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Espanola Budget Finalized – A Slight Increase In Taxes



By *Rosalind Russell* - Espanola Council passed the municipal budget on Tuesday, May 14th showing a slight increase in taxation for ratepayers.

The document took several months to complete for a few reasons, one being a new council that wanted to review the budget line by line, the changeover from municipal to provincial police and Doug Ford's first provincial budget and how the downloading and loss of revenues/grant programs would affect monetary items at the local level.

Espanola's CAO, Cynthia Townsend, provided the document including the executive summary highlighting the budget, which is actually a living document, which allows forecasting for a three year period. The budget reflects an overall net levy of \$7, 671,232, a slight increase over 2018 of \$92,494 or 1.22%. She says it should be noted that expenditures decreased over the prior year; however in 2018 an amount totaling \$354,948 was pulled from reserves to eliminate any tax increase last year.

Continued on back page...

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Continued from front page...

Espanola Budget Finalized – A Slight Increase In Taxes

As a result of assessment growth and a decrease to the provincial education rate, the average residential household with an assessment of \$142,831 will see an increase of only 0.72%, an increase of around \$17.41.

Townsend adds the budget reflects a number of significant projects and challenges.

The town has had a further reduction of \$37,600 in grants from the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund.

Municipal efficiency and modernization funding was also received, \$637,000, which has been placed in a special reserve and can be drawn upon by council if they deem a local project is worthy of financial support.

Police services are still a bit of an unknown. The transition period is still underway from municipal to provincial policing and the current year expenditures reflect some savings with the majority of savings expected in 2022 when the transition is complete. When it comes to hard services, work is being carried out now and there could be some other projects down the pipe.

Grant applications for a portion of the Connecting Link – Highway 6 and replacement of the main water trunk line from Mead Blvd to the water treatment to the Queensway are currently being submitted to the upper levels of government for consideration. The projects are contingent on approval

and receiving the funding from the provincial and federal governments. If those approvals fall in place, the actual work is unlikely to begin this year but will be carried out in 2020.

The new fire hall is expected to be completed by May 31st.

She adds the budget reflects a number of significant projects including remediation of Highway Six – Centre Street that is now underway, as well as on Jean, Katherine and Elizabeth Streets.

Another capital project will include improvements to the Heritage Park and a new welcome sign.

Townsend explained the budget is prepared based on a three-year period, which provides a

projection of what future rate increases might be. Although the Municipal Act allows for a multi-year budget, it also requires that the budget for subsequent years are reviewed and re-adopted each year of the budget. Therefore, the 2020 and 2021 budget estimates will change depending on the circumstances in each of those years.

Photo: The building of the new fire hall was financed from reserves. However, there are additional costs added on during construction, which will be detailed later this month. Those deficits will not affect this year's budget but will be reflected in the 2020 document. Photo by Rosalind Russell

Ground Breaking Ceremony For Espanola Therapeutic Garden



Residents, staff, board and foundation staff and supporters of the Espanola Therapeutic Garden Park were on hand for a ground breaking ceremony.

The park is an extension of the long-term care residence located in the Espanola Regional Hospital and Health Centre.

Landscape architect, Jennifer Harvey, says details all take a focus on safety and enjoyment for Alzheimer's and dementia patients who live in the residence. It will house a large outdoor seating space, gazebo, seating areas and guided walkways designed with Alzheimer's and dementia residents safety in mind.

Even the plants and trees have been selected with safety being the ultimate goal.

Rick Leclair is leading the construction of the new park, which is expected to be completed by late June.



Community Living Espanola Annual Walk/Run



Community Living Espanola held their annual Walk/Run to raise funds for local programming on the May 11th weekend.

Ninety-six people took part in the event, which also included several splashes of colour ... literally.

Over \$1,600 and counting was raised for local programming
Picture 1: 1km winners Kate Neufeld 1st, Reese Belanger 2nd, Brooklyn Stewart 3rd
Picture 2: 5 km winners Landon Duplessis 1st, Eric Bourcier 2nd, CLE's own Chad Minten 3rd

Picture 3: 1st Place for both:



Kate Neufeld & Landon Duplessis

Colour splash is all part of the fun

Photos provided by Community Living Espanola

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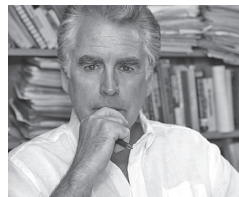
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All The World's A Circus

William Thomas

williamjthomas@gmail.com

In Others' Words – The Cat

Dog to horse, bat to rat, no pets are more quotable than the cat.

For a pet that does not speak or bark, the body of written work attributed to the domesticated cat is ponderous. Everybody, it seems, has an impassioned opinion of cats.

Some doubt they are tamed pets at all. "The phrase 'domesticated cat' is an oxymoron," so says George Will

However, who are we to judge? "A god among creatures. Yet also a stray like me." – Tony Ross

And if indeed they are house-broken, "Most cats have trained their owners. When the cat meows before the refrigerator, the owner obediently opens the door and feeds the cat. When it meows at the back door, the owner is trained to let the cat out." Leon Whitney. Who's training who?

It's not a dog-like, buddy-buddy relationship. "To a cat, human beings are an inferior servile race, always to be kept in their places, with occasional rewards if they perform well. To love a cat is uphill work, and therefore, very rewarding." – Haskell Frankel

And when it comes to human beings, all dogs resemble men, while felines, most certainly, lean to the feminine side. "Every cat is really the most beautiful woman in the room." – E.V. Lucas

Carol Lawrence would agree: "They're the most graceful, sinuous, sexy, truly sensuous creatures in the world."

"Living with a cat is like being married to a career woman, who can take domesticity or let it alone, so you'd better be nice to her."

– Margaret Cooper Gay

But fear not, says Robert Heinlein: "Women and cats will do as they please, and men and dogs should relax and get used to the idea." Just as indisputable as their femininity is the fierce independence of cats. "A cat is there when you call her – if she doesn't have something better to do." – Bill Adler
 John Dingman would agree: "Cats are absolute individuals, with their own ideas about everything including the people they own."

Arrogance becomes them. "In ancient times cats were worshipped as Gods. They have not forgotten this." – Terry Pratchett

According to W.L. George: "Cats know how to obtain food without labour, shelter or confinement, and love without penalties." Not to be fooled, says Betty White: "When I speak to her, she can look the other way in an elaborate show of inattention, but those ears are turning like radar scopes, taking in everything."

Not to give a rat's ... Winifred Carriere claims: "Cats always know whether people like or dislike them. They do not always care enough to do anything about it."

Though references to cats worth noting are always passionate, some are not all that kind. "Cat: a pygmy who loves mice, hates dogs, and patronizes human beings." – Oliver Herford

A bit harsh but: "Cats refuse to take the blame for anything, including their own sins." – Elizabeth Peters

Quirky are cats, independent and very, very smart. And clever about being smart. "The smart cat doesn't let on that he is." – H.G.

Continued on page three...

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Continued from page two...

Frommer

Cats can make you feel inferior. Eleanor Farjeon: "It always gives me a shiver when I see a cat seeing what I can't see."

If the animal world had political parties, cats would be Libertarians. Says Carl Van Vechter: "The cat seldom interferes with other people's rights. His intelligence keeps him from doing many of the fool things that complicate life." And wise. "I have studied many philosophers and many cats. The wisdom of cats is infinitely superior." So said Hippolyte Taine.

Taking a serious swipe at dogs: "A cat has never been known to bite the garbageman." - H. Monger Burdock

"Cats seem to go on the principle that it never does any harm to ask for what you want." - Joseph Wood Krutch. And ask, and ask and ask.

Man's greatest and wittiest critic loved and observed cats, coming to a conclusion that many of us cynics share: "If man could be crossed with a cat, it would improve man but deteriorate the cat." - Mark Twain

Another brilliant satirist of the human condition may just have captured the whole essence of cats in 14 fabled words. Said Garrison Keller: "Cats are intended to teach us that not everything in nature has a function."

Because of the felines' inherent femininity, it's assumed women enjoy the company of cats more than men. Not true. I myself spent 24 years in a house where the only other occupant was a cat - first Malcolm, then Weggie. Both of them drove me crazy and both made me a better person.

Hillaire Belloc said it best: "There is not a man living who knows better than I that the four charms of a cat lie in its closed eyes, its long and lovely hair, its silence, and even its affected love."

Oh sorry; maybe Bruce Schimmel said it best: "The little furry buggers are just deep, deep wells you throw all your emotions into."

For comments, ideas and copies of The True Story of Wainfleet go to www.williamthomas.ca

Espanola Minor Soccer Makes Changes To Summer Schedule

To streamline scheduling and allow for older players to complete end-of-school year obligations, the Espanola Minor Soccer Association has changed its summer schedule.

Association Technical Director Robert Rigby says they are experimenting with

a staggered start, with the children who play on the Queensway field starting their season on May 27 and older players on July 2.

For all the details, go to: <https://www.facebook.com/EspanolaMinorSoccer/>

Black Bear Survey - A Little Fishy!

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry is trying to determine if black bears visit the same parts of the province.

It's laying down sardines hoping the bear smell the fish and show up to eat it.

To get to the sardines the bears

have to brush up against some barbed wire and the hope is they leave behind DNA hair samples.

The ministry will analyze the results and from that, it hopes to determine which bears have returned to an area and which ones are new.

Conservative Party Candidate In AMK



national party leader Andrew Scheer.

Andrew Scheer, the national leader of Canada's Conservatives, says having Dave join the team will ensure the riding gets the strong representation they deserve with a Conservative government that will lower taxes and put people first.

The Chief Administrative Officer for the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and Islands, with a strong background in business and management, Williamson says he will work every day to help the residents of the riding get ahead, not just get by.

Dave Williamson of Manitoulin Island will run in the Algoma-Manitoulin-Kapuskasing riding as the Conservative Party candidate. Williamson was acclaimed in early May and endorsed by

With Williamson's nomination, the Conservative Party now has over 270 candidates in the upcoming October federal election.



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THANK YOU

THANK YOU - The A.B. Ellis 100th Anniversary Committee would like to thank all those who helped make our bake sale and tea successful events. To those who baked, prepared food, offered donations, served, and advertised we thank you. Thank you to the United Church for offering their kitchen for food preparation and to the Seniors' Drop-In Center for the use of their Hall for the Tea. Special thanks to Tanners, & Freshco, Giant Tiger for donating food, and to the children of a A.B. Ellis for their beautiful artwork.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

LANDRIAULT – The Celebration of Life for the Late Mr. Norman Paul Landriault, formerly of Elliot Lake and Walford, Ontario, will be held on Saturday, May 25, 2019 at 11 A.M. at the Walford Community Centre. with John Rimore officiating. Interment of cremains will follow in St. Francis of Assisi Church Cemetery, Walford. Arrangements are in the care of Elliott Funeral Home Ltd., Nipigon, Ontario.

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Resumes will be received until Saturday, June 1st, 2019 by email only:

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Espanola Gardeners' Annual Plant Sale

By Grant Lewis - The local greenhouse is filling up....local garden centres are gearing up for snow weary Espanolans to get their hands on anything green! But wait...wait till Saturday May 25th at 8:00 a.m. at the Complex. The Espanola Gardeners' annual plant sale will be on. Come on out and buy local plants from local gardens and cared for by local gardeners. You can't get any more like local than that! But wait...there's more. If you have plants to divide, you can drop them off at the Complex on

Friday evening from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. But wait, there's even more! If you would like one of our members to help you dig up and divide your plants, please call 869-5798 and we'll be glad to help. Don't forget the Masons' breakfast, the Car Show, and the craft sale all at the same time. Also you can buy your membership to the Espanola Gardeners, and there will be information about our members' only garden tour and bus trip to Parry Sound to be part of their garden tour. See you there

Recipe

Every second week the staff at Around & About/ Paperworks has a theme day to raise money that will be donated to a charity at the end of the year. A couple weeks ago our theme was Mexican culture. Our favourite office baker brought in a Mexican inspired dessert that we were all drooling over. A Sopapilla (so-pai-pil-la) is traditionally a deep-fried pastry, typically square, eaten with honey or sugar. The following recipe is a no frying, no fuss version, with a cinnamon sugar coating and a cheesecake layer inside. It's an easy dessert to put together that will impress everyone who tries it. These are great served with whipped cream and sliced strawberries.



Sopapilla Cheesecake Bars

- 2 (8 ounce) cans Pillsbury refrigerated butter flake crescent dinner rolls
- 2 (8 ounce) packages of cream cheese, at room temperature
- 1 ½ cups white sugar, divided
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- ¼ cup butter, melted

Preheat oven to 350°F. Spray a 9x13-inch baking dish with cooking spray. Unroll one can of crescent rolls and press it into the bottom of your baking dish, pressing seams together to seal perforations. In a small bowl, blend the cream cheese, 1 cup of sugar and the vanilla. Spread evenly over the top of the crescent dough. Unroll your second can of crescent rolls onto a sheet of plastic wrap or parchment paper, pressing seams together to seal. Transfer dough to your baking dish, placing it on top of the cream cheese mixture. Pour the melted butter on top of the crescent dough. In a small bowl, combine the remaining 1/2 cup of sugar and cinnamon. Sprinkle evenly over the melted butter. Bake for 25-30 minutes until top is bubbly and bottom crust is slightly browned. Allow to cool completely and store in refrigerator. When ready to serve, cut into 12 pieces and top with whipped cream and strawberries if desired.

COMMUNITY NOTES

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North Shore Anglers and Hunters Meeting – May 23, 7:30 p.m. at the Walford Community Center, Hwy 17. Everyone welcome

Porketta Dinner – Friday, May 24 from 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. at the Walford Community Center. Served by the United Church in Massey

Masonic Breakfast – May 25, 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at the Espanola Recreation Complex.

Knight Cruisers Car Club 17th Annual Cruise-In - Saturday, May 25, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., Espanola Rec Complex/Track & Field. Call 705-869-4757 for info. Food bank donations appreciated

Box to Book Community Art Project - May 28, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the EHS library. For more details coordinator@espanolafibreartsfestival.ca or 705-566-7653.

Grand opening of the Lee Valley Hall – Friday, May 31 and Saturday June 1, 12 p.m. - 7 p.m. daily. Hosted by the Lee Valley Autumn Leaves. Everyone is welcome to attend.

CNIB Dining in the Dark – June 1, 6:00 p.m. at the Red Dog Grill. Learn more & get your tickets at cnib.ca/dininginthedarkreddoggrill

Women of Faith Breakfast – Saturday, June 8 at the Pinewood Restaurant. Doors Open 9:00 a.m., Breakfast 9:30. Contact 705-822-6533 for tickets.

General Meeting for Espanola Gardeners – June 3, 7:00 p.m. at the Queensway Pentecostal Church.

Espanola Public Library Board Game Night - NO fee or registration required! Every 3rd Thursday of every month 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Lighthouse Community Lunch - Free community luncheon at the Lighthouse, across from the Royal Bank, every second and fourth Tuesday of the month, 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

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

YARD SALES

Community Living Espanola's 13th Annual Yard Sale - Friday, May 24 & Saturday, May 25 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Front parking lot area of The Craft House, 345 Centre Street.

Massey Area Museum yard/trunk, baking sale, BBQ – Saturday, June 1, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Side lot and back parking lot of the Massey Area Museum. Come support your museum.

C.W.L / F.C.F.E

Garage Sale & BBQ / Vente de Garage et BBQ

Saturday, May 25

8:00 – 1:30 p.m.

Saint Jude Parish, 247 Mead Blvd.



All proceeds from this sale will go towards the paving of the church parking lot.
Les recettes de cette vente seront versées pour le pavage du stationnement de l'église.



Moose Corner

The Moose 99.3 FM CJJM - Espanola is proud to support local charities and organizations. If you have an event you want to share, please call Roz at 705-869-6397 or email your information to: russell@moosefm.com The Moose- Espanola's Biggest Variety! Your Station, Your News, Your Stories