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 November 15, 2016 Issue #46 - Volume 20

**Webbwood Parents:
 Send Our Kids To Massey**




Photo: Cindy Seel and Lyla Hobbs, volunteer parents at Massey's S. Geiger Public School, reach out to welcome Webbwood students to their school.

By Chloe Kneer – There was a great deal of emotion expressed at the Rainbow District School Board's public meeting to hear input from residents regarding the closure of Webbwood Public School. The Public Meeting Accommodation Review began with introductions of the school board superintendents, trustees and principals in attendance. Then a slide show was presented with the facts and figures behind the staff recommendation to close the school. "The need for change is financially driven," said Superintendent of Schools Bruce Bourget. He cited declining enrollment and the cuts in pupil funding

Continued on page four...

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Espanola Little Theatre Takes The Stage Again

The Espanola Little Theatre troupe is hard at work for next month's production of Norm Foster's Bob's Your Elf. The hilarious Christmas comedy will lift your spirits and get you in the mood for the holiday season.

Buying advanced tickets is the best value for your money. Get them now at the reduced

price of \$20 each, or if you'd like to bring the family or a group, a book of four is \$60. The price will be \$22 at the door.

The play will run the weekends of December 2 and 3 and 9, 10, 11 at the new A.B. Ellis gym, formerly E.H.S. B-1). If you want to order advance tickets, call 705-583-2088.

Webbwood Celebrates Its History: Letter Of Feedback

Thank you for covering the Webbwood Canada's 150th Celebration Garden planting ceremony. It was a lovely article about who Barbara Hanley was, and I wanted to provide you with some background information on how Webbwood was selected to receive the 1,000 tulip bulbs.

The Township of Sables-Spanish Rivers entered a competition sponsored by the Canadian Garden Council, in collaboration with Vesey's Bulbs of Prince Edward Island, in celebration of Canada's sesquicentennial in 2017. In order to be considered as a recipient of one of the stunning Celebration Gardens, the Canadian Garden Council was looking for communities across the country that played

a role in defining, developing and growing Canada as a nation. The Canadian Garden Council received over 400 applications and Webbwood was 1 of 150 successful applicants, selected for having the distinction of electing Canada's first female mayor.

So, congratulations to Webbwood, and thank you to the sponsors of the competition (Canadian Garden Council, Vesey's Bulbs of PEI, Canada Post, Canadian Nursery Landscape Association and Niagara Parks).

We look forward to seeing everyone at the Bloom Celebration in the spring of 2017!

Kelli Hansson, EDO
 Township of Sables-Spanish Rivers



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Writers' Guild Coming To Area

Calling all writers! Do you have a work in progress, an idea, or are you experiencing writers' block? A local writer is looking to form a writers' guild, one to two days a week, to meet in the Webbwood Public Library, either during the day or in the evenings.

The meetings will serve as

a platform to bounce ideas around or discuss works in progress. No experience necessary, just an interest in the literary arts. For more information or to express interest, contact Paulette Guilbeau at 705-583-2303 or the Webbwood Public Library at 705-869-4147.

Elks Christmas Hamper Enters 40th Year

The Espanola Elks are once again asking for your support in providing Christmas dinner to everyone in our area, from Massey to Nairn Centre and south to Whitefish Falls. This will be the Elks' 40th year hosting the Christmas Hamper Fund.

As in years past, local radio station, 99.3 Moose FM, is hosting the radiothon at the Espanola Mall Saturday, November 26 from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Morning host Rosalind Russell will emcee the festivities, which

includes live music, treats and more. The Elks will take your donations to the hamper fund. If you feel you qualify for a Christmas hamper, you must come in person to the Elks Hall Thursday, Friday and Saturday November 24, 25, 26 between 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Delivery of the hampers is Saturday, December 17. Volunteers are welcome to help distribute them. Prizes or gifts can also be dropped off at the Elks Hall at 539 Second Avenue. For information, call Gary at 705-869-4302.

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All The World's A Circus

William Thomas

williamjthomas@gmail.com

Are We Prepared For The 'Era Of Old Age'?

It's the little things that tell the big story. Like that image of a little old lady on a corner waiting for a Good Samaritan to help her across the street. Well soon there will be a dozen old ladies on that corner kicking each other in the shins over who's first in line and the Good Samaritan, a.k.a the government, will be a "no show."

That lovely scene of two men playing checkers in the park. Soon there will be more checkerboards than benches in that park because the world's population is aging at an accelerated rate never seen before in the history of mankind. The number of older people is increasing much faster than the number of young people. That's right, The Golden Girls are cancelling Sesame Street so fast nobody cares How I Met Your Mother!

The elderly used to worry about being a burden to their families, now they're about to become the planet's problem. By 2018, 65-year-olds will outnumber those under the age of 5 for the first time ever. More grandparents than grand-kids makes for an explosion of spoiled, little brats.

Experts believe that maintaining a decent standard of living for the elderly will place a crushing financial burden on the young. Personally I like that part. I hope to be such a pain in the ass to the millennials that many of them will have to stop doing this with their thumbs and texting "I'm eating a sandwich. LOL." Some will be forced to get real jobs.

Next year the first wave of baby boomers in the United States will be eligible for full Social Security and Medicare benefits setting off a two-decade, astronomical spending spree by a government that's already in mile-high debt. So Sarah Palin's insane claim that President

Obama's health care plan called for "euthanizing the elderly" is actually starting to look like a viable option somewhere down the line.

By the year 2050 there will be 300 million people over the age of 65 in China and the government is passing the problem on to the families. They have a name for it: "the 4-2-1 problem." That's four grandparents and two parents being cared for by one child.

To man their massive factories, the Chinese government is flooding the biggest cities with young people and driving the old out of their homes. They call it "age apartheid."

All of this information is covered by the Global Again Preparedness Index compiled by a Washington think tank and when it comes today's forecast and tomorrow's crisis – you couldn't do better than the acronym GAP.

But what will Canada do? The government of Canada, unlike those of many unprepared countries has some concrete plans in place.

First, when 'Elderquake' hits home over the next twenty years, our government plans to act really, really surprised. Then they plan to blame Stats Canada and a software program that ran out of zeros. Assuring us they have made provisions for the health and financial well-being of 1.5 million elderly, they will claim to have no idea the real number was 15 million.

"We're mad as hell," the prime minister will say. But not as mad as those ninety-year-olds living in their grandson's garage.

That government will blame the failure of the system on the previous government,

Continued on page three...

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Continued from page two...

who will in turn blame it on their predecessors who will blame it on Paul Martin. Walking through Lafontaine Park in his undershorts and feeding pigeons, Paul Martin will say: "I really can't recall." Then the photo ops will begin showing that the crisis is not nearly as bad as the experts claim and the elderly of Canada, now living in an abandoned airport north of Toronto are receiving water, ration packs left over from Afghanistan and warm socks. It's called "warehousing."

Those requiring serious medical attention will be offered "Varadero, one week, all-inclusive, air, hotel, meals, bar drinks and free transfers to the local hospitals."

The federal health minister, later to be reprimanded for it, will characterize the elderly as "lazy and unproductive" pointing out that "Hey, why don't they try their luck at the casinos!"

Health Canada posters and billboards will spring up extolling the virtues of the "aging initiative" showing a photo of 94-year-old Mable Spark who won ten dollars at her nursing home for guessing the number of jelly beans in

a canning jar. "And," the ad will say, "she also got to keep the jelly beans."

A spry 95 year old Julie Andrews will appear in a Sound Of Music-style video extolling a few of her favorite things like: "Air bags on walkers and seat belts on rockers."

The minister of consumer affairs will almost lose his post for buying millions of cheap canes from China made of rubber. The recall will be ugly but not without comical incidents caught on cell phones and gone viral.

In a Hail Mary move to save its skin, the government will come up with its' own "4-2-1 formula." That's one care giver for every two rooms full of elderly with four minutes maximum in the bathroom, each. Do you get the feeling this government believes that this trend too will pass?

Oh, and the real bad news? We're all healthier than our parents and on track to live a lot longer.

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

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"Birds I View"

By Bob Rigby—In keeping with bird watching and attracting birds to your feeder during the winter months, I have prepared a check list of permanent resident birds that you're most likely to see in our area. Hopefully this list will be useful to you. Happy birding!



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Espanola Town Council Report

By **Chloe Kneer** (with contribution from **Camilla Kirkpatrick**) - Fibre Arts Festival Coordinator Jody Pilon made a presentation to council commenting on the success of this year's festival, which drew over 2,000 people to Espanola for the weekend. The festival celebrated its 5th year and continues to grow.

The Employee Code of Conduct came up once again, but was sent back to the Corporate Services Committee because of Councillor Ron Duplessis's assertion that it should be more specific as to who investigates complaints as well as the timelines for making a complaint. The Code of Conduct has been an on-going issue of contention, having been sent back to

committee several times so far.

The Espanola Legion got support from council to re-name Highway 6 South between Highway 17 and South Baymouth to Veteran's Memorial Highway. Council recommended that the new name have signage in French in addition to English and Ojibway.

For the second year, council will host an open house with department heads available to speak with residents on Thursday, December 15 at the Espanola complex. The open house welcomes everyone between the hours of 10:00 a.m. to noon, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

The next regular meeting of council will be Tuesday, November 22 at 7:30 p.m.

Continued from front page...

Webbwood Parents: Send Our Kids To Massey

by the Ministry of Education as the catalysts for the necessary changes to the board's current structure. Schools having a utilization rate of less than 70% (the number of students enrolled vs. the number of students a school can accommodate) puts them in the poor category. A rate under 50% is deemed critical. Webbwood Public School's utilization is currently at 27%. A.B. Ellis, where the school board proposes to send students, presently has a utilization rate of 76% (with many complaining of overcrowding).

Adding the 51 Webbwood students to the A.B. Ellis roster will increase the utilization rate to 90%. Parents pointed out, however, that S. Geiger School in Massey currently has a 36% utilization rate, and by relocating Webbwood students to that school, the rate would increase to 60%, taking it out of the critical category. Plus, the students would remain in the Township of Sables-Spanish Rivers and at a school that isn't as large as A.B. Ellis. Those two factors were repeated many times over by parents who, if given their druthers, would keep Webbwood School open, or, as their second option, have their children bused to S. Geiger in Massey rather than to Espanola's A.B. Ellis.

Two S. Geiger volunteer parents, Cindy Seel and Lyla

Hobbs made an impassioned plea and a read a letter of welcome to persuade educators to consider busing students to Massey, an idea that many said should have been on the school board's radar from the very beginning. Seel and Hobbs talked about the joint skiing trips, track and field days and other experiences, that the two schools have shared. The schools also share the same award-winning principal, Cori Pitre. Those in attendance were astounded that the school board hadn't even collected a key piece of information to make an informed decision about where students would be bused: the difference in transportation costs to Espanola vs. to Massey. It was acknowledged, however, that there wouldn't be a significant difference in costs to transport students to either location.

The school board's stance that the decisions are purely financially driven didn't exactly wash with those in the crowd, who say that a sense of community and belonging are much more important to them and their children.

The next steps in the process include a special meeting on November 24 to present the final staff report, taking into account the public input from the session. Then, on December 12, delegations will be able to present at another special meeting. The fate of the school will be decided on February 7, 2017.

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Habitat For Humanity's "Meaning Of Home Contest"



Photo: Community Living recently partnered with the Lions Club to help spread sod at the Habitat for Humanity Espanola build. Photo courtesy of Sheri Commission.

Words matter. They mattered when a student emigrated to Canada from Africa and was able to share her unique sense of home with her new classmates through a poem. "The little girl's family had a home through Habitat for Humanity, and she was able to say to her classmates 'you kids maybe haven't seen the other side of this, but know we have a chance to change it. We can make a difference.'"

Genworth Canada's Meaning of Home contest gives Grade 4, 5 and 6 students the chance to direct \$50,000 to Habitat for Humanity for use in the construction of an affordable home in their community. Kathy Yusko is the Family Selection Chair of Habitat OGN's Sudbury District Chapter and an account manager with Genworth Canada. She shared the girl's story when asked to recall a memorable contest entry.

"They realize not every child like themselves has a home," said Yusko. "A home can make a difference in the lives of these children because they can prosper and grow." Yusko has witnessed it first-hand throughout her years of service with Habitat for Humanity, including with builds in the Sudbury District and

Calgary.

"My perspective of home has changed. Absolutely it has changed. I understand a house is not just a house, it's not just the four walls. A house is the memories that are created there, it's a home."

The Meaning of Home contest engages students and asks them to use their critical thinking and writing skills to spark a real tangible change in their neighbourhood. "An opportunity to make a difference," said Yusko.

Already students in the region are joining the movement. Habitat OGN Sudbury District Chapter Chair Claudette Strom has visited schools and asked students to enter the contest by sharing their meaning of home. Evelyn, a Sudbury student in Grade 4 writes "Warmth always fills the air and everyone loves to share. Hugs and Kisses everywhere."

The Meaning of Home contest closes on Wednesday, November 30. Eligible students have the remainder of the month to enter their essay, poem or video. Every eligible entry will result in a \$10 donation directed to the student's regional Habitat affiliate. For more information, visit www.meaningofhome.ca



Giant Pumpkin Contest



Photo: Freshco Espanola recently had a draw at the store to win a giant pumpkin. The lucky winner was Owen Bourcier a 9 year old student at A.B. Ellis Public School. Owen was very happy with his prize as you can see in the picture. Photo courtesy of Freshco's customer service manager Jeanne Millett.

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FOR RENT – Lakefront 4 bedroom cottage with full kitchen, satellite TV. Available immediately. Call 705-285-4241. 11/29

FOR RENT - Two bedroom apartment for rent in Webbwood, non-pet friendly, stairs, first & last deposit. Call 705-869-0511 or text 705-936-6330. 11/15

FOR RENT - Two bedroom, \$700 plus. One bedroom, main floor great for seniors, outdoor patio. \$750 plus. Laundry facilities available in building, parking and a storage unit. Both available in November. Call 705-869-5989. 12/13

ROOM FOR RENT - Room for rent in Espanola. Use of fridge, stove and laundry facilities. Available immediately. 705-662-1806. 11/15

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FOR SALE - Winter tires, 225/60 R16 General Altimax Arctic, no rims, 80% tread remaining, used on Chev Impala. Asking \$500. Call 705-869-1016. 11/15

CLASSES

LITTLE ART GARAGE— Sculpting and art classes new registration dates: November 3 & 4 and December 13 & 19 at SasseyPhotoz in Espanola. Why not host an art party in your home? Call 705-869-7743 or visit www.littleartgarage.com to register and more information. 12/03

OBITUARY

Norman James (Willy) Williamson

October 21, 1938 – October 11, 2016

On October 11, 2016, the world lost a true original: Norman James Williamson (better known to his close friends and family as "Willy") passed peacefully from this earth.

The cherished son of William and Bernice Williamson (nee Sullivan) and sisters Shirley Koivula (predeceased) and Joan McCann. Willy married Joyce Pilotte in 1965 and raised 4 children: Donna Tugby (husband Ken, grandchildren Evelyn and Marc) of Winnipeg, MB, June Steed (husband Brett, grandchildren Jacqueline and Molly) of Windsor ON, Keith Williamson (predeceased) and Dave Williamson (wife Shelaine) of London ON.

His talent as a largely self-taught guitarist earned him a spot in several popular local bands of the 1950's and 60's, including The Hound Dogs and The Collins Mixers, the latter of which wrote and recorded the inaugural song for Sudbury's Big Nickel Monument. He graduated from the University of Toronto in 1968, where he majored in Sciences and Education. After a successful career as a Shops and Special Education Teacher with the Sudbury Board of Education, he retired in 1990. Mr. Williamson will forever be remembered by his students for his green three-piece corduroy suit, worn each and every St. Patrick's Day.

Celebration of life was held November 12 at the Anishinabe Spiritual Centre on Anderson Lake Espanola Ontario

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labrecquefisher@bellnet.ca

Recipe

I feel like I've seen a million different recipes for this casserole; everyone likes to change it up a little bit. I have a couple different variations myself, but this one is definitely my favourite. My kids love these potatoes and I try and make them when they are home to serve at breakfast. This is an easy casserole to prepare and take to various gatherings, and why they are also referred to as funeral potatoes.

Hash Brown Casserole (aka, Funeral Potatoes)

- 1 - 8 ounce container sour cream
- 1 can cream of mushroom or chicken soup
- ½ cup butter, melted
- Two pound package frozen, diced hash browns (thawed)
- 1 1/2 cup cheddar or monterrey jack shredded cheese
- ½ cup chopped onions
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ¼ teaspoon pepper
- ½ cup bread crumbs
- ¼ cup melted butter

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Combine sour cream, soup, and melted butter in a large bowl. Add hash browns, 1 cup of grated cheese, and chopped onions. Stir well. Add a shake of salt and pepper. Pour into a 9x13 pan. Mix the ¼ cup of melted butter with breadcrumbs. Cover casserole with the buttered bread crumbs and sprinkle with the ½ cup of cheese. Cover and bake for 45 minutes. You can uncover for the last 15 minutes if you want the top browned.



COMMUNITY NOTES

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY



The Espanola Helping Hand Food Bank - Hosts the meat roll offs every Saturday at the Espanola Legion for the month of November. The fun starts at 3:30 p.m. and everyone is welcome.

Meat Roll Offs - Every Friday night at 7:00 p.m. in the month of November at the Espanola Legion. In support of junior curling.

Espanola Mall Charity Bazaar - Thursday, November 17. Come out and support your local charities, including Femmes Canadiennes Francaises d'Espanola and the Espanola Hospital Auxiliary.

Community Movie Night - "Finding Dory" on Friday, November 18 at 7:00 p.m. at Queensway Pentecostal Church, Espanola.

Rendezvous Craft Show - Friday, November 18, 4:00 - 9:00 p.m. and Saturday, Nov. 19, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. at the Penage Rd. Community Centre, Whitefish.

Espanola United Church Women's Christmas Tea And Bazaar - Saturday, November 19 from noon - 2:00 p.m., United Church, 137 Sheppard St., Espanola.

Child Identification Clinic - Saturday, November 19 from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the Espanola Masonic Hall, 69 Mead Blvd.

Vendors And Crafters Fair - A.B. Ellis Public School, Saturday, November 19 at 9:00 a.m. To participate, call 705-869-1651. Funds raised go to school trips and events.

Sables-Spanish Rivers Fire Department 1st Annual Firefighter Fundraiser Ball - November 19 from 8:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. at the Eagles Community Centre, 3 Centre Street, Webbwood, Ontario. Proceeds going towards new uniforms.

Annual Christmas Exchange - Saturday, November 19 at the Espanola complex from 9:00 a.m. - noon. Trade or donate gently used Christmas lights and decorations. For more information, call Theresa at 705-869-1597.

Walford Community Club Bazaar And Bake Sale - Saturday, November 19 from 1:00 - 3:00 pm. at the Walford Community Centre. Contact Karen at 705-844-2295 for more information.

Annual Harvest Supper - Zion Lutheran Church in Massey Sunday, November 20 from 4:30 - 6:00 p.m. Feast on a turkey dinner with all the fixings and a slice of pie for dessert.

Next Community Kitchen Luncheon - November 22 at the Lighthouse in Espanola (across from the Royal Bank) from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. No charge, everyone welcome.

Christmas Tea & Bazaar - Saturday, November 26 from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 pm. at the St. Mary's School, Massey.

Victim Services Curling Funspiel - Saturday, November 26 at the Espanola Curling Club. Teams or individuals welcome, call Victim Services at 705-370-3378 to register. Prizes and potluck dinner.

Spanish And Area Christmas Market - Saturday, December 3 from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Four Seasons Waterfront Complex 40 Garnier Road, Spanish.

Good Food Box - Supported by United Way, the Good Food Box makes it easy to access affordable fresh produce. Serving Espanola, Naim & 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



The Moose 99.3FM CJJM and the Espanola Regional Hospital and Health Centre are teaming up once again for the 3rd annual national charity drive. The hospital and The Moose will be hosting a one-day Radiothon Friday, December 9. Morning host Rosalind (Roz) Russell, will welcome guests and take pledges to support The Park With A Heart: a gated park for the hospital's long-term care patients. The goal is \$150,000 to fund the park.