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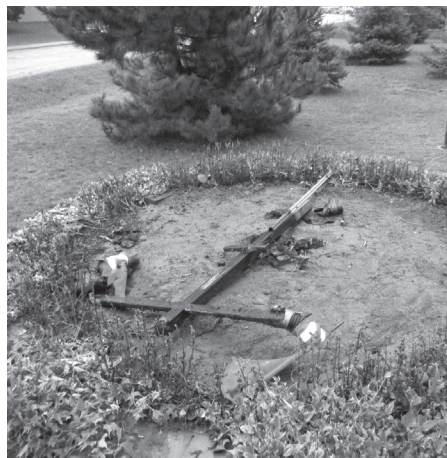
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October 18, 2016 Issue #42 - Volume 20

RIP Mr. Pumpkin:
Recent Acts Of Vandalism
Anger Residents



By Chloe Kneer – “Damage control” is a phrase more closely associated with politicians, or celebrities who find themselves in hot water over misdeeds. In our area, unfortunately, we have seen recent bouts of damage (mostly in the form of vandalism) and trying to control these random acts has proven difficult. Just a week before the 5th annual Pumpkin and Fibre Arts Festival in Espanola, “Mr. Pumpkin,” who resided high above Williamson Park near the south end of the town, was set on fire and completely perished, only the post on which he once hung remaining. “It’s so sad” was one of a long thread

Continued on back page...

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Continued from front page...

RIP Mr. Pumpkin: Recent Acts Of Vandalism Anger Residents

of comments on the Town of Espanola's Facebook page. Many were upset for the volunteers who donate time and energy to projects such as the Fibre Arts Festival. Others hoped for the capture of the arsonist(s).

Down Penage Lake Road, a newly constructed Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry sign had holes from a few shotgun blasts. The vandals had the foresight to collect their shells before

leaving the scene. Acts such as these are carried out by adolescents as well as adults. The hope of residents and the police service is that anyone with information about them come forward so that the criminals can be dealt with accordingly. "If you see something, say something" is a campaign used in larger cities. Crimes and acts of vandalism can be reported anonymously through Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).



Espanola Town Council Report

By Chloe Kneer – The regular meeting of council on October 11 began with the question and answer session and a concern from resident Richard Ellis regarding council agendas being posted online. Ellis noted that staff is hesitant to continue the practice of posting agendas on the town's website, preferring instead to make only the meeting minutes available. Ellis argued that not enough detail is given in the minutes. Later that evening, council voted to keep the agendas posted online for five years, alongside the minutes on the site.

Up for short discussion was also the topic of the town's advertising practices, specifically what defines a "newspaper." Recommendations from the Corporate Services Committee were adopted to keep the town's current advertising practices in place; however, Councillor Bob Yocom noted that it may have been more prudent to defer the decision until the term "newspaper" was clearly

defined.

Council declared October 16 as World Food Day in Espanola, a day of recognition to eradicate hunger, malnutrition and poverty.

Councillors Yocom and Foster both imparted information about provincial drinking water standards. Councillor Yocom said that the House unanimously voted to ban a municipality's right to decide whether or not to remove fluoride from its drinking water. Councillor Foster said new provincial regulations have been handed down for water quality and that he would like to assure that Espanola will be compliant.

Councillor Ken Duplessis informed the rest of council that it has been decided that fundraised monies for the cancelled Canada Day fireworks will be divided between the upcoming Winter Carnival fireworks and next summer's Canada Day fireworks. The next meeting of council will be October 25 at 7:30 p.m. at the town hall.

**Tuesday, November 8
7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.**

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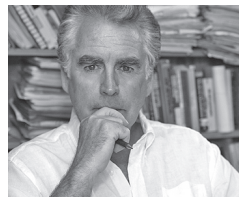
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All The World's A Circus

William Thomas

williamjthomas@gmail.com

Unfortunately We Now Need A Dress Code For Dogs

They're dressing them up, they're making them over and in the process they're wearing real dog lovers down. People, people, these are your pets not Barbie dolls or stuffed animals! Oh wait, there goes a sheep dog with his legs and ears dyed black and his eyes heavily made up with mascara to make him look like a panda bear.

It's the latest fad in grooming circles - making over your dog to look like a wild animal. Wearing vegetable-based dye, mini-spray cans, coloured chalk and water-soluble glue, owners and groomers can make Sparky look like a bear, a snake or even a dinosaur. I'm not making this stuff up.

In China, in this the year of the tiger, there are an unusual number of golden retrievers being dyed orange with black and white stripes to look like the ferocious felines. I saw a photo of one such made-up retriever at the opening of a pet park in Zhengzhou, China. He doesn't look majestic or dangerous. He looks stupid. He looks like his agent talked him into playing a transvestite pooch in a Will Ferrell movie.

Followers of this transforming trend characterize it as "pawsitively" fun and "an unusual hobby." No, an unusual hobby is collecting ear mite amputees. Spray-painting stripes on your dog until it looks like a dingo is the worst idea in the pet world since leg irons and choke collars.

So many pet owners in North America are dressing up their pets for Halloween, for Christmas, for Easter and for no particular reason. Websites are now putting their pictures on display. There's a photo of a pug in a pirate's costume complete with

a skull and crossbones headscarf and a patch over his eye. There's a picture of another pug dressed up as a gunslinger with cowboy hat and boots, gun and holster. He looks like he really could kill somebody. Namely, the guy who dressed him up.

Another small dog looks completely embarrassed in an Easter bunny bodysuit with floppy ears while a cat dressed up in a Santa suit looks like he's going to rake the nose of the woman holding him as soon as he gets out of those black leather boots sometime soon. And there's a boxer of course looking punch drunk and wearing four huge blue boxing gloves on his feet. I didn't see a German sheppard sipping Schnapps while guarding a herd of sheep but trust me; it'll be up there someday.

A clever man, American Duncan Birmingham has put pictures of pets dressed in costumes on the website www.petswhowanttokillthemselves.com. He's also a skeptic: "It's like there's nothing good on TV. Waddayasay we marry the cats?"

I am absolutely opposed to dyeing or dressing up pets. Okay, once John Grant and I decorated his huge Husky named Nukey with deer antlers and we attached one of those safety flashers to his ass that beeped when he backed up. And yes, it was hysterical but we'd had a few drinks and when it was over-promised never to do it again.

No, unless it's a sweater to keep him warm or snow boots to protect his pads, pets do not need clothes.

I never thought we would ever need one, but here it is ...

Continued on page three...

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Continued from page two...

A DRESS CODE FOR PETS

•No high heels, no spiked heels or stilettos. However, an older dog with fallen arches can wear sneakers.

•A ball hat at the ballgame? Okay. An umbrella hat for a concert on a hot afternoon? Alright. But religious headgear of any kind is strictly prohibited. I don't care if his name is Moshe Dayan, no yarmulke and no patch over the eye. An Afghan must not be seen in a burka. (Under certain circumstances however, say a Hannah Montana birthday party, a cat wearing a Mickey Mouse hat with the spinner would be pretty cool.)

•No piercing of any kind. No stud in the ear, no stud on the tongue and don't even go looking for a belly button.

•Bras, panties, thongs and gachees are entirely out of the question for pets. However if your lab is getting kicked around by the bouvier next door, a protective cup could help.

•Leggings are out unless they're lederhosen and you can prove your dog is a German schnauzer with papers from Bavaria.

•Formal wear should be avoided unless your pet is attending a

legitimate pet wedding both sanctioned by the state of California and taking place in a vineyard. Tuxedos for males, nothing too frilly or revealing for the females. (Do not get me started on same-sex pet marriages.)

•No cargo pants or camouflage. Actually they should be illegal on humans.

•No hair extensions, no hair pieces and no rugs, especially on Persians.

•No latex, spandex, rubber or that denim material that makes your bum stick out even more than it does already. Leave those things to the Kardashians, not the Dalmatians.

•Walking around with a small blanket or a towel with a clip at the throat is okay but anything that makes him look like the Pope of Dogs won't fly.

Sorry, but people who dress up their pets should be run naked through the streets which would be the irony of all ironies – a nudist who puts clothes on his pet.

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

"Birds I View"



Photo: A Le Conte's sparrow.

By Bob Rigby - Excellent fall weather has allowed a lot of our migrant bird to pass through undetected; however, last weekend proved to be perfect for watching birds. Some birds that I saw deserving of a mention are as follows: rusty blackbird, brewers blackbird, coopers hawk and numerous species of sparrows. But,

seeing a Le Conte's sparrow and fox sparrows made my day. I also had my first sighting of a wood thrush, the first I have seen since living in the north. As I had said earlier, the birds appear to be in no hurry, with kinglets and American redstarts still moving through. Many of our permanent residents are in the area, surprising to see snow buntings, common redpoll, tree sparrow, and northern Juncos. I have visited Black Creek every day in hopes of seeing different species of waterfowl moving through, but so far have only seen four species compared to ten last year. There is still lots of time before freeze up, so do not put those field glasses away just yet.

O' Canada: 150th Celebration Gardens Being Planted



Photo: Canada's 150th anniversary commemorative white and red tulips are being planted now in anticipation of the country's milestone birthday next year. Both Espanola and Webbwood are looking for volunteers to help with their upcoming bulb plantings.

Canada's 150th anniversary is next year and to celebrate the country's proud history, the Canadian Garden Council has introduced a special red and white commemorative tulip.

Both Espanola and Webbwood have upcoming plantings planned for the bulbs that they have acquired for their communities.

The Espanola Horticultural Society would like volunteers from area sports teams,

volunteer groups, businesses, schools, service clubs and families to plant the bulbs this Sunday, October 23 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. at the Espanola complex.

In Webbwood, planting will take place Tuesday, October 25 at 10:00 a.m. at St. Lawrence Roman Catholic Church (10 Nelson Street). Everyone is welcome to attend and help put 1,000 bulbs in the Webbwood 150th Celebration Garden.

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FOR RENT - One bedroom apartment available immediately, 2 bedroom November 1. 45 Arthur Ct, Espanola. No pets, references required. Call 705-869-5989. 10/18

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Take notice that tenders are invited for the purchase of the land(s) described below and will be received until 3:00 pm local time on **October 26, 2016, at the Township Offices, 11 Birch Lake Road, Massey, Ontario POP 1PO.**

The tenders will then be opened in public on the same day at 3:15 pm local time, at **the Township Offices, 11 Birch Lake Road, Massey, Ontario.**

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Tenders must be submitted in the prescribed form and must be accompanied by a deposit in the form of a money order or of a bank draft or cheque certified by a bank or trust corporation payable to the municipality (or board) and representing at least twenty per cent (20%) of the tender amount.

Except as follows, the municipality makes no representation regarding the title to or any other matters relating to the land(s) to be sold. Responsibility for ascertaining these matters rests with the potential purchasers.

This sale is governed by the Municipal Act; 2001, and the Municipal Tax Sales Rules made under that Act. The successful purchaser will be required to pay the amount tendered plus accumulated taxes and the relevant land transfer tax.

The municipality has no obligation to provide vacant possession to the successful purchaser.

For further information regarding this sale and a copy of the prescribed form of tender contact:

| | |
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| Title | Name of Municipality or Board |
| Patricia Deline, Treasurer | Township of Sables-Spanish Rivers |
| Address of Municipality or Board | Phone No. of Municipality or Board |
| 11 Birch Lake Road, Massey, Ontario POP 1PO | 705-865-2646 |

Recipe

My mother-in-law was telling me about a sweet potato dish that she enjoyed at the Thanksgiving meal she attended. With a little research I've found a recipe that looks exactly like the one she had described. It's extremely easy to prepare, and very impressive served on a holiday table or at any time you want a special and delicious dish that will impress your guests.



Crispy Roasted Rosemary Sweet Potatoes **Yield: Serves 4**

- 3 Tablespoons butter, melted
- 3 Tablespoons olive oil
- 1/4 teaspoon crushed dried rosemary, or 1/2 tsp. fresh (thyme can also be used)
- 3 lbs. (3-4 medium) sweet potatoes, peeled and sliced thinly
- 1 small onion, peeled and sliced thinly
- salt and freshly cracked black pepper, to taste

Preheat oven to 400 degrees F. Combine melted butter, oil and crushed rosemary or thyme in a small bowl. Pour 2 tablespoons of butter-oil mixture in the bottom of a 2-quart baking dish. Arrange potato slices vertically in the dish. Add a sliver of onion between every few slices of potato. Brush top with remaining butter-oil mixture. Season generously with salt and pepper. Cover dish with foil and roast for 1 hour, covered, until potatoes are tender (If your potato slices are thicker than shown, you may need to increase cooking time). Increase oven heat to 450 degrees F. Remove foil and roast another 10-15 minutes, until tops of potatoes are browned and crisp.



COMMUNITY NOTES

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(SABE) Save A.B. Ellis – Second meeting, Wednesday, October 19, 7:00 p.m. at the United Church Espanola.

Children's Clothes Closet - October 19 from 10:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. at Calvary Baptist Church, Espanola. Sizes from newborn to 12.

St. Andrew's Harvest Supper And Talent Auction – Sunday, October 23 at 5:30 p.m. at the Massey Legion. For tickets, call Donelda at 705-865-2450 or Lee at 705-865-2559.

Roast Beef Dinner – Espanola United Church, Sunday, October 23 at 5:00 p.m. and 6:15 p.m. Advance tickets and take-out/delivery by calling 705-869-1215 or 705-869-2851.

Next Community Kitchen Luncheon - October 25 at the Lighthouse in Espanola (across from the Royal Bank) from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. No charge. Everyone welcome.

The Northshore Pins & Needles Quilting & Stitchery Guild - Next meeting on Wednesday, October 26, at the Espanola Legion Hall at 7:00 pm. All are welcome.

Community Living Espanola's Fall Harvest Luncheon - Wednesday, October 26 from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion, Espanola. Tickets at 345 Centre St., call 705-869-3131 or at the door.

Lee Valley Autumn Leaves - Halloween Dance, October 29 from 7:00 to 11:00 p.m. Costumes, prizes, live music, silent auction and food.

Knights of Columbus 33rd Annual Sportsman Stag – Friday, November 4. For Tickets call Marc 705-869-0692.

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.

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Espanola's Biggest Variety

Moose Corner

The Moose 99.3FM CJJM and the Espanola Regional Hospital and Health Centre have teamed 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 this year's special project: a gated park for the hospital's long-term care patients. The goal is \$150,000 to fund the park.

CUPE

CUPE represents over 30,000 social services workers in the Province of Ontario. We work hard to provide care to people with developmental disabilities, providing child care, working with families in crisis and delivering programs such as Ontario Works. Government cuts force cuts to the people we serve. Social service workers are leading campaigns to defend our work.