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 December 20, 2016 Issue #51 - Volume 20

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 Espanola Wednesdays

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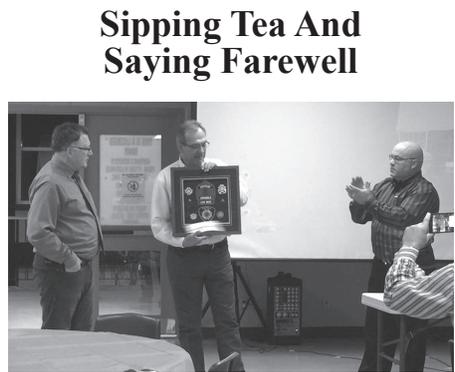
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Sipping Tea And Saying Farewell

Photo: Captain Howard accepts a parting gift at a reception in his honour.

By *Chloe Kneer* – The Espanola Volunteer Fire Department was in full dress and spent the afternoon of December 3 serving and singing at the Seniors' Tea, much to the delight of those in attendance. Santa was also there spreading Christmas cheer by handing out treats to go along with a nice cuppa, while Captain Tim Howard played guitar and serenaded the crowd. Just a week later, the firefighters gathered again, but this time for a more bittersweet occasion, to say goodbye to Captain Howard, who will be relocating to British Columbia along with his wife, Nancy. Fellow firefighter Trevor McVey said, "Twenty years of service has come to an end. But the lasting impressions, leadership, laughs, tears and great memories will be remembered forever." Jamie Ramsay echoed McVey's sentiment, also paying tribute to his friend by saying, "We are sad to see such a great

Continued on page five...

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Catch You Doing Something Right!



Photo: The unexpected note I recently received.

By Chloe Kneer - As the new year approaches, full of promise and hope, we would like to begin a new feature in the Around&About called "Catch You Doing Something Right!" You can share with us, and in turn we will share with our community, the good news stories of how your day, or the day of someone you know, was made by someone's carrying out a simple act of kindness. Let us know when you catch

someone doing something right by either emailing us at around@aroundandabout.ca or by submitting a news tip through our website at www.aroundandabout.ca.

OK, to get the ball rolling, I will start. On a recent Sunday at the Espanola Mall, I was approached by a small group of children. The woman with them was someone familiar to me so it wasn't unusual when she said my name, "Chloe," to get my attention. When I turned around, a young boy handed me a card and they all said, "Merry Christmas." Inside was a handwritten note signed by the Queensway Pentecostal Kids Church, along with a gift card. I later learned that these children had been at the mall doing this all morning, spreading the true spirit of Christmas.

You can choose to remain anonymous, or not, but please share your story for Catch You Doing Something Right. Merry Christmas!

Tim Hortons

Free Holiday Skates

Monday, Dec 26 1pm - 2pm **Wednesday, Dec 28** 12pm - 1pm
Friday, Dec 30 12pm - 1pm **Tuesday, Jan 3** 12pm - 1pm
Thursday, Jan 5 2pm - 1:30pm



Check the Town of Espanola Facebook page for the opening date of the Outdoor Rink!

Special thanks to Rock Taylor for his volunteer dedication & commitment to the Outdoor Rink!



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Wishing You a Merry Christmas



Thank you for supporting us the way you do. See you in the New Year

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11 10 am - 5 pm	12 8 am - 9 pm	13 8 am - 9 pm	14 8 am - 9 pm	15 8 am - 9 pm	16 8 am - 9 pm	17 8 am - 6 pm
18 10 am - 5 pm	19 8 am - 9 pm	20 8 am - 9 pm	21 8 am - 9 pm	22 8 am - 9 pm	23 8 am - 9 pm	24 8 am - 5 pm
25 CLOSED	26 10 am - 5 pm	27 8 am - 9 pm	28 8 am - 9 pm	29 8 am - 9 pm	30 8 am - 9 pm	31 8 am - 5 pm

CLOSED New Years Day, Reg Hours Resume Jan 2



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All The World's A Circus

William Thomas

williamjthomas@gmail.com

Holiday Helplines. You Shouldn't Laugh, But ...

The internet is both a mother-load of information and a place where people can go to anonymously embarrass themselves. Any website that posts the word 'answers' in its title is immediately warmed with a superabundance of brain farts disguised as 'questions.'

The Christmas season might best be depicted by stories of strain and tales of tension recorded by people who monitor helplines and emergency calls at this time of year. You could almost hear the spirit of Christmas in the voice of the woman who called 9-1-1 to ask about her legal rights to evict people who were rude and disruptive and refusing to leave. When the officer at the other end of the line asked about a tenancy agreement, she replied: "Oh no, they're my in-laws from England." Okay, wrong spirit.

Hopefully this call did not come from that same frazzled homemaker who later asked - "Do I need a permit to build a tomb in my backyard?" Permit denied, there's still a dark and funny side to all of this.

Whether it's British in-laws or American out-laws, people get quite disoriented during that short period between Black Friday and New Year's Eve. Yuletide confusion? After receiving a frantic 9-1-1 call about a fiery inferno enveloping Taylor Field, home of the Saskatchewan Roughriders, fire fighters arrived to see the video of a burning yuletide log on the jumbo screen.

Yahoo's help centre deals daily with inquiries like: "What do you think of the name "Twilight Sparkle" for a baby girl?" Personally I prefer boys be named "Twilight Sparkle." "Sunset Serenity" for girls.

And: "Are chickens birds or animals? I know they have feathers and stuff, but they can't fly so they can't be birds and are probably animals. Any help?" Yeah,

that's always a tough call - which came first, the fliers or the fryers.

And: "I swallowed an ice cube whole and I haven't pooped it out yet! Is it stuck? I'm really scared." My answer: And so you should be. Extreme climate change has dropped our internal body temperature to 3 degrees below zero. Right about now you've likely got an iceberg the size of a grapefruit about to plough through your lower colon. Start ingesting warm salt water into your body immediately and at both ends. You'll probably need a turkey baster so contact the people at the Butterball Turkey Talk-Line. They've likely dealt with this problem before.

In fact the Butterball Turkey Talk-Line gets so many strange questions over the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays, they employ no less than 50 professionally trained home economists to offer advice to North Americans on how to cook a turkey. Here are a few actual questions from the Butterball call centre with answers I would have offered ...

Question: "The wrapper on my turkey says it's a self-basting turkey. Do I have to baste it?" Answer: Only the inside. The outside bastes itself. That's what the wings are for.

Question: "Where can I find my turkey's serial number?" Answer: If it's an American turkey, it'll be tattooed under the first or second waddle. If it's a Canadian turkey, it'll be under the bird's back bumper next to the trunk where the stuffing goes in.

Question: "If I put my cell phone inside the turkey, will it tell me if it's done?" Answer: Yes. If you hear the Christian Mission ring tone 'I'm Ready To Serve,' it's done. But if you hear Def Leppard's 'Long, Long Way To Go' you have approximately a long, long way to go.

Question: "I think my turkey just

Continued on page three...

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Continued from page two...

coughed!?!” Answer: Throw a handful of 12-hour cold relief tablets into the bird’s cavity and cook it for six hours at twice the recommended heat setting.

Question: “How do I roast my turkey so it gets golden brown tan lines, in the shape of a turkey bikini?” Answer: There’s no such thing as a turkey bikini. After you set up the sun lamp you’ll need a chicken bra and then a duck thong, the kind Donald was caught wearing when Disney fired him.

Question: “My turkey thawed on my lap ... can I eat it?” Answer: Sure but wouldn’t eating the turkey be easier on your neck?

Question: “Can I brine my turkey in the washing machine?” Answer: No, but you can tenderize it in the dryer.

Question: “How do I baste a pre-basted turkey?” Answer: It’s a simple three-step routine

– pre-baste, unbaste and post-baste. Repeat nine times over a period of eleven hours.

I don’t get it, but I like it: “No, I said ‘boat’ not ‘float.’ Now put me through to the gravy department.” Right away ... and the manager’s name is Lumpy.

Question: “My next door neighbour and I decided we would help each other this Christmas by cooking our turkeys simultaneously. Because we live in Canada where marijuana is almost legal, we are thinking of a weed and oyster stuffing. What do you think?” Answer: Beautiful ... like cooking two birds with one stone! Okay, that one I made up, but the rest are all true. Have a great holiday!

For comments, ideas and copies of The Legend of Zippy Chippy, go to www.williamthomas.ca

Espanola Town Council Report

By Chloe Kneer – At the December 13 regular meeting of council, there was debate about the purchase of a portable back up generator to run the Espanola Regional Recreation Complex should our area ever experience a “prolonged event,” such as an extended power outage. The suggestion came after a tabletop exercise during which Fire Chief Mike Pichor concluded that the community should be more proactive, rather than reactive, if we were to have a natural disaster that would force residents to seek alternate shelter in order to sustain health and safety. Council deferred any decision on the purchase, instead directing staff to gather more information about what other municipalities’ plans are in

such a situation and to see if there would be opportunities for collaborating with neighbouring communities.

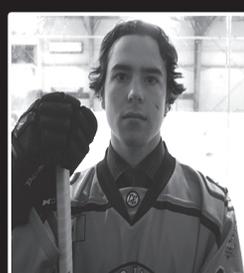
Contracts with OCWA (Ontario Clean Water Agency) and H. Dodge Haulage are up for renewal. In OCWA’s case, council deferred voting on the ten-year deal that’s currently on the table; they will hold a special meeting in the coming days to discuss as the contract expires soon. H. Dodge’s contract was renewed for the town’s waste management.

Council is now being streamed live on the Town of Espanola’s website at www.espanola.ca. Click on Town Hall, then Mayor and Council for the live stream link every second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m.

HOME GAME!!

Sunday, Jan 8, 2:00 pm





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Sipping Tea And Saying Farewell



Photo: Captain Tim Howard (with guitar) at the recent Seniors' Tea in Espanola. Photo courtesy of Trevor McVey.

firefighter and captain leave the department. You will be missed, Captain Howard.”

The tight-knit community of firefighters do more than just respond to emergency calls.

They also fundraise, organize the yearly Canada Day fireworks and help out in the community in various other ways. We wish the Howards all the best in their new venture out west.

Recipe

This easy, breakfast casserole is perfect to prepare for a simple holiday morning breakfast, to bring to a neighbour in need, serve at a brunch or if you simply have ham to use up and need a quick, one dish supper. Ripe sweet bell peppers give this dish a delicious vibrant flavor, and the colour they add makes it feel festive. Red is nice for Christmas, but any colour of sweet pepper will do. This recipe is very flexible, you can add cooked breakfast sausage in place of the ham, omit any vegetable that you don't like, and even leave out the garlic if you're not a garlic fan.

Ham and Potato Breakfast Bake

- 2 cups ham (or cooked sausage), chopped into small pieces
- 4 cups shredded potato or hash browns
- 1 cup sweet bell pepper, diced small
- 1/4 cup sweet yellow onion, minced
- 1/2 cup sliced mushrooms
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 6 eggs
- 1 tablespoon heavy cream or milk (optional)
- 2 cups finely shredded cheese, divided in half
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon black pepper



In a large bowl, combine sweet peppers, onion, garlic, mushrooms, and ham. Mix well. In a smaller bowl, whisk together eggs, heavy cream, salt, and pepper. Add whisked eggs to vegetable bowl and stir. Incorporate potatoes, then 1 cup of shredded cheese. Pour casserole mixture into an 8x8 or 9x9 lightly greased baking dish. Sprinkle remaining cheese over top. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 - 45 minutes, until cooked through and egg is set. If using a broiler safe dish, turn on broiler for 2 - 3 minutes to crisp and brown cheese.





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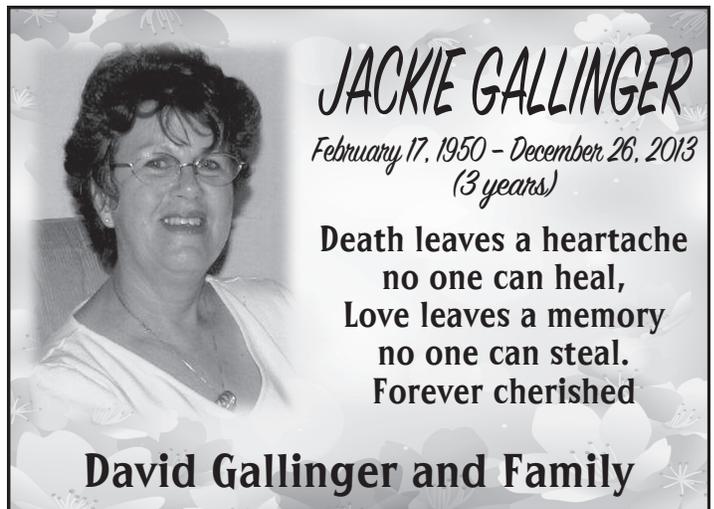
HAPPY HOLIDAYS/THANK YOU

I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Thank you for your support in the past.

We are half-way through our mandate, and I believe we have accomplished many of our promises with a couple of major issues that hopefully should be resolved by the end of our term. If you have any concerns or questions about anything, please contact me anytime. All contact info is available on our website www.espanola.ca/contact-us

Councilor Ron Duplessis.

IN MEMORIAM



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ANNOUNCEMENT

Massey Agricultural Society

Massey Agricultural Society announces its new Board of Directors for 2016-2017:

Nick McCormick – President **Roger Rainville** – 1st Vice-President
Tami Shiels – 2nd Vice-President **Noreen Clement** – Secretary/Treasurer
Nancy McIntyre, Jane Armstrong, Noella Talbot and Debbie Kirby – Directors
Mary Dillen – Associate Director

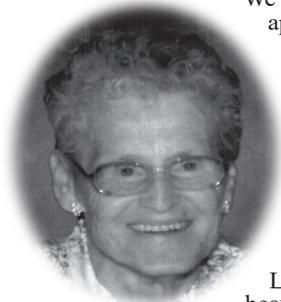
Three Director positions are yet to be filled. If you are interested in serving as a Director please contact the Secretary/Treasurer at masseyfair@bellnet.ca

If you are interested in volunteering (and not being a part of the Board of Directors) we welcome your help. Please contact the Secretary/Treasurer at masseyfair@bellnet.ca

Many thanks to our members, our supporters and our sponsors.

THANK YOU

Thank You



We would like to express our deepest appreciation for all the love and support we received on the passing of our dear mother Eva Kutschke who passed away on November 29, 2016. Thank you to family and friends, everyone who sent cards, flowers, food and drinks and for the generous monetary donations to St. Andrew's United Church in Massey. Special thanks to Dr. Cherian, the Bayshore Nurses, our special friend Reverend Lynn Heeley who performed such a beautiful service for our Mom and Nana.

Thank you to mom's longtime friends from St. Andrews United Church who provided a wonderful luncheon. Thank you to the Massey Legion for the use of their facilities for her celebration of life and John from Alternative Funeral Services. During our mother's many years she had many hobbies. She especially enjoyed cooking, knitting, sewing and working in her flower and vegetable gardens. She enjoyed scratch tickets and playing Wednesday night Espanola Lions Club Bingo.

She was always there with her famous cinnamon buns, chocolate cake and baked beans for others in their time of need. She always thought of others before herself.

Mom had a courageous battle with breast cancer for many years before her passing and never complained or gave up. She was the very best Mom and Nana anyone could ever have asked for. She adored each and every one of us equally.

We will all miss her dearly.

December 20th would have been her 85th birthday.

God Bless you all for everything.

Eva Kutschke Family

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While all responses are appreciated, only applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

COMMUNITY NOTES

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY



Domtar

S. Geiger Public School Christmas Concert - December 22, 12:30 p.m. at the S. Geiger Public School, Massey. All are welcome to join us for an old-fashioned Christmas concert.

Webbwood Public School - The entire Webbwood community is invited for carol singing and hot chocolate on Thursday, December 22.

No Plans For Christmas Dinner? - Join us for the annual Massey Free Christmas Dinner, Christmas day at 4:00 p.m. at the Massey Legion. If you would like to attend or need a ride, call Penny 705-865-2467 or Shirley 705-844-2511.

Free Christmas Dinner - The Lighthouse free Christmas dinner is being moved to the Espanola Legion on December 25 at 4:30 p.m. Everyone welcome. Call Joan 705-869-1648 or Camilla 705-869-4415 to join us or for a ride.

Victim Services Curling Funspiel—Saturday, January 7 at the Espanola Curling Club. Contact Victim Services for more info at 705-370-3378.

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.

Good Food Box - Supported by United Way, the Good Food Box makes it easy to access affordable fresh produce. Serving Espanola, Nairn & Massey. Visit goodfoodboxsudbury.ca for info.

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