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November 3, 2020 Issue #44 - Volume 24

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## November 11th Lions Bingo



By Grant Lewis -- There is no doubt 2020 has been a difficult year for many individuals, businesses and service clubs in our community. Difficult times can bring out the worst and the best in people. Soon there will be an opportunity to do the latter...and win money!!!

The Espanola Lions Club is having its regular Wednesday night bingo on the 11th of November. So, the Lions are taking this opportunity to contribute to the Legion's Poppy Drive and help out our Vets. The Poppy Drive will be different this year so we all have to adapt and help out and make sure the support for our Veterans is not compromised. All monies from our November 11th bingo will go to the legions in Espanola

Continued on page four...

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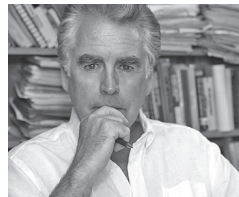
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# All The World's A Circus

William Thomas

williamjthomas@gmail.com

## The Nineteen COVID "World's Gone To Hell Awards."

Right about now we'd all like to have the coronavirus cornered in an abandoned warehouse, marching around it with "Death To COVID-19" signs. Soon. Maybe. One day. In the meantime, this illusive parasite has produced some human behaviour almost as strange as itself. Here then are 19 of the most recent events worthy of some sort of dubious award.

• The "COVID Loose Lips Sink Ships Award" goes to everyone who socially distanced themselves from Theodore Tugboat, Halifax's cartoon character tourist barge, dry docked by the crash in tourism. Theodore Tugboat is up for sale at \$495,000. It would make for a sweet story if Theodore, now orphaned and homeless was to be adopted by The Maid of The Mist and they lived happily ever after or at least until the next lockdown.

• The "Best Quote From Your Biographer Award" and the person who knows you best, Michael D'Antonio: "If you're a human being, be glad you're not Donald Trump!"

• The "Can COVID-19 Addle The Brain Award?" goes to US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo who last week lectured African nations on the importance of... free and fair elections!

• The "Best/Worst Biblical Prophecy Award" goes to Las Vegas pastor Denise Goulet, who, with Trump in the congregation said: "At 4:30 am the Lord said to me I am going to give your president a second win." Apparently Trump was furious because in the middle of the night everybody is supposed to be reading his tweets, not listening to God.

• The "Confusion At The Highest Level Award" goes to Vice President Joe Biden who said: "I pray to God, to give me the strength to see what other people are dealing with." Hells, bells - Joe! That's

what other people are dealing with — robo calls from God in the middle of the night! And you were worried about Russia meddling in the election?

• The "Pepto Bismol Award" goes to the vagh in uffizi restaurant in Bologna, Italy where they have only six outdoor tables. So they're charging by time. For \$30.00 per hour, per person you eat everything they bring to your table. The maximum is two hours but afterwards you gotta do that Roman feast thing with the feather.

• The "Restoring My Faith In The Young Award" goes to Audrey Rublev, who while playing in last month's French Open in Paris found the sun to be so bright he... imagine me being tickled pink here... he turned his baseball cap around so it was facing frontwards!!! Yeah, history was made by a person under 40 wearing a ball cap the way it was designed to be worn and thanks to COVID-19... there was nobody in the stands to witness it.

• The "Believe It Or Not Award" — two employees tested positive at Ripley's Aquarium.

• In the "I've Waited For Something Like This All My Life" category, Woodbine Entertainment recently petitioned our federal government to "legalize historical horse racing" in which you can bet on old races. Please God, let me have one day to bet on the horses knowing who the winners are and... and I'll stop making fun of kids, Jehovahs and Donald Trump.

• The "So You Wanna Go Bankrupt Award" goes to the US COVID consultant who proposed the ban of beer sales at sports events to reduce people congregating in washrooms. Last year at the University of Texas' 100,000-seat stadium they sold nearly \$4 million worth of beer. What

Continued on page three...

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Continued from page two...

would that even look like — college kids leaving a football game sober?

- The “Best COVID Inspired Feminist Quote” spotted on a woman’s protest sign in Poland where soon-to-be dictator Jaroslav Kaczynski has banned abortion (sound familiar?) — “Keep your distance from my uterus.”

- The “End of Literacy Award” goes to all of you people using the millions of emojis available across everything from mobile phones to social platforms. Throw in a few grunts and a couple of WTF’s and pretty soon we won’t have any need for words at all.

- The “Wackiest COVID Cure Award” goes to Iran’s Ayatollah Tabrizian for instructing his followers to put essential oil on their... cut to Johnny Cash: “And it burns, burns, burns, the ring of fire.”

- The “How COVID Clogs The Lungs And Mangles The Language Award” goes to people who are sipping ‘quarantinis’ with their ‘quaranteam’ while watching ‘covidots’ protest against masks. Stop before you create a literal ‘coronapocalypse.’

- The “No, We Really Do Not Want To Wear Masks Award” goes to the two sisters in Chicago who stabbed a security guard 27 times for suggesting they do so.

- The “Stop This Right Now Award” goes to #LipsyncLockdown videos

in which comedians Marcus Brigstocke and Rachel Parris passionately and horribly ‘mouth’ popular songs. Wasn’t karaoke painful enough?

- The “Canadian COVID Canine Award” goes to a mutt here in Niagara, the only dog in the country to contract the virus. When the family was warned against sharing the bed, the owner quarantined himself to the couch for 14 days. The dog, who is being taught to cough into his elbow, has been renamed ‘Trump’. “Hey, I got it! Nothing to it! Who’s a good boy?”

- The “Greatest Multitasker Of The Entire Shutdown Award” goes to CNN chief legal analyst Jeffery Toobin who during an “election simulation” with fellow writers of New Yorker magazine managed to ZOOM conference, offer sage judicial advice on the election and choke his chicken all at the same time. “I made an embarrassingly stupid mistake,” said Toobin who is taking time off to spend more time... with himself.

- And finally the “World’s Most Bored Audience In The World Award” goes to three highly judgmental horses at: [www.saphoto.ca/download/Will1.mp4](http://www.saphoto.ca/download/Will1.mp4).

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)

## La Renaissance Students And Staff Put On Their Rose-Coloured Glasses



Students and staff at École secondaire catholique La Renaissance (Espanola) put on their rose-coloured glasses in an effort to see life in a positive way and to appreciate the positive elements in their surroundings. Together, they prefer to see the positive and to remain optimistic about changes and new features in their life. La Renaissance students and staff remind us to keep smiling behind our masks and to be grateful for the little pleasures and joyful moments that surround us.



## Starting The School Year With Positive Energy



It is certain that the start of the 2020-2021 school year was unlike others. However, despite the limitations caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, traditions are being maintained at École secondaire catholique La Renaissance (Espanola), formerly known as Franco-Ouest.

While respecting the health and safety protocols in place, members of the General

Student Association continue to host several fun-filled activities for students and staff members such as virtual flash activities, the welcome day for grade 9 students, as well as various original theme days.

We invite everyone to explore the school’s Instagram page - [larenaissancenouvelon](https://www.instagram.com/larenaissancenouvelon). Without a doubt, the family spirit still reigns there.

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## Recipe

I made this for supper the other night and it was really tasty! Coating the chicken with cornstarch and frying it ahead, gives the dish a delicious, authentic taste. You can also use sweet and sour sauce from a jar if you want to save time. Serve with rice.

### Sweet and Sour Chicken

- 1 pound of boneless and skinless chicken thighs or breasts, cut into 1" chunks
- 1 egg white
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt (1/4 teaspoon table salt)
- 2 teaspoons cornstarch
- 1 10-ounce can pineapple chunks (reserve juice)
- 1/4 cup juice from the canned pineapple
- 1/4 cup white vinegar
- 1/4 cup ketchup
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt (1/4 teaspoon table salt)
- 2-3 tablespoons brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon + 1 teaspoon cooking oil
- 1 red bell pepper, cut into 1-inch chunks
- 1 yellow bell pepper, cut into 1-inch chunks
- 1 teaspoon grated fresh ginger or 1/4 tsp dried ginger

In a bowl, combine the chicken with the egg white, salt and cornstarch. Stir to coat the chicken evenly. Let sit for 15 minutes at room temperature or up to overnight in the refrigerator.

In another bowl whisk together the pineapple juice, vinegar, ketchup, salt, and brown sugar. Heat a large frying pan or wok over high heat until a bead of water instantly sizzles and evaporates. Pour in the 1 tablespoon of cooking oil and swirl to coat. It's important that the pan is very hot. Add the chicken and spread the chicken out in one layer. Let the chicken fry, untouched for 1 minute, until the bottoms are browned. Flip and fry the other side the same for 1 minute. The chicken should still be pinkish in the middle. Dish out the chicken onto a clean plate, leaving as much oil in the pan as possible. Turn the heat to medium and add the remaining 1 teaspoon of cooking oil. Let the oil heat up and then add the bell pepper chunks and ginger. Fry for 1 minute. Add the pineapple and the sweet and sour sauce, let simmer. Turn the heat to high and when the sauce is simmering, add the chicken pieces back in. Let simmer for 1-2 minutes, until the chicken is cooked through. Timing depends on how thick you've cut your chicken. Taste the sauce and add more brown sugar if you'd like.



Continued from front page...

## November 11th Lions Bingo—Lest We Forget

and Massey. The Lions Club Bingo sales this year have been over the roof and our vendors in Espanola, Webbwood and Massey will be given extra cards to sell. I strongly suggest buying early for the 4th and 11th. Cards will be for sale at the Legion in Espanola... and as a bonus....you can play at the Espanola Legion downstairs. And to top it off Espanola Legion President, Gary McPherson, will be calling the first number. (I hear he's nervous and practicing

already!) You can also play live on YouTube or the local Eastlink Community Channel. Information is on our website [www.espanolalionsclub.ca](http://www.espanolalionsclub.ca) in the TV Bingo Section, or search for Espanola Lions Club on YouTube.

Please plan to attend your local Remembrance Day ceremonies to honour our veterans who gave so much. And then, play bingo with the Lions to pay honour to those Vets who continue to serve us. Let us all show our best.

## Township of Baldwin Wins Unique Recognition

Filing reports and providing information to government has led to a unique recognition for the Township of Baldwin. Township CAO Karin Bates says the municipality has been recognized with the 2019 Financial Information Return Award. She says the information

assists ministries in their decision making and provides important financial and statistical information for every municipality in Ontario.

Bates adds the township is proud to be one of 15 Ontario municipalities recognized for their work.

## Gélinas – Cancer Can't Wait

Nickel Belt MPP and health critic, France Gélinas rose in the Queen's Park legislature yesterday to relay concerns she has been hearing from Ontario's cancer patients whose treatments have been delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Gélinas says she met with members of the Canadian Cancer Survivor Network stressing timely access to

cancer care must remain a top priority during the second wave of COVID-19.

She adds the network provided her with a report showing the delay and cancellation of cancer care due to COVID-19 has triggered another public health crisis.

Gélinas says the report states that to save lives, cancer care and diagnoses must continue during any public health crisis.



### THE KINDNESS CRUISER ... IF SOMEONE HAS BEEN KIND, LET US KNOW!

Our Kindness program was so successful, it has now been extended until the end of October. If you know someone who has been kind in the local area, private message Roz or call her at 705-869-NEWS (6397) so we can surprise them ... employers, employees, volunteers, neighbours, family and friends, even the kids ... no GOOD DEED SHOULD NOT BE ACKNOWLEDGED ... so let's get it done! IT'S OUR WAY OF SAYING THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING YOU DO!!!



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## COMMUNITY NOTES

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**Climbing The Creation VS Evolution Ladder** - Calvary Church Espanola at 599 Barber St. is having an expert on creation and evolution in on Nov 5th. Please call 705 869-5485 to reserve a seat.

**Webbwood Eagles Spaghetti Dinner** - November 7 from 4:30 to 6:00 pm TAKEOUT ONLY. Tickets available at the Eagles Club Friday and Saturday 4:00 - 8:00 p.m. Please follow all Covid 19 protocol.

**Espanola Helping Hand Food Bank** - now accepting monetary donations by Interac e-Transfer. [ehhfb87@hotmail.ca](mailto:ehhfb87@hotmail.ca)

**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)



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