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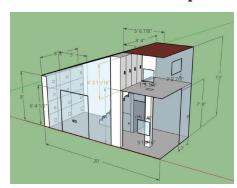




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June 29, 2021 Issue #26 - Volume 25

Espanola High School Students Design Mobile Clinic For Local Hospital



Construction Technology students at Espanola High School are putting their skills to the test by designing a mobile clinic for the Espanola Regional Hospital & Health Centre. Teacher Gabe Keresztesi was looking for a way to involve his students in a real-life project and thought the local hospital would be a perfect fit. Grade 10 student Adrian Carney swiftly jumped on board. "I love the idea of tiny houses, so I was quick to sign up for this project."

Hospital staff were excited to hear of the opportunity, and made plans to use the space for mental health and vaccination clinics as an option to the traditional hospital setting. The Community Health Team said they could also use the clinic to run the Bike Exchange program.

After securing a \$5,000 Community Connected Experiential Learning Grant, students began collaborating with hospital

Continued on page four ...

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Township Of Baldwin Short-Listed For Award





PHOTOS: The Township of Baldwin's Community Peace Garden is up for this year's AMO Gas Tax Awards. The peace pole is in seven languages English, Ojibway, French, German, Scottish, Dutch and Spanish. Once the township is able to gather again they will be having a opening celebration for the "Community Peace Garden". Photos provided by the Township of Baldwin.

By Rosalind Russell - Baldwin Township is up against two southern Ontario communities in the annual Association of Municipalities Gas Tax Awards. Township clerk/CAO Karin Bates says six projects were submitted for this year's Association of Municipalities Gas Tax Awards, but the Township flagged was potential candidate the its' award for Peace Garden. Community

Bates says the township is one of hundreds of entries, so being short-listed is a great honour She says out of the six, Baldwin, London, and Brockville has been chosen as the finalists. Bates says a video crew hailing from Toronto will be coming up to do a promotional video on their garden, which was funded by gas tax dollars. In turn, the three videos will be judged and awards handed out soon.

Mississaugi Park Open To The Public

If camping is your thing and you want to staycation, a locally owned park is now open for overnight stays.

Mississaugi Park is overseen by the City of Elliot Lake, Serpent River First Nation and Mississauga First Nation.

The partners opened the park last weekend and campsites are

available for those who would like to camp overnight.

Parking is also free Mondays to Thursdays for the time being. Two local provincial parks, The Chutes in Massey and Fairbanks near Sudbury are also open for visitors.

To book or visit a park, visit www.ontarioparks.com.







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All The World's A Circus William Thomas

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Conspiracy Theories — Fun With Fakery And Falsehoods

Conspiracy theories — so easy to make up, so hard to disprove. Why do so many people believe in crazy-ass, far-fetched political plots these days? First, everything from religion to the spotted owl has been politicized and then disputed by two camps, left versus right. Second, we are a bored-outof-our-minds society. Truth and stability are essential to a free society but uninteresting. Conspiracy theories like sexual fantasies are more exciting, more fun, more paranormal than normal. Lies are lascivious, gossipy and stoked with intrigue while a fact just lies there like a lug nut not needing a car chase or a mysterious death to enhance its popularity. As Mark Twain said, a lie gets halfway around the world before the truth can get its pants on. The problem with conspiracy theories is you have to keep 'ginning them up' to hold your audience of naive believers. It's one thing to claim Hillary Clinton is the head of a pedophile ring but next week you need to show a satanic photo of her drinking blood. That's where the creators of all this glamorized crap risk losing their hold on their flock when a few of them start to think for themselves and say, "No, sorry. I just don't see Bill Gates sitting down to a four-course dinner of babies."

Now if I told you that a lobster diver off Provincetown, Massachusetts ended up in the mouth of a whale two weeks ago and lived to tell the story, would you believe it? Probably not, but it's true. Apparently the enormous humpback did not like the taste of 56-year-old Michael Packard so he breached the surface of the ocean and spit him out. Rude, but true. Now, if I told you the only man who had verifiable proof that the recent US election was stolen from Donald Trump was mysteriously swallowed by a humpback whale, would you believe it? Well, if this story got repeated ad nauseam on US conspiratorial social media sites, at least three out of four Republicans and tens of millions of Trump supporters would believe it... and then launch a Moby Dick-style whaling expedition to retrieve the body and the evidence. That's where we are today, truth or dare, truth and despair, truth or bare-faced lies.

Having said that, don't for a second think that the conspiracy theories bouncing back and forth on social media sites like chlamydia on Miracle-Gro are not hugely entertaining. I mean if conspiracy theories were a movie, Georgia Republican Marjorie Taylor Greene would be an Oscar-winning actress.

When Greene claims the Parkland, Florida high school shooting was a "false flag" hoax, every friend and family member of the 17 victims have to confirm and then relive that massacre. This is disturbing. But when Greene, "a rising star in the Republican Party" according to Donald Trump, claims wild fires in California are being started by Jewish satellites in space in order to clear a path for a high-speed rail project... well, that's the kind of material director John de Bello wished he had included in the movie The Attack Of The Killer Tomatoes. No coincidence, that movie is what's known as a "cult film".

Trump's big lie that the November election was stolen has become the mantra for conspiracy freaks and QAnon followers, but in order to keep it from getting stale it needs some spiffing up like:

Like the theory that an Italian aerospace company used computer systems and military satellites to help rig the US election in President Joe Biden's favour. This international dirty trick could have been avoided if one of Marjorie Taylor Greene's Jewish satellites had crashed into the Italian satellite causing the phoney ballots to burn up in outer space. See the fun you can have with falsehoods?

Like the theory that an Asian country flew 40,000 illegal ballots into Arizona to help Biden win that state so right now Trump's people are using black lights to test all ballots in Maricopa County... wait for it... for traces of bamboo fibres and cheese dust because Asians use bamboo to process their paper and — I'm guessing here— eat cheese doodles while they work.

Like the theory that the entire population of capuchin monkeys at the San Diego Zoo not only escaped on the evening of November

Continued on page three...





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Continued from page two...

2, 2020 to stuff hundreds of Biden ballots into nearby voters drop boxes but also managed to break back into the zoo without being detected by security. Republican vote auditors in San Diego Country are now testing all ballots for traces of Kopi luwak, a very expensive coffee made from beans that monkeys poop out. Okay, that one I made up, but the others are as true as any incident based on 100% bullshit can be. Just last week, Tucker Carlson, Fox News' official super spreader.

based on 100% bullshit can be. Just last week, Tucker Carlson, Fox News' official super spreader of baseless hypotheses claimed the January 6th attack on the US Capitol was an FBI plot to create a riot so violent that they would then be justified in arresting every rightwing American of their choosing. I'm sure this will all get cleared up when Donald Trump is reinstated as the US President

in August, according to him and OAnon.

I'm placing my faith in the words of Canadian film director Paul S. Lynch who said, "The truth does not become a lie, right does not become wrong, and good does not become evil, just because the minority believes in conspiracy theories and fakes news.' That'll work as long as more people do not fall under the cult spell of false information, the intellectual cancer of our time. With more sophisticated faked news a marginalized minority could become an overwhelming majority and with that, the core of democracy cannot hold.

For a comment or a signed copy of The Dog Rules - Damn Near Everything email: williamjthomas@gmail.com

COMMUNITY NOTES

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Espanola Public Library - NEW Expanded Service Hours! We are open Monday and Tuesday 10:00am-7:00pm and Thursday and Friday 10:00am-4:00pm. For more information call us at 705-869-2940.

Al-Anon Support for families and friends - troubled by someone's drinking. Meetings every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. at St George's Anglican Church, Tudhope St. More information @ al-anon.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

A message from Mayor & Council of the Town of Espanola

The Town of Espanola extends our deepest respect to our Anishinabek neighbours and First Nation and Métis members of our community as we celebrate and challenge ourselves on what it means to be Canadian this July 1st.

Take time to reflect on the history of colonialism in Canada and the events in our history that have, and continue to have, very traumatic impacts for Indigenous Peoples.

Canada Day presents us with an opportunity to celebrate diversity and inclusion and further educate ourselves on history, truth and reconciliation.





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Recipe

Thank you goes out to Crystal for sharing this vegetarian recipe that her family enjoys. The filling can be made ahead, and quesadillas assembled and cooked before serving.



Refried Bean Quesadillas

- 1 tbsp oil
- 1 onion or 2 green onions, finely chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 tsp cumin
- 400 g can of pinto or kidney beans, drained and rinsed
- 2 tsp smoked paprika
- 8 flour tortillas
- Cheddar cheese, grated
- Salsa
- · Sour cream

Heat oil in a frying pan and cook the onion and garlic for 2 minutes. Add the cumin and cook for 1 minute more. Add the beans, paprika and a splash of water. Using a potato masher, break the beans down as they warm up to make a rough puree. Taste and season with salt and pepper and more cumin and paprika if needed. Spread the refried bean mixture onto 4 tortillas and sprinkle with cheese. Spoon on desired amount of salsa and top with remaining tortillas to make 4 sandwiches. Wipe the frying pan with paper towel and return to the heat. Cook quesadilla until tortillas are crisp and golden and the cheese is melting. Serve warm cut into wedges. Dip into sour cream and extra salsa.

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Continued from front page...

Espanola High School Students Design Mobile Clinic For Local Hospital



staff on project parameters. A portion of the grant will fund a trailer that will be built by students from Lively District Secondary School. Funding will be sought again in 2021-2022 to complete the carpentry portion of the build. Keresztesi engaged as many of his students as possible for the project design to develop a variety of prototypes using computer-aided software.

Grade 9 student Micah Jacques thoroughly enjoyed the artistic aspect of the design process. "I was able to be creative with my ideas. Mr. Keresztesi let us put our own 'spin' on it."

Keresztesi says tackling a largescale project will encourage students to set the bar high and raise the expectations they have for themselves. "When students are challenged with really meaningful projects, they are better able to work through the required skills



such as measurement, construction math, reading blueprints, and using circular and table saws, and hammers and drivers. The work inspires them to achieve at higher levels."

He adds: "Hands-on projects are ideal for students to meet curriculum expectations. Students will see a building constructed from scratch and gain a better understanding of all of the elements involved, including future maintenance.'

Grade 9 student Maxwell Meier is excited that the project will benefit the community in a lot of ways. "I'm proud to be a part of it," he

"One of the best things about this project is that it promises to be a lot of fun for those involved," says Gabe Keresztesi. "It's a project they will take a lot of pride in - a win-win for all."







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