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**Opening Of New  
 Joint Educational And  
 Childcare Facility In  
 Espanola In Spring**



Conseil scolaire catholique Nouvelon (CSC Nouvelon), the Huron-Superior Catholic District School Board (HSCDSB), and Our Children, Our Future/ Nos Enfants, Notre Avenir (OCOF/NENA) wish to inform all families that Espanola's long-awaited new educational and childcare build will be available for occupancy in the spring of 2021. The new joint facility, located at 301 Church Street on the site of the former Sacred Heart Catholic School and former St-Louis de France Catholic Church properties, will house École catholique La Renaissance, Sacred Heart Catholic Elementary School, and Our Children, Our Future Daycare / Garderie Nos Enfants, Notre Avenir. According to the latest information, the new building may be substantially completed by the end of February 2021. Throughout the next three months,

Continued on page four...

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## Up To 160 Families Will Get A Christmas Dinner With All The Trimmings



**By Rosalind Russell** - The 43rd Annual Espanola Elks Food Hamper Drive was a success. Organizer, Gary Tennant, says the organization raised over \$5,164 on Saturday November 28, 2020 taking pledges and donations at the Espanola Mall and over the phone ... and counting. Some donations came from local organizations including McCulloch Insurance Ltd. with a \$500 donation, \$500 from the Espanola Royal Canadian Legion Branch #39 and \$300 from the Knight Cruisers Car

Club. Tennant adds some 160 families in Espanola and the North Shore will receive hampers with all the fixings in mid-December, just in time to celebrate the holiday season. He says thank you to everyone who has and continues to support the Elks in Espanola and the surrounding area. The annual food drive is held in partnership with The Moose 99.3 FM - CJJM Espanola.

Photo provided by the Elks Club



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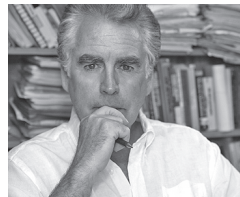
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# All The World's A Circus

William Thomas

williamjthomas@gmail.com

## What The World Needs Now... Twist Ties. Plus That Vaccine Would Be An Excellent Idea

It seems that in the last ten months, the truly bizarre has become the new normal.

Case in point, Abiy Ahmed, the Prime Minister of Ethiopia and last year's winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, just instigated a civil war in the region of Tigray, killing hundreds, wounding thousands, and sending 100,000 of his citizens fleeing into neighbouring Sudan as refugees. That's where we need a recount, on that Norwegian Nobel Committee vote.

The international weaponization of food took a giant leap forward when members of Taiwan's parliament protesting US pork imports first punched out the lawmakers who opposed them and then threw pig guts on them. More civil but a lot more dangerous, neighbours and nuclear powers India and Pakistan are threatening to go to war over the ownership of... no, not Kashmir... but the word 'basmati' as in rice. Yet the most disturbing case of international belligerence came when the United States and China pushed each other to the brink of a tariff trade war over... wait for it... twist ties! The Americans claim the Chinese are unfairly subsidizing the manufacture of twist ties making them cheaper for US consumers. With the world's largest super powers awash in twist ties, why can't I find even one of them in Canada??

No, a war over twist ties? Say it ain't so. After elastic bands and paper clips and bobby pins, twist ties are some of my favourite things around the house. I use them to seal the bag

in which I marinate meat and tie off bulky garbage bags which are a lot heavier now that the pick up is every two weeks. I use twist ties to bundle all of the wires under my desk in this wonderful wireless world. All the keys in my key box are separated with twist ties. Once, when I broke a shoe lace, two twist ties allowed me to finish a very long hike with both shoes and no blisters.

Twist ties are like thoroughbred jockeys — for their size, pound for pound, they are the most powerful little working stiffs in the world. Exactly how important are twist ties in the grand scheme of things? Well, for one thing you don't smuggle a bag of pig guts into a parliament building without a bloody twist tie.

Mysteriously, about a year ago they just disappeared. Grocery stores, probably to save costs, quit providing twist ties with their in-store plastic bags. It was about ten months ago that I ran out of my stash of twist ties. I panicked. While most people were hoarding toilet paper I was scouring supermarkets for twist ties. But no, not a one. And no store employee knew why! Well, now we know why. The world supply of twist ties has been wiped out because America and China are stockpiling them as they prepare for their upcoming tariff war. Sure, that's a lot better than a heated exchange of nuclear missiles between these two global giants but it's not doing me and my skinless chicken in hot sauce a helluva

*Continued on page three...*

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Continued from page two...

lot of good.

I keep trying to convince myself that there are bigger things to worry about like how Dolly Parton came up with the Moderna vaccine? Or how Cher airlifted a lonely and overweight elephant from a zoo in Pakistan to an animal sanctuary in Cambodia? (Workin' 9 to 5, that's how. Persistence and a cup of ambition. Wanna get a job done, ask a busy pop star!)

You can't even buy these little paper and wire benders. I went to a Dollarama and they sold me a roll of green plastic line that looks like it belongs at the business end of a weed whacker. So now I'm tying off my garbage bags with bits of rope and sealing my plastic bags with scrunched up elastic bands and all the while searching for a source — illegal or otherwise — of twist ties.

I know, it's become an obsession and I should be paying more attention to current events in Canada like how "We The North" Raptors just went south to play their home games in Tampa or how the City of Toronto just hired 'street agents' to teach people how to walk across a road.

Don't even suggest I use those evil, little plastic bread tags which puncture the plastic bag and defeat the very purpose of an air-tight seal.

In order to keep bread fresh the twist tie was invented by an Oklahoma farmer named Charles Burford thereby saving consumers from Wonder Bread

which is kept "pillowy" soft by replacing the nutrients with bleach and probably fabric softeners.

Just before he died in 2013, Charles Burford was inducted into — not making this up — The American Society of Baking Hall of Fame in Manhattan, Kansas. When America establishes the Twist Tie Hall of Fame, likely in Bend, Oregon, - Burford will go in on the first ballot. Burford also tried to invent 'spray aluminum' so you could 'aluminumize' your potato before you baked it. Okay, but some of the world's greatest inventors were also loons.

Burford was laid to rest at a local Auntie Anne's Cinnabon outlet, wrapped in a clean plastic body bag and sealed with an oversized industrial-strength... twist tie. (Okay, that one I made up.)

I know I should be concentrating on getting the coronavirus vaccine which apparently is going to be distributed by Purolator which is owned by Canada Post which once sent a valuable coin collection from Toronto to Amman, Jordan instead of its actual destination, Jordan Station, Ontario. But all I can think of is where will I get my next twist tie and how tomorrow's garbage day.

Any of the ten books written by William Thomas are available at [www.williamthomas.ca](http://www.williamthomas.ca)

Comments: [williamjthomas@gmail.com](mailto:williamjthomas@gmail.com)

## New Factory To Make PPE Opens In Wiikwemkoong



Dignitaries, First Nation leaders and the community of Wiikwemkoong gathered at the community's new light industry park to welcome its first tenant with a ribbon cutting ceremony and blessing.

Wiikwemkoong has partnered with First Nation Procurement Incorporated and Dent-X Canada producing over one-million masks a day and creating 50 new jobs in the process.

Both company presidents, Jimmy Emms and Matthew Owl stated they are proud of their partnership with the First Nation in providing such a range of vital products, from kid's masks to medical grade

FN95s, for distribution across Canada.

Congratulatory messages included video addresses by Premier Doug Ford, National Chief Perry Bellegarde and Ontario Regional Chief RoseAnne Archibald and in person, Anishnawbek Nation Chief Glen Hare among others.

Other dignitaries included Algoma-Manitoulin-Kapuskasing MP Carol Hughes, Algoma-Manitoulin MPP Michael Mantha. Chief Duke Peltier was pleased to welcome everyone to the ribbon cutting ceremony.

Link: <https://livestream.com/firsttel/events/9416344/videos/213892716>



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## Espanola Lions Continues Their Giving Ways

Continued from front page...

## Opening Of New Joint Educational And Childcare Facility In Espanola In Spring



CSC Nouvelon, HSCDSB, and OCOF will collaborate closely on a number of outstanding items, including the development of a plan for an official opening and a staggered schedule for relocating all students and staff. Although our goal is to have both Catholic schools and daycare centres moved in by the end of March Break on Sunday, March 21, 2021, circumstances beyond anyone's control might change this target date.

CSC Nouvelon, HSCDSB, and OCOF originally had high hopes of welcoming students and children in the new joint facility earlier; however, a number of factors – including a global pandemic – prevented this from occurring. The three organizations appreciate everyone's understanding and continued support through this challenging time. Additional information about next steps will be communicated to families in the first few months of 2021.



In November, the Espanola Lions Club held two bingos to raise funds for both the Espanola and Massey Legion. Two weeks ago, they made the donation to the Espanola Royal Canadian Legion Branch #39.

Last week they presented a cheque for \$1,300 to Massey Royal Canadian Legion Branch #432.

**Photo 1** - Lion President

Randy Edwards and past President Grant Lewis present the cheque to Legion President Gary McPherson. Photo courtesy of R. Russell.

**Photo 2** - Espanola Lion President Randy Edwards (l-r) presents a cheque for \$1,300 to Massey Poppy Campaign Chair Margaret Ann Behm and Massey Legion President Ed Duncan. Photo provided by the Espanola Lions Club.



Photo: Knights Denis Bois and Dan Grodesky frame Espanola Hospital Foundation Chair Mike Dunn with a \$5,000 cheque in support of the new x-ray suite, all part of Radiothon 2020. Photo provided by ERHHC Foundation

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**Moose Corner**

**MOOSE FM - CJJM teams up with Daniel's Mission to collect up to 300 gift boxes for the homeless this holiday season. For more information or pickup/dropoff arrangements, call Roz at 705-869-6999 or visit Moose Facebook page.**



## Time To Prepare Those Teddy Bears And Other Stuffies



The annual Teddy Bear Toss will be held this year in partnership between the Espanola Royal Canadian Legion Branch #39 and the Espanola Lions Club. The Lions usually host the event at the recreation centre, but due to COVID-19, they have

changed up those plans. The idea is to toss the teddies and other toys at the cannon located in front of the Legion. It's all happening just around the corner on Tuesday, December 15th. Get those cuddly animals all set to go ... AND TOSS AWAY!!!

## Want A Beautiful, Original Christmas Memorial Bulb?

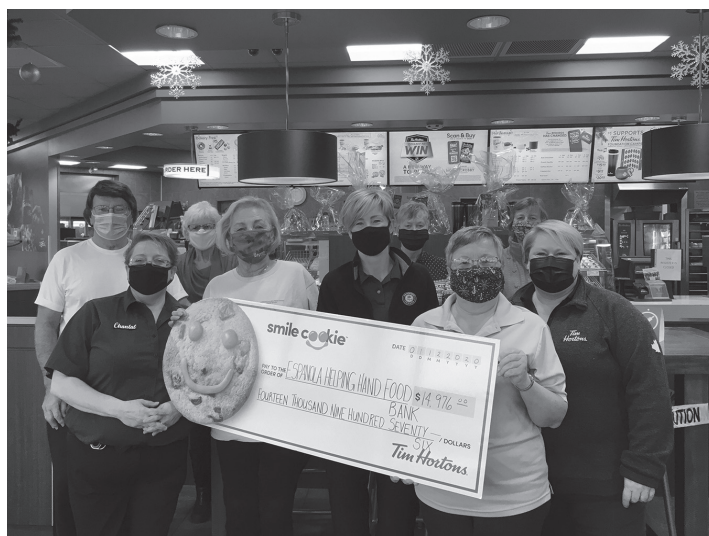


The Espanola Regional Hospital Auxiliary is not able to put up a memorial tree this year, but they can SELL THE ORIGINAL BULBS they have made throughout the year. The prices vary depending on size and degree of crafting but are a wonderful way to remember those who will not be with us this Christmas. To order and make arrangements for

pickup/drop off, get in touch with local hospital auxiliary members.

Photo is of the three memorial bulbs. Auxiliary Volunteer Chantal Lafrance made these in memory of three siblings who have all passed away. It is now a family tradition. Make it one of yours. Photo provided by Chantal Lafrance.

## Espanola Helping Hand Food Bank Receives Donation From Tim Hortons



The Espanola Helping Hand Food Bank were the proud recipients of a cheque for \$14976.00 from Tim Horton's. This is from the money raised for the 2020 Smile Face Cookie Campaign.

Pictured left to right are:

**Front:** Store manager Chantal Poirer, Susan Kyzanowski, owner Lynn Lefebvre, Bernie

Houle and regional manager Crystal Dorion.

**Back:** Grant Lewis, Rita Brown, Nancy Gerhart and Arlene Glofcheskie.

We are so thankful to Tim Horton's for choosing the Espanola Helping Hand Food Bank for the 7th year in a row. We also thank you for all your support!

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### THE FREEMAN BROTHERS 'MERRY LITTLE CHRISTMAS ALBUM'

is now available on all digital platforms. If you want a physical CD for \$20 please call 705-869-2285. Merry Christmas from the Freeman Brothers! 12/8

**FOR SALE** - Limited amount of drywood, and kindling for backyard fires. Also 2007 650 V-Twin Kawasaki Brute Force. Excellent condition. Call Greg 705-822-4734. 12/29

## OBITUARY



**Duval - Zachary Rudy Peter** (November 12, 1997 - November 27, 2020) of Espanola. It is with great sadness to announce the recent sudden passing on Friday November 27, 2020 of a very special young man at the age of 23. Zach will be forever loved and always in the hearts of his parents Shari Duval of Espanola and Darren Duval of Sudbury and brother of Tyler Duval of Espanola. His uncle Jeff Grenier (Sara) of Fergus, late Uncle Frank, Uncle Mark and Aunt Debbie Pacey of Espanola. Grandparents Alice & Peter Grenier

(both predeceased) and Sandra & late Rudy Duval of Espanola. Forever loved and missed by cousins Jessica (Chris) Daoust, Sara Ouimette, Cameron, Addison, Jordan and Matthew Grenier. Special friend of Echo of Blind River. Zach has many dear cousins, friends, aunts and uncles whom will miss him dearly. Zach had a special place in many peoples hearts. He was adventurous, kind hearted and loved working on and fixing vehicles. He truly loved his family and friends dearly and it showed in his glowing personality. Zach will be forever missed and loved by everyone who knew him. A very compassionate thank you to all the first responders, EMS, OPP, and Staff at Espanola Regional Hospital. Cremation with a Celebration of Life and a graveside service will be held at a later date. Arrangements by BOURCIER FUNERAL HOME Ltd, Espanola.



With great sadness, we announce the passing of

*Wayne Carson  
St. Michel*

On November 25th, 2020, at the age of 52, after a brief journey with cancer. He passed peacefully at home, surrounded by his family.

Wayne will be missed dearly by his loving wife Kim, Son Lenny and wife Carly, Daughter Carolyn, Lola the family Frenchie and Grand-doggies Stella, Winnie and Mille. He will be forever in the hearts of his parents, Bob and the late Edith St. Michel; his brother Robert St. Michel (wife Nita) and sister Edith Presseau (husband Mike); Mother and father-in-law, Jeanette and Joseph Lapointe as well as his brothers and sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews and close friends.

Wayne was known for his tireless work ethic as the owner and operator of the family business Riverside Enterprise and Municipal Waste and Recycling Consultants for over 18 years. He was well known for his boundless love for his family, laid-back attitude, kindness, love of travel and a nice bag of chips. Wayne had a generous heart and was respected for his graciousness towards others.

**A celebration of life will be held when it is safe to gather with family and friends.**

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## IN MEMORIAM



Melba, Joan, & Omer

Every day in some small way  
we miss them more than words can say,  
In our hearts they will always stay loved  
and remembered everyday.

*The Gervais Family*

## THANK YOU

*Thank You*

In the month of October this year I closed my practice of almost 20 years in the massage therapy field. It is a bitter sweet end to a career that I was passionate about and enjoyed very much. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the many people I have had the opportunity to meet and build a rapport with over the years. I am very grateful to have had such a wonderful clientele and my business would not have succeeded or been such a pleasure without all of you. Along with my gratitude for you all, I wish you and your loved ones a very healthy and happy holiday season.

All the best,

*Cheryl Fairbairn*

## THANK YOU

**THANK YOU** - The family of Carl Brohart wishes to express our sincere gratitude to all of the doctor's and nurses at Espanola Hospital who tended to Carl also the PSW's and the North East LIHN all of whom graciously offered Carl exceptional care during a very trying time. Carl looked forward to daily visits by the PSW's and was touched by their warmth, kindness and quality care. Also thank you to all those who sent cards, donations and expressions of sympathy at Carl's passing. Finally thank you to the staff at Bourcier Funeral Home for tending to even the smallest details. God Bless, Shirley and family

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

## Recipe

I had this delicious brie appetizer on the weekend and had to find the recipe and share it with you. The apple crumble topping is the perfect accompaniment to the creamy brie and the presentation is impressive.

### Apple Crisp Baked Brie

- 1 round (16 oz) Brie cheese
- 2 cups old-fashioned oats
- ¼ cup packed brown sugar
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 ½ cups raw pecans
- ¾ cup unsalted butter, softened
- 2 small to medium red apples, chopped
- Crackers or toasted bread, as desired



Heat oven to 350°F. Grease 10- to 12-inch round pie plate or baking dish with shortening or cooking spray. Place round of Brie in middle of pie plate. In medium bowl, mix oats, brown sugar, salt, cinnamon and pecans. Add butter and use your hands to incorporate softened butter into dry mixture. (You want everything to be moist.) Mix in apples. Spread apple mixture over top of Brie and around sides. Bake 20 to 25 minutes or until the crisp topping is browned. Serve hot with crackers or toasted bread.

## COMMUNITY NOTES

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**Espanola seniors club Xmas turkey dinner tickets** – will be sold on December 7- 8-9, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. At the Drop-In Center 799 Queensway Ave. Members Only

**Espanola Seniors Sewing Quilting Club Sale** - on December 10-11-12- from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Quilting, sewing, knitting & Christmas items. At the Drop- In Center 799 Queensway. Mask Mandatory

**Free Espanola Community Christmas dinner** - will be happening this year as take out only on Christmas Day at 4:00 pm at the Espanola Legion Please call to order your hot Christmas dinner. Joan 705-869-1648 or Marlene 705-869-4644.

**Massey Community Christmas Dinner** - December 25, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. Pick-up at Massey Legion by reservation only. Please call and leave your name and phone number to reserve. Mary 705-865-2633 or Lynn 705-862-2726.

**Espanola Public Library Expanded Curbside Pick-Up Service** - You can now call (705-869-2940) and pick-up library materials for Curbside Pick-Up on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 10:00am – 4:00pm.

**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)