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Highlighting The Challenges Of Cleft Palate – Espanola Boy Featured In Book



Photos: Parker as a baby and Parker now, photos provided by Vanessa Donnelly

Looks aren't everything, but when something goes wrong, what most people would consider just cosmetic, can have life-altering consequences. Parker Donnelly of Espanola, the son of Tim and Vanessa Donnelly, was born with a cleft lip and palate. Vanessa says her son's story will be featured in a book, which is being

Continued on page four

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All The World's A Circus

William Thomas

williamjthomas@gmail.com

Mother Nature's Early Warning System

The Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami that struck South and Southeast Asia on Boxing Day, 2004 is still one of nature's most vicious attacks on the planet. In the catastrophic aftermath, one particular story had readers doing a double take. While the death toll of people along the coast of the 11 countries that were hit topped 160,000, not one dead animal was found.

Sri Lanka wildlife officials reported that while 24,000 citizens were killed among their island nation's shoreline, every animal in Yala National Park, their largest wildlife reserve, survived. The ferocious walls of water that slammed southeastern Sri Lanka flooded up to two miles of the park, but its four-legged inhabitants, including hundreds of wild elephants, watched the unprecedented destruction from higher ground.

And they did not run to their safe havens just ahead of the surging ocean. Instead, they had calmly and symmetrically moved there hours before the tsunami was sighted by humans. "No elephants are dead, not even a dead hare or rabbit," said H.D. Ranayake, deputy director of Sri Lanka's wildlife department. "I think animals can sense disaster. They have a sixth sense. They know when things are happening."

Indeed, the annals of natural disasters are rife

with reports of wildlife sensing impending peril well before it occurs. Birds, in particular, are often the first to vacate an area of imminent danger. The ancient Romans placed a high value on owls, who they believed were useful omens of oncoming natural calamity.

Greek records show that in 373 B.C., all of the animals – including weasels, rats and snakes – deserted the city of Helice days before a earthquake destroyed it.

After a devastating earthquake hit Taiwan in 1999, rangers at Yashau National Park reported all of the mountain-dwelling animals, from bears to birds, had gone missing. After no carcasses were found, the rangers discovered the animals – led by Formosan black bears – had fled to the east to safer ground. Deer, wild goats and even butterflies had managed to escape the harm that befell humans.

Today, the Chinese government urges citizens to report strange behaviour by animals, such as rats fleeing their natural habitats, as a way of warning against possible earthquakes. And in California, one geologist even monitors the 'lost pet' announcements in newspapers, believing significant increases in these ads indicate an earthquake is on its way.

Continued on page three...

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Continued from page two...

While there are also many stories of chickens that stop laying eggs, bees swarming out of their hives and pet cats and dogs behaving very oddly, all of the evidence is unfortunately only anecdotal. Scientists cannot conduct conclusive experiments because, obviously they cannot predict the natural disasters that may or may not spook the animals. At best, they think animals might be able to sense disaster.

Well, I don't think, I know so. In the late 1970s, I lived in a small mountainside villa above the town of Mijas, near Malaga, in southern Spain. I adopted two stray orange-striped cats, a brother-and-sister team. Once they wrangled their way into the house, they completely took it over and in the absence of a television set, they provided unlimited entertainment. Playing hide-and-seek and lurk-and-lunge, a feline comedy team was born. They played hockey in the bathtub for hours with a ball of tinfoil for a puck.

Poorly treated by locals and having lived mostly in sheds, they glommed onto the luxury of the villa like long lost royalty. Most days, I had to push them out the door to do their business. On damp days, they would lay on the hearth of the fireplace until they were too hot to pick up and move.

One day, at about noon, they just went nuts. They circled the big living room in different directions, leaping and bouncing

off all four walls as they ran. They made strange, guttural noises as they continued to romp around. I thought they were just working on a new routine, so I snapped open a cold San Miguel and sat in the middle of the room to watch them. This went on for a very strange 10 minutes until they exhausted themselves and staggered upstairs to hide under the bed. I could not get them to go outside.

Later that night, in Paco's Alarcon Bar, all of the local talk was about the earthquake that had hit nearby Grenada late that afternoon. While I stood laughing, they prepared for their survival.

There is no doubt in my mind that animals, perhaps some more than others, are wired with a sixth sense, the delicate frequency of which is lost on human beings. Although we have not yet fully taken advantage of it, when it comes to earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and tsunamis, these animals can serve the same purpose as the canary in a coal mine that has saved many a miner from death by toxic gas. Maybe an area vulnerable to natural disaster does not need a multi-million dollar seismic warning system. Maybe it already has one that's furry or has wings.

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

Help a Needy Family, Nominate Them For Christmas Dinner

Just in time for Christmas, Garnet's Rental, Sales & Service in Espanola, will provide a complete holiday dinner for one local family who might be having a rough time this season.

It's as easy as sending them a private message on Facebook. Be sure to include the family's name, contact info, town they live in and why you feel they deserve a little extra holiday cheer.

They will pick one family who'll receive a complete holiday dinner from Garnet's. The package will include:

turkey, gravy, stuffing, potatoes, pie and children's gifts.

Please make sure you nominate a family you know deserves to have a wonderful holiday dinner this December. Entry deadline is December 18th, 2017 at noon.

Please spread the word by sharing the post and thanks again for helping them make a deserving family's holiday season a little bit brighter.

Go to Facebook, type in Garnet's Rental, Sales & Service and nominate a deserving family.

OPSEU LHINs Staff Deliver 94 Percent Strike Vote



contract," said Julie Lenko, chair of OPSEU's LHINs central bargaining team.

"Those who work in the home and community care sector do this work because we care about our patients first and foremost, but proper patient care depends on respect for frontline workers."

This is the first round of bargaining for LHINs workers since Queen's Park integrated all of the province's Community Care Access Centres (CCACs) into the LHINs in June 2017.

OPSEU represents more than 600 community health care professionals employed by the LHINs across four regions including the North East LHINm which oversees medical services in Espanola and also along the North Shore as part of its mandate.

Photo: Map of LHINs coverage area for the North-East ... map supplied

Workers at four of the province's Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs) have voted 94 per cent in favour of a strike mandate.

Negotiations between the LHINs and the Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU) resume December 15. "With these vote results, we will return to the table determined to achieve a fair and reasonable

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Continued from front page...

Highlighting The Challenges Of Cleft Palate – Espanola Boy Featured In Book

published by a fellow Canadian mother.

“She has sons who were also born with a cleft lip and palate,” explains Vanessa.

“Parker was born March 2014 and we didn’t know he would have a cleft lip and palate before birth.”

Vanessa says when he was born, because he had no hard or soft palate he had no suction, and basically a large hole in the roof of his mouth to his nasal cavity.

“He had to eat with special bottles. Most people think cleft lip and palate is cosmetic but it isn’t because it affects the way the children eat, breathe and speak.”

Parker went to Toronto Sick Kids at a very, very young age where he still has a cleft team.

“He had his first surgery, lip repair, when he was 3.5 months old.

“A week after his first birthday, he had his palate repaired as well as ear tubes placed.

The first year of his life, we had to travel to Sick kids every six weeks or so. He currently is followed up there once a year now.”

But, it is not over for the little

guy just yet. He is growing by leaps and bounds.

“He can now eat normally, no food comes out of his nose, and he can suck from a straw! And despite what we were told that he would most likely have a speech delay, he speaks amazingly well with the help of speech therapy to correct him from sounding too nasal.” The family is now awaiting a date for a bone graph, which will happen between the age of 5-7, where specialists will use a piece of bone from his hip to place in his gum line.

Vanessa says it is an interesting journey, but she is proud that Parker has all the curiosity of a typical little boy.

“Parker is just like any three-year-old, full of life, he has an amazing sense of humour and is smart. We hope he will grow up with his peers not noticing his slight difference and, if they do, that they will be kind.”

Kwir is doing pre-orders and raising money for the charity #1in700. <http://1in700.com/about/>

The link to buy a copy of the book is <http://iwishidknown.yolasite.com/>



Holiday Pool Schedule Dec 27th – Jan 6th

Free Lions Swim Sat, Dec 30th & Sat, Jan 6th 1-2pm

Free Shelley Newton Swims Dec 30th & Jan 6th 6-8pm

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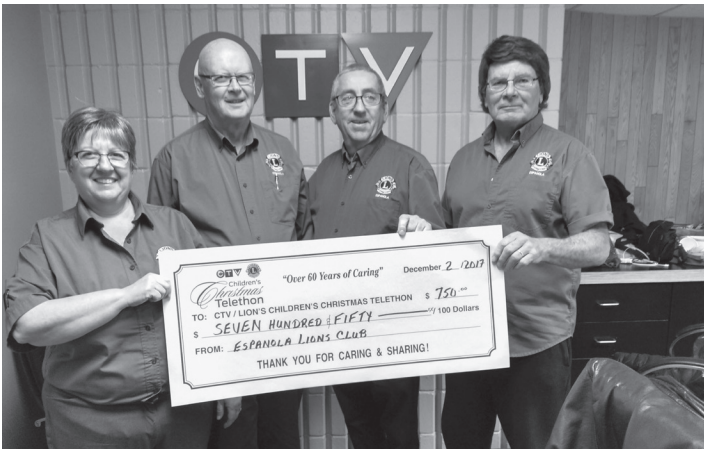
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There was plenty of local support and pledges from the Algoma, North Shore and Manitoulin Island area for the 69th Annual MCTV Christmas Telethon.

For example, Railroad Steele musicians, Glenda and Jenny Massicotte took part providing their unique style to the show. And Espanola Lions club spokesperson, Grant Lewis, was there with a group of volunteers. He says the club presented a

cheque for \$750 to the Children's Telethon before they took their turn manning the phones. Just over \$273,000 was raised, which will be used to provide gifts to families throughout the northeast, including the local area.

Photo: Ellie Charrette, Charles McClare, Joe Charrette. Grant Lewis present a cheque to MCTV Telethon. Photo provided by Grant Lewis.

Let's Do The Santa Shuffle



Six women from Espanola who love to run took part in the Santa Shuffle 5K in Sudbury on Saturday with money raised going to the Salvation Army. Heather Wilson, one of the six says they raised \$319 for the cause.

Over 400 participants walked or ran their way to the finish

line raising just under \$20,000 for the organization.

This was the 27th running of the event.

Photo: l-r: Kathy Thibeault, Lianne St. Pierre, Heather Wilson, Roxanne St. Amour, Debbie Pacy, front Debbie Langois.

Photo provided by Heather Wilson

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17 10 am - 5 pm	18 8 am - 9 pm	19 8 am - 9 pm	20 8 am - 9 pm	21 8 am - 9 pm	22 8 am - 9 pm	23 8 am - 6 pm
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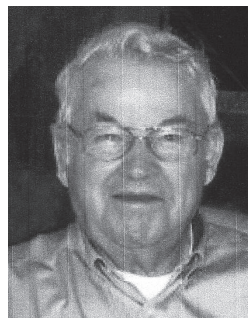
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Thank you to the McKerrow Recreation Committee, Curtis and Lisa Taylor, Leonard and Bernie Houle (aka Santa & Mrs. Clause) as well as Karin Bates for all their hard work and dedication to the McKerrow Christmas party.

A special thank you to the Baldwin Township, Wendy's, Alta Vista Motel, Goodman's Motel, Rainbow Chrysler, Northwest Trading Company, Giant Tiger, Canadian Tire, Your Independent, Remedy's Rx and A. Massicotte for your generous donations. The party would not have been a huge success without your help.

A great time was had by all.

OBITUARY



LADEROUTE, Frederick of Webbwood passed away at the Espanola Nursing Home on Sunday, December 3rd, 2017 at the age of 87 years. Beloved husband of the late Irene (nee McMillan) Laderoute (2007). Dear son of the late Ephrem & Rose (nee Pearson) Laderoute. Loving father of Fred Jr. (wife Nina) & Brad (wife Roz) both of Webbwood, Jackie Skinner (husband Rick) of Fort Wayne, Indiana and the late Mary. Will be sadly missed by grandchildren, Alana Grant (husband Greg), Rich Skinner, Kyle Skinner, Kayla Desormeaux (husband

Nathan), Emma Roussy (husband Brandon) & great-grandchildren, Abigail & Rhea Desormeaux. Very dear brother of Eleanor Foster (husband Keith predeceased), Vic Laderoute (wife Rita predeceased), Ivy Rantanen (husband Tom predeceased), Joe Laderoute (wife Doreen) & the late Albert Laderoute (wife Edna predeceased). He will be fondly remembered and missed by many nieces and nephews. Fred retired from Commercial Transport Ltd., in 1995. Fred and Irene enjoyed spending time with family at their camp on Agnew Lake. Fred enjoyed his daily cruises around town and the countryside. He enjoyed watching the Maple Leafs and the Blue Jays. To honour Fred's request there will be no visitation or funeral service. Interment of ashes in the Webbwood Roman Catholic Cemetery at a later date. If so desired, Memorial tributes may be made to Cystic Fibrosis or the Heart and Stroke Foundation. Arrangements by Bourcier Funeral Home Ltd., Espanola

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VS



HOME GAME!!

Friday, December 22, 7:30 pm

Recipe

This is a revved up macaroni and cheese that can be served as a meatless entrée or as a side dish. The broccoli adds a nice texture and flavour, and the cottage cheese and sour cream make it extra creamy. I made this the other night for supper alongside barbecued steak and we really enjoyed it. It also made delicious leftovers for work lunches. It's a great casserole that you can make ahead in the morning when having company for supper or for busy week nights.

Baked Broccoli Macaroni and Cheese

- 8 oz macaroni, dry
- 8 oz fresh broccoli florets (about 2 bunches)
- 3 tsp olive oil
- 1 tbsp dried basil
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1/2 large onion, chopped
- 1 tsp salt
- 5 oz each shredded cheddar and mozzarella (set a little aside to sprinkle on top)
- 8 oz cottage cheese
- 4 Tbsp milk
- 1/3 cup sour cream



Preheat oven to 350F. Using a large pot, put 2 tablespoons of salt into boiling water then add macaroni and broccoli. Cook until pasta is al dente, drain. Meanwhile, sauté onion in olive oil until onion is almost clear. Add garlic and sauté another 1 - 2 minutes, being careful garlic does not burn. Place macaroni/broccoli mixture in a buttered 3-quart casserole. Stir together basil, cheeses, sour cream, milk and salt in a separate bowl until well combined. Fold into pasta/vegetable mixture. Sprinkle mozzarella over the top. Bake, uncovered, in a 350F oven for 30 - 35 minutes or until cheese is good and bubbly. Enjoy!



COMMUNITY NOTES

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Next Community Kitchen Luncheon - December 12 at the Lighthouse in Espanola from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. NO CHARGE. Everyone Welcome. Christmas Dinner on December 25 at 4:30 p.m. at the Legion in Espanola. Everyone welcome. RSVP by calling (705)869-1648.

C.W.L. - Christmas Luncheon Tuesdays, December 12 at the Pinewood. Next Meeting Tuesday, January 19. We will be collecting slippers, personal items and crafts for the Haven House in Mindemoya. To Donate call 705-869-0629.

Children's Clothes Closet - Calvary Baptist Church, Espanola, Wednesday, December 13, 10:00 a.m.- 2:30 p.m.

Blue Christmas Service at St. George's (Anglican) Church - Monday, December 18 at 7:00 p.m. This Service is to honour those coping with loss of any kind, anyone struggling with the bitter sweet celebration of Christmas, bereavement, or illness.

Family Skating Party - Keep Sharp invites you to join us at the Espanola Recreational Complex on Thursday, December 29 from 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Toastmasters - Develop communication and leadership skills. Learn to think quickly and clearly on your feet Mondays 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at the Espanola Hospital board room. For details visit our website <http://602922.toastmastersclubs.org>.

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

New Espanola/North Shore Scout Troop Meet On Monday Nights - Venue Found

There will be a new Scout troop for Espanola and North Shore in the New Year.

Local organizer, Robert Haarmeyer of Espanola, says a venue to host meetings has been found, so establishing the new troop is underway. He says anyone interested in joining Scouts is invited to attend a meeting Monday evenings at Ecole St. Joseph from 6 pm to 7 pm.

Haarmeyer adds the first few meetings are on a get-to-know-each-other basis with full registration set for January. He adds they are looking for a corporate sponsor to help develop and assist in publicizing the new troop. It is open to boys and girls aged eight to 14.

Anyone interested in programming, visit: www.scouts.ca/



The Moose 99.3 FM CJJM Espanola wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Special Holiday Wishes are extended to Around&About and our collaboration to provide local readers with the local news and sports that matter to them. Merry Christmas!



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