished well in their upcoming retirements this summer.

The luncheon also included touching tributes to three co-op supervisors who lost their lives recently. All young men, between the ages of 45 – 57. Colin Horner, a co-op supervisor who worked with dual credit E.H.S. and Cambrian College students in the heavy equipment program, Rodney Houle, fire chief from the Township of Sables-Spanish Rivers, and Eric Parlowe, co-op supervisor from the Espanola Hospital. Dean Riggs remembered Parlowe as a great source of inspiration and advice to students who took the class. Riggs says, "Eric would tell the students you are not here for credits, you are here for a reference. Also, Eric would never give up on a student, no matter how difficult, he kept them on to the end." Jane Batistelli, Manager of Clinical Services, accepted a recognition plaque for Parlowe on behalf of the hospital, which takes on eleven co-op students every year.

After another round of sincere thanks to the employers, Riggs said, "And remember, I will be calling you in the fall."

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Why June Has Been A Deadly Month On Ontario Roads

The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) has reported that 27 people have died on OPP-patrolled roads since the beginning of June (2015) and that the same poor driver behaviours were behind the majority of the deaths.

The 27 deaths were the result of 23 road collisions that occurred between June 1 and 21. Four of the collisions involved double fatalities and one of the crashes resulted in the deaths of two motorcyclists. Two other fatal collisions in June led to the OPP charging two drivers with impaired causing death.

"These senseless road deaths are revealing the same causal factors over and over again. Until all drivers stop speeding, driving impaired or distracted and ensure that everyone in their vehicle is buckled in, history will continue to repeat itself and innocent people will continue to die on our roads," said OPP Deputy Commissioner Brad Blair, Provincial Commander, Traffic Safety and Operational

Support.

The fatal collisions in June to date push the total number of road deaths (on OPP-patrolled roads) up to 124.

With summer now officially under way, the OPP is urging all drivers to take Ontario traffic laws seriously and to recognize that they play a significant role in preventing these categories of collisions and deaths from occurring.

All road users play a role in saving lives.

The OPP is encouraging passengers to speak up when being driven by someone who is using their cell phone or engaged in some other distracting activity behind the wheel. They are putting your life at risk!

Whether you are a driver, a passenger, a cyclist or a pedestrian, call 9-1-1 if you suspect that someone is driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs. By doing so, you could be preventing more deaths on Ontario roads.



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THANK YOU

Thank You

The Espanola Minor Baseball Association would like to extend thanks and acknowledge to all of the organizations, businesses, volunteers and individuals that supported us once again this 2015 season.

THANK YOU to The Town of Espanola; the administration office and Public Works, Hydro One, the Espanola Annual Mixed Slo-Pitch Tournament, Rustie's Café, Farquhar's Dairy, Winkel's Your Independent Grocers, Tim Hortons, Domtar and the Espanola Lions, Giant Tiger, Espanola Home Hardware, Nick's Sales and Service, Mac's Milk, Espanola Eagles, Enviro Energy, FreshCo, Canadian Tire, Espanola Elks, Around & About and OJ Graphix.

A very special thank you goes out to all the coaches, umpires, volunteers and parents who helped out throughout the season.

We couldn't have had the successes we had without you ... THANK YOU!!!

Espanola Minor Baseball Executive
Rosalind Russell, President/Secretary
Chad Lamothe, Vice-President
Nick Schwartz, Treasurer
Joelle Patreau and Cora Caibaisai – volunteers at large

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Recipe

Nicky has kindly shared with me her mom's recipe and method for making potato salad. It was always a family favourite and often requested. A great and new tip for me is to boil the potatoes with the skin on to prevent them from getting mushy. There isn't an official written recipe, but years ago a mutual friend of ours transcribed the recipe as Maureen told her how she made it, and I will now attempt to share it with you. Taste and adjust the measurements in the dressing to your liking.

Maureen's Potato Salad (for a large crowd)

- ❖ 12 potatoes
- ❖ 6 eggs
- ❖ 4-5 heaping tbsp's Miracle Whip salad dressing
- ❖ ½ cup diced onion
- ❖ 1-2 tsp Dijon Mustard
- ❖ Sprinkle of sugar

The secret is to use at least half the amount of eggs as potatoes; that's what makes the salad so good. (Nicky says when making it now, she even adds more eggs). Keep the skin on the potatoes when boiling them to prevent the potatoes from getting mushy. Boil the eggs in a separate pot to hard boiled stage. Drain the potatoes and let cool. Once cool, scrape the skin off and dice them into a large bowl. Let the eggs cool and then peel. Place eggs in a separate bowl and mash them with a potato masher. To the mashed eggs, add at least 4 to 5 heaping tbsp's of Miracle Whip, the diced onion, Dijon mustard and a sprinkle of sugar. Stir well. Add the egg mixture into the potatoes and stir to coat the potatoes. You can use more or less Miracle Whip according to your taste and preference. Refrigerate at least 2 hours before serving.



COMMUNITY NOTES

Espanola Elks/Royal Purple July 1 Picnic and Fun Day – Wednesday, July 1 (Canada Day), noon – 6:00 p.m., food and beverages, games of chance for all ages. Contact Gary Tennant at 705-869-4302.

Webbwood Canada Day Parade – Wednesday, July 1 at 11:00 a.m. To participate in the parade, register by calling Linda at 705-869-2340. Sponsored by the Webbwood Recreation Committee.

Canada Day Craft and Small Business Fair – Wednesday, July 1 at the Knights of Columbus Hall, Espanola. Free admission, runs from 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Canada Day Duck Race – A limited number of tickets are available for the July 1st "Duck Race." Tickets can be purchased from any North Shore Search and Rescue member or call 705-869-9999.

Canada Day Family Carnival – Live band, farmer's market, bbq and games. Wednesday, July 1, 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at Queensway Pentecostal Church, Espanola.

Annual Whitefish Falls Yard Sale – July 4-12 daily, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., located in park across road from the LaCloche Art Show. Included are bake table, perennial plants, children's clothing, furniture, house wares, and much more.

Strawberry Social – Friday, July 10 from 2:00 – 6:00 p.m. at the Massey and Area Museum. Bring your own lawn chair and enjoy homemade strawberry shortcake. For information, call 705-865-2249.

Beats 4 Blues Concert – Fundraiser and awareness concert for mental health. Donations go to Child and Family Services in Espanola. Saturday, August 1 at 390 Highway 17, Walford, in the parking lot. Starts at 1:00 p.m. and goes all day. For information, call Glenda at 705-862-1614.

Tennis at Espanola Golf Club – Community Living Mondays 1:00 p.m.; senior doubles Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday 10:00 a.m.; open play Friday 5:00-7:00 p.m.; youth Saturday 11:00 a.m. Free lessons, call 705-869-0475.

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.

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.

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.

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

SPACES AVAILABLE!

Sacred Heart Daycare Centre

Financial Assistance is available for those who qualify
For more information, please call

705-869-3171
www.ourchildren-ourfuture.net



705-869-6883

email:
around@aroundandabout.ca

Around&About is printed
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