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## 42nd Annual Elks Hamper Fund Will Feed Families



By Rosalind Russell - There was plenty of support for the 42nd Annual Elks Hamper Fund to raise funds for Christmas dinners.

The Espanola Elks in partnership with Moose 99.3FM CJJM raised over \$5,000, and counting, Saturday, November 30 to purchase all the fixings for Christmas dinner for local families. Some of the notable donations include \$750 from the Espanola Lions Club and \$500 each from the Espanola Legion and Union 31X.

The hampers will be put together at the Elks Hall on Friday, December 20th for distribution the next morning ... and volunteers are welcome to help out.

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# All The World's A Circus

William Thomas

williamjthomas@gmail.com

## Redefining The Word "Irony."

My little Pocket Oxford Dictionary inscribed "Property Of What's Up Niagara Magazine 1984" defines the word 'irony' as "the ill-timed or perverse arrival of events or circumstances that would in itself be desirable."

For example, there is nothing wrong with listening to a vegetarian promote a daily diet we'll all be sharing one day soon as the world can no longer afford to commit resources like land, water and grain to produce meat. That's desirable. In the meantime, there's nothing more enticing than a pepperoni pizza with a couple of cold beers. But to witness said vegetarian slurring his words after a few beers while wolfing down a meaty pizza--that's irony...with an indigestion topping.

When a fire station burns to the ground or a police station is burglarized--those types of paradoxical events are considered irony. It's like tripping over the five cords that connect your computer to a printer, a modem and a wall socket and remembering we now operate in a "wireless world"!

Irony it seems, is breaking out everywhere these days. Members of the hugely popular boy band BTS who would have careers of maybe two years before they start to sprout facial hair, have just been sentenced to 18 months of compulsory military service in South Korea. (Somewhere up there, with his classic sneer, Army Elvis' upper lip is twitching.) Not being a fan of boy bands, I find this both ironic and a boost to good music. Japanese "organizational guru", Marie Kondo who became massively famous for instructing people to downsize, donate and generally get rid of their material stuff has just opened an online retail store so that her followers can now...load up on material

stuff. Irony.

Not one but two Roman Catholic nuns recently returned to their base church in Italy after completing missionary work in their home countries in Africa...in a state of pregnancy! Yes, both of them. Religiously ironic? (And please make up your own jokes about one being a "mother superior" and that "missionary" thing.)

Examples of situational irony are all over the Net. For instance, the first person that arrived on the scene of an accident in Springfield, MA snapped a photo that shows a newspaper delivery truck smashed into the front of a home. The logo on the side of the van reads: "The Republican-Where The News Hits Home." A bullseye of irony right there.

That, and a photo of a dog who is resting on a living room carpet after having chewed up a sheet of paper of which only the title at the top remains intact: "Certificate Of Dog Obedience Training." In his heart he knows he flunked the damn class anyway.

For whatever reason Canada seems to be a popular setting for the satirical. In politics when a chubby little imposter like Andrew Scheer gets in the face of Justin Trudeau who comes from an iconic Canadian family, calling the prime minister a "fake" and a "phoney" ala Trump-style insults, that's ironic. But when he adds: "Oh, by the way, I'm half American"--that goes all the way to ludicrous.

Now take our recent heroic run at the Davis Cup in which our men's tennis team made history by battling to the finals for the first time in the 119-year-old event. Underdogs up against all odds-Shapovalov, Pospisil,

Continued on page three...

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Continued from page two...

Auger-Aliassime and even the injured Raonic did us all proud. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau tweeted “hashtag #YearOfTheNorth is born; a whole nation celebrates.”

So where do we stage the victory parade for our Davis Cup warriors? Well, ironically enough, not in Canada. In order not to pay their fair share of taxes in this country, Vaughan’s Denis Shapovalov and Vancouver’s Vasek Pospisil are registered as “living” in the Bahamas while Montreal’s Felix Auger-Aliassime and Milos Raonic are registered as “living” in Monaco. All raised in Canada with all the benefits of schooling, healthcare and sports development, they choose to live in tax havens!

Boys-you all need to ‘come home’ and pay your taxes as a goodwill gesture to your fans who spend up to \$5,740 of their hard-earned, after-taxes money for a single Roger’s Cup tournament front row seat.

Tax dodging aside, this was somewhat reminiscent of the Toronto Raptors incredible march to victory last spring, snatching the National Basketball Association’s most

coveted prize right out from under the American noses. And then you remember there were more Americans on that Canadian team than Canadians. Actually there were more Africans on that basketball squad than Canadians. Chris Boucher was the only Canadian on the champion Raptors team and they didn’t let him play. Nationally ironic.

Lastly, in Greater Toronto the most car-choked space in North America where drag racing is a weekend problem and pedestrians are being run over at twice the normal rate, the Ontario government has just approved a plan to allow kids on scooters to use city streets. Not the sidewalks, the streets! Yeah, what could possibly go wrong with this plan? Maybe a new urban phenomena called “airborne children”?

Have you noticed that irony like those “Trump For President” signs used to be funny?

To buy a book or invite humorist William Thomas to be your guest speaker, go to [www.williamthomas.ca](http://www.williamthomas.ca) [williamjthomas@gmail.com](mailto:williamjthomas@gmail.com)

## Shout Out!

Several volunteers with the Espanola Helping Hand Food Bank and members of the Tim Hortons Staff in Espanola and McKerrow met up at the highway six location on Thursday, November 28 for a wonderful presentation: A cheque for \$12,647 to the

food bank from this year’s smile cookie campaign ... and in turn, a plaque from helping hand was presented to Tim’s co-owner Lynn Lefebvre, for the years of support to the local food bank!!!! Congratulations to everyone!

Photos by Rosalind Russell



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## Walford Artist Completes Mural At Walford Community Centre



The Village of Walford has a rich history and a local artist has just completed a huge mural on one of the walls at the Walford Community Centre depicting that history. Award-winning artist Theresa Minten says her family has strong ties to the centre, which her mother helped build as a member of the Women's Institution and her father even put in the footings.

She says she was honoured when board members who oversee the hall asked her to paint her magic on the huge wall.

She says the columns feature various kinds of trees found locally with the wall itself also featuring farming, fishing and a train station.

Minten adds the lumbering portion also depicts old and modern technology.

Minten paints mainly with acrylics, but started to paint with oils as a teenager. She has a degree in graphic design and worked in the printing industry. She was also a member of a number of art groups and trained with Victor Sullivan in Orangeville where she lived for many years.

Since moving back to Walford, she has focused on her art and

was the featured artist at the 2016 Massey Area Museum's Jesse Burnside Memorial Art Show and has won several awards in numerous shows including the LaCloche Art Show in Whitefish Falls. Her paintings are also showcased at Lucky's Homestyle Restaraunt on Highway 17 in Walford and she hosts painting lessons at the centre itself.

Minten says the project was intriguing. With her parents, Morris and Dolores Sanftenberg having such close ties the centre, it was also a labour of love.

For the first panel, she chose the train station, which is gone now, and a train which ran in the early 1900's because having a station turned Walford into a bustling little place as they toted food and supplies of all kinds to the logging camps north of Walford during that period.

The logging section of the mural portrays the old and the new technology of this industry, which is and was so integral to the economy of this area.

She chose to paint a farm scene as that is where most people lived in the early days and those farms are now being

worked again.

A moose looking out at people fishing in a boat on a pristine lake portrays the recreational opportunities and the majestic beauty that draws people to the area.

The columns became tree trunks, a birch, a white pine and a maple, which divided the panels but also incorporated themselves in each panel.

Minten adds she knew she would enjoy painting the mural, but never expected the overwhelming reaction she got from the community; people stopping by to say how much they loved it, some checking daily on her

progress, some coming by just to say hello and see if she needed anything and plenty of people taking advantage of photo opportunities.

The public is invited to drop by anytime to view the completed work.

PHOTOS: Theresa Minten, a Walford artist, took four months to complete a mural on the Walford Community Centre depicting the history of the village. Her work is now used as a backdrop for photos as well as providing a pretty backdrop for the centre. Photos provided by Theresa Minten



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## Remembering Emily



It is with sorrow that we learned Emily Rose Richer of Massey passed away this past Monday, December 2, just two months short of her 17th birthday.

Emily's celebration of life will be held today, Tuesday, December 10, with visitation starting at 9:30 am, service and memories starting at 11:00 am, and a luncheon to follow at the Walford Community Hall.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to

the North Shore Cruisers Sick Kids Fund.

The daughter of Julian and Lisa Richer and little sister to Ryan, was a big part of the wider community. She was embraced and supported by her family and many, many friends of the family throughout those years. Emily was also a wonderful ambassador for Easter Seals and Snowarama held every year. She will be missed.

Our heartfelt condolences are extended to the family.

## Recipe

If you're looking for an easy, no-bake goodie to add to your cookie tray, these Chubby Hubby Clusters are absolutely delicious. Chocolate, peanut butter, pretzels, and peanuts all come together to make a perfect little treat. No baking required.

### Chubby Hubby Clusters

- 1 1/2 cups semi sweet chocolate chips
- 1 cup peanut butter chips
- 1/2 cup butter, cut into pieces
- 1/4 cup peanut butter
- 2 cups pretzel sticks, roughly chopped (I just broke them all in half)
- 1 cup salted peanuts

In a large bowl, mix together chocolate chips, peanut butter chips, butter, and peanut butter. Microwave on high for 45 seconds, stir, and microwave again for 30 seconds. Stir until smooth (if it isn't completely melted, return to the microwave for 20 second intervals, stirring after each time).

Add pretzels and peanuts to the melted chocolate mixture and stir until they are completely coated in chocolate. Drop by tablespoonfuls onto wax paper and refrigerate for about 30 minutes or until firm. Optional: drizzle with melted peanut butter or peanut butter chips. Store in an airtight container.



## Toy Drive In Massey – Fill An Ambulance

Another toy drive is underway, this time in Massey and surrounding area

Volunteer, Joanne Rheault says this Friday, the local Manitoulin-Sudbury Districts Services Board Emergency Medical Services duo of Kait Croft and Zack Tremblay will be at RONA to fill an

ambulance.

She says the toy drive is part of the Annual Massey Christmas event that runs throughout the evening. The public is invited to bring their donations to RONA's to fill the ambulance with presents delivered to local children just before Christmas.

## Positive Ticketing Is Helping Youth “Heat” Up This Winter

The Circle K in Espanola was surrounded by police Friday, November 27, handing out tickets to youth.

The store teamed up with the Espanola-Manitoulin OPP to promote positive relationships with young people.

Espanola OPP Constable Renee Lalonde says Operation Heat Launch was launched as a partnership with the store to

encourage youth to carry out acts of kindness to others.

She says officers will be on the lookout throughout the winter for youth who do so and they will receive a complimentary ‘ticket’ for a hot chocolate from Circle K.

Lalonde adds some 200 youth took part in the official launch at the Circle K on Centre Street in Espanola.

**Welcome to Local Hippie's weekly tip for living a greener life! Each week we will provide you with a quick tip to help you reduce your carbon footprint and change the world.**

This week's tip isn't exactly a tip - it's a craft! A low-waste, low-impact, Christmas craft.



Christmas decorations can be incredibly wasteful. These days, most decorations are made of cheap plastic that cannot be recycled at the end of its lifetime. As you can imagine, that doesn't sit right with me! This year, I decided to try my hand at a classic Christmas decor piece that is not only cute, but completely biodegradable. I thought I'd share!

### Dried Citrus Christmas Garlands:

#### Materials:

- Citrus fruit of your choice (oranges, grapefruits, limes, or lemons)
- Cooling racks
- Cotton or jute twine
- An embroidery needle

#### Directions:

- Cut your citrus into thin slices (roughly 1/3 inch thick).
- Arrange the slices on a cooling rack.
- Set your oven to the lowest possible temperature, somewhere around 200 degrees Fahrenheit. Place the cooling rack inside, baking for 2-4 hours, flipping every 45 minutes.
- String your needle and poke it through each side of the citrus slices until your garland is as long as you'd like it.
- When the holiday season is over, simply place your garland in your compost bin!

Cheers to an earth-friendly holiday season!

Have questions? Feel free to forward them to [jaymie@localhippie.net](mailto:jaymie@localhippie.net)

Have a happy hippie week!



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## BINGOS

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## OBITUARY



**Tammy Duchesne (Lacasse)** - Tammy fell asleep in the Lord on Wednesday, November 13, 2019, at the age of 43, and is awaiting His return to call his faithful ones to be with him forever. Beloved wife of Jean-Pierre (JP) Duchesne. Cherished daughter of Heather Lees. Sister of Chantal Falkingham (Jarret), Barbara Hiltz, Sarah Lacasse and Shawna Lacasse. Loving granddaughter of the late Barbara and Boyter Lees. Niece of Raymond Lees (Annette) and the late Neil Lees. Loved and missed by many nieces and nephews. Memorial contributions to the Sault Area Hospital ICU in lieu of flowers would be appreciated.



**Richer - Emily** of Massey passed away at the Espanola Regional Hospital on December 2, 2019 at the age of 16. Loving daughter of Julien "Choo" and Lisa (nee Fletcher) Richer. Beloved sister of Ryan (Emily) Richer of Massey. Cherished granddaughter of Julie Carpenter (Dan) of Miller Lake and the late Randy Fletcher and also the late Joseph & Lillian Richer. Also, will be sadly missed by many friends & relatives. A Memorial Service celebrating Emily's life will be on Tuesday December 10, 2019 at the Walford Community Centre from 9:30 AM to 11 AM. Afterwards everyone is invited to stay at the Community Centre for a time of fellowship and a lunch will be served. Interment at a later date. If so desired, donations to the North Shore Cruisers - Sick Kids Fund would be appreciated. Arrangements by BOURCIER FUNERAL HOME Ltd, Espanola.

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Fax/Télécopieur: (705) 862-7805  
<http://www.msdsb.net>

The Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board is a municipal service management organization created by the provincial government to oversee the local planning, coordination and delivery of a range of services and programs divested to the municipal order of government. The specific programs our DSB is responsible for are: Ontario Works, Social Housing, Emergency Medical Services (Land Ambulance), and Early Learning and Child Care services.

The following Employment Opportunity is now available to anyone interested in joining our highly dedicated workforce.

### **PATIENT TRANSPORTATION ATTENDANTS**

Contract Position in Espanola/Little Current

3 Positions Available

Competition #2019-02-PTS

Closing date: Jan. 3, 2020

For position details, visit Job Opportunities on our website at

**[www.msdsb.net/index.php/careers](http://www.msdsb.net/index.php/careers)**

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

## NOTICE

# Christmas Schedule for Garbage & Recycling.

**ATTENTION:  
Residents of Township of Baldwin  
Township of Nairn**

**Garbage Pick-up will change to the following days  
Dec 25 pickup on Dec 23 • Jan 1 pickup on Dec 30**

**Must be at the curb no later than 6:00 a.m.**

**Green Today. Green For Life.**

**Have a Safe &  
Happy Holiday!**



## COMMUNITY NOTES

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY



**Children's Clothes Closet** - at the Calvary Baptist Church  
Wednesday, December 11 from 10 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**Annual Express/Lions Teddy Bear Toss** – Friday,  
December 13th at the Espanola Express / Rayside Balfour  
Canadians Hockey Game. Here's your chance to throw,  
toss, hurl, jettison a teddy onto the ice and support two  
wonderful organizations.

**Free Community Christmas Dinner** - December 25th at  
the legion in Espanola at 4:30. Everyone welcome. Please  
call Joan @ 705-869-1648 if you are able to come or need  
a ride.

*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](mailto:around@aroundandabout.ca)

**View the paper for FREE every week at  
[www.aroundandabout.ca](http://www.aroundandabout.ca)**