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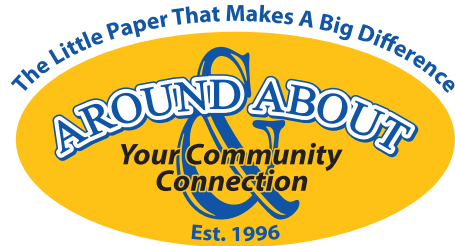
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June 8, 2021 Issue #23 - Volume 25

## AB Ellis Public School Redesign Plans Released



By *Rosalind Russell* - The corporation looking to retrofit the AB Ellis Public School in Espanola has completed its feasibility reports, architectural drawings, and input survey from the public.

Corporation spokesperson Fred Yackman says converting the building to senior and low-income housing was the focus of a series of studies carried out by Rainbow Community Non-Profit Housing.

The two architectural renditions depict up to 44 housing units featuring one- and two-bedrooms.

He says there is a draft budget of nearly \$9.4-million dollars to complete the project.

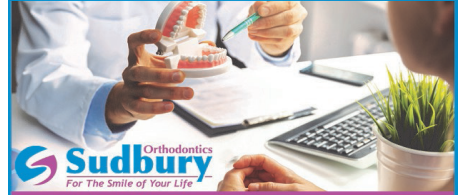
The focus now is to have the architects do a more detailed budget which will then allow the corporation to have an "As Built" assessment of what the renovated building will be worth.

Yackman says the reports have been sent to the Town of Espanola, Domtar, the local social services board, and the Rainbow District School Board.

That in turn will give them a clearer picture of costs to enter talks with potential partners and funding agencies.

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## No Definitive Plans For School Closing Soon In Espanola



The excitement is growing for the grand opening of the new double school in Espanola, but there are also discussions underway as to what will happen to one of the schools that will close this fall.

Conseil Scolaire Catholique Nouvelon Ontario communication director Paul de la Riva says École St. Joseph elementary school will be closing its doors this summer with the opening of the new École Renaissance.

He points out that the school was renamed École Catholique La Renaissance this year as a first

step to the amalgamation with the secondary level, the former Franco-Ouest secondaire.

He says no definite plans have been put in place but usually school boards dispose of their excess space according to a ministry-approved process to offer available excess space to other school boards and government entities.

He adds, however, if no public entity purchases the property, it can be sold to the private sector.

De la Riva says more information will be released later in the year once the board reviews all the options.



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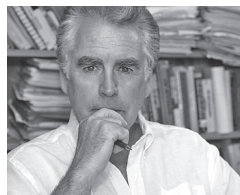
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# All The World's A Circus

William Thomas

williamjthomas@gmail.com

## Numbers Don't Lie. But They Do Scream: "Why?!?"

Great philosophers have claimed that numbers rule the universe but they did not foresee the day in which they would also drive us nuts. For instance, did you ever think that waking up to the statistic of 804 people testing positive to the COVID-19 virus in Ontario yesterday was the best news you've heard all year!?! \$624 billion. That's the total amount all Canadian governments have spent on the COVID-19 pandemic. That's \$1.5 billion per day or approximately the same amount it's costing Bill Gates to get divorced. Oddly, that figure is also the year that this debt will finally be paid off... 2624. By then the NDP will be in power and antidepressants like Prozac will be covered by OHIP.

Proving yet again that the rich cannot be shamed, the Weston family of Canada, worth more than \$10 billion, will not reinstate the \$2 an hour pandemic "hero's" pay for front-line workers in their chain of grocery stores. They have however changed company policy to allow those employees most at risk to the virus to take home any food that has gone bad. (Made that up.) Once was all it should have taken Quebec M.P. William Amos to learn his lesson of 'accidentally' appearing on a Zoom call with fellow parliamentarians ... naked. However, last week Amos, on camera again, was seen urinating into a coffee cup. I get it. I also did not like Tim Horton's Instant Brew-At-Home Decaf but William, I just threw it out. Such drama, really? If lewd "accident" number three turns out to be an escalation of the last episode, I see William Amos starring with a chamber pot in a TV commercial bragging that "Roto Rooter is Number One in the Number Two Business."

Right now billions of cicadas are staging a southern hemisphere invasion by coming up from underground after almost two decades of dormancy. Cicadas are red-eyed, winged insects with long memories that surface every 17 years to see if former Prime Minister Brian Mulroney has repaid the \$2.1 million he fraudulently won in his 1997 libel suit against the government. 'Lyn' Brian's daughter Caroline is a smart girl in Ford's cabinet so she will be able to figure out the 24 years of interest. Headline: "Canada aims to land a rover on the moon in the next five years." Really? Are we not about 52 years late in this space race? By 2026 there will be so many exploration vehicles driving over the surface of the moon, we'll need "no-fault lunar rover insurance."

Approximately 40,000 Americans die every year by gun violence. A mass shooting is defined as an incident in which three or more people are shot, not including the shooter. In May alone, America witnessed 235 mass shootings.

So how is Texas, a state with the most lax gun laws in the country, responding to this scourge of bloodshed? New laws being passed right now will allow Texans to carry handguns without getting a license, without getting a background check and without getting any training on how to operate the weapon. (Just practice on each other, I suppose.)

As if further proof of this absurdity was necessary, two brothers in Texas killed all six members of their family including themselves after easily obtaining guns despite their severe mental problems claimed in a note left behind: "Gun control in the U.S. is a joke." A very bad, a very sick joke.

Only two more months before Donald Trump claims he will be reinstated as President of the United States in what his former National Security Advisor Michael Flynn describes as a "Myanmar-style military coup." CNN is reporting that if in the meantime, pigs fly out of Trump's butt they

Continued on page three...

Continued on page three...

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Continued from page two...

will carry the event live on-air. During the pandemic animal shelters and rescue groups (you gotta love Ugly Mutt Dog Rescue!) saw an off-the-chart increase in adoption applications, in some cases as many as 400 offers per dog! Finally a numerical answer to that silly song "How Much Is That Doggie In The Window?" — as high as \$5,000 and \$6,000 each. Shelter officials believe almost 40% of all adopted dogs will end up back in their shelters once owners tire of the chores of actually caring for the animal. Also with veterinarian costs out of control, it is estimated the average cost of having a dog is now \$2,385 annually. Yeah, man's best friend just jumped an awful lot closer to the top of man's household budget.

While all eyes were on two anti-masker protests in Toronto totalling 10,000 people, 200 wealthy 'vaccine vultures' were showing up and trying to get their second shot at COVID-19 clinics set up for vulnerable and high-risk groups. Like that's not crazy enough, thanks to yet another conspiracy theory in which people who are vaccinated can "shed harmful proteins" onto others, some anti-maskers are starting to wear masks — not making this up — and socially distancing in order to protect themselves... wait for it... from people who have been vaccinated.

Folks, if these vaccine shenanigans get any nuttier, Premier Doug Ford will have to establish a commission of truth and reconciliation headed

up by Howie Mandel.

And finally, the chances of humans recreating a better world by learning from the mistakes revealed from the pandemic and embracing the original "We're all in this together" mantra? Zero. Numbers may rule the universe but the rich run this planet and unless world improvement plans include a tidy profit for them — Elon Musk added \$132 billion to his net worth over the last year, which now

totals \$159 billion — nothing will change except the ever expanding numbers of the poor and the refugees.

Sorry to be so negative about all of this stuff but with the image of William Amos' second accident stuck in my head, I was unable to face my morning cup of coffee.

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

## Huron Central Continues To Operate

The freight rail service between Sault Ste. Marie and Sudbury will continue to operate.

Genesee & Wyoming Canada, the owner of the 278-kilometre spur line, says their plan to terminate service is now suspended as negotiations continue to provide support funding for infrastructure upgrades.

In a press release, the company says it has received confirmation short line railways will now be eligible to access funding from the National Trade Corridors Fund, delivered through Transport Canada, a funding program that had been

previously denied to them.

Just before Christmas the company extended its December 18th deadline to withdraw its services adding it needs a \$40-million subsidy to upgrade the line.

The company says while 43 railway jobs are directly affected by the negotiations, its board also realizes the line has a significant effect on raw and finished product transportation for Algoma Steel in Sault Ste. Marie, EACOM in Nairn Centre and the Domtar Mill in Espanola.

The negotiations are continuing.

## Sables-Spanish Rivers Township Limits Depot Access

Sables-Spanish Rivers Township is limiting access to the brush and leaves depot.

The Township staff says the depot at the old Massey landfill site will only be open to the public on Saturdays from 10 am to 2 pm, due to abuse of the service.

The township is also asking for anyone who witnesses the

abuse of the landfill services or transfer sites to report it to the office immediately so the matter can be dealt with.

More information can be found on the township site and contact information is also available on our websites.

Abuse can be reported to the office at 705-865-2646.



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## OBITUARY



**Wilkin – Denise Anne** of Espanola passed away at Health Sciences North with family by her side on May 28, 2021 at the age of 49. Dear daughter of the late Arthur & Beverly Wilkin. Sadly missed by partner Shawn Shannon. Loving mother of Peter of Espanola and Jessica of Sudbury. Cherished by her granddaughter Mavis. Also, will be sadly missed by many friends & relatives. Cremation with a Celebration of Life at a later date.

Arrangements by BOURCIER FUNERAL HOME Ltd, Espanola.



**Southwind – Shawn Tyler** of Sagamok. Our beloved Shawn ended his earthly journey on May 22, 2021 at the young age of 30. A loving son to Jennifer Southwind (predeceased) & Arthur Trudeau. Shawn will be missed by his cherished love Joyce Abitong. He was a devoted and magical father to Paige, Jamal, Rowan, Maci, and Keelan who he adored more than anything. A wonderful brother to Jonathan, Michael, Charles, Matthew, Kyle, Jessika, Heather (Keegan), Sabrina, Bryce, Tatyanna, Rae-Lyn, Christina, Juan, Ashlee, Tiana (Mackenzie), Audrey, Ursula (Shane), and Robert. Shawn is loved and cherished as a son to Liana (Tim) Landriault, and Brown (Lisa) Southwind. He will be deeply missed by his Auntie Shelia, and many nieces and nephews. Shawn is loved by so many friends and family; he will dearly be missed. Visitation was on Saturday May 29, 2021 at the New Community Centre, Sagamok at 11 AM. Funeral Service was held on Monday May 31, 2021 in the New Community Centre at 11 AM with interment to follow in the New Sagamok Cemetery. Arrangements by BOURCIER FUNERAL HOME Ltd, Espanola.

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### HELP WANTED

Caregiver for elderly woman. Live-in arrangements possible, but not necessary. Please apply at 705-822-4566. References required. 06/8

### NOTICE - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



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regional hospital and health centre  
hôpital régional et centre de santé  
d'espánola

### NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

**Date: Wednesday June 16, 2021**

**Time: 7:00pm**

**Location: ZOOM**

**Bylaw changes will be presented for approval at the meeting. Upon request, copies of the proposed changes can be provided prior to the meeting.**

**To obtain an electronic meeting invite please send an email before Monday June 14th at 1200h to [tallon@erhhc.on.ca](mailto:tallon@erhhc.on.ca) stating your name and email contact.**

## 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](mailto:around@aroundandabout.ca)



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## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY



### The Township of Baldwin Summer Employment

Applications are being accepted until Friday, June 18th, 2021 for 2 summer positions.  
8 week duration.

The Township is seeking individuals to fulfill the roles of;

- 1) **Labourer:** Duties include lawn maintenance, road work and general maintenance.
- 2) **Community Garden Assistant:** Duties include landscaping, painting & general maintenance.

Please note:

1. Applicants must meet the following eligibility requirements:
  - Must be between ages 15-30
  - Is legally entitled to work in Canada.
2. Only applicants who will be receiving an interview will be contacted.

Applications can be emailed to:  
karin@baldwin.ca

Or mailed/dropped off at the town office:  
11 Spooner Street  
McKerrow, Ontario P0P 1M0



### Township of Sables-Spanish Rivers

#### SUMMER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Funding has been received for summer employment through Canada Summer Jobs. Applications for summer employment are being accepted for the Public Works Department and the Parks & Recreation Department.

Applicants must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Must be 15-30 years of age
- Successful applicants will be required to obtain and submit a current criminal record check from the Ontario Provincial Police service.
- Drivers' licence will be considered an asset (if required, must have a clean drivers' abstract)
- Is legally entitled to work in Canada

Resumes will be received until **12:00 p.m., Monday, June 14th, 2021** at the Township Office (drop box available) or by email to [inquiries@sables-spanish.ca](mailto:inquiries@sables-spanish.ca)

*We thank all applicants, however only those selected for an interview will be contacted. In accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, personal information is collected under the authority of the Municipal Act and will only be used for candidate selection.*



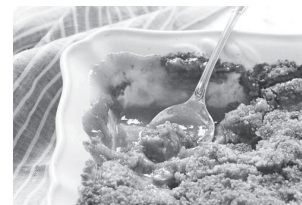
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### Recipe

An old-fashioned recipe that I was given years ago. At that time, I had 3 large patches of rhubarb and was always looking for ways to use it. We have since moved, and I miss my patches of rhubarb. Luckily many people have a patch in their yard and are willing to share. For versatility decrease the rhubarb by 1 cup and add 1 cup of sliced strawberries in the spring or 1 cup of diced apples in the fall.

#### Rhubarb Crisp with a Flour Crumble Topping

- 1 cup of sugar
- ¾ cup flour, divided
- ¾ tsp ground cinnamon
- 4 cups chopped fresh or frozen rhubarb
- ¾ cup packed brown sugar
- ½ tsp baking powder
- ½ tsp baking soda
- 1/3 cup butter, melted



In a bowl, combine sugar, 1 tbsp flour and the cinnamon. Add the chopped rhubarb and toss. Place in a greased 9 x 13 baking dish. In a bowl, combine brown sugar, baking powder, baking soda and remaining flour; stir in the butter. Sprinkle over the rhubarb. Bake at 350 degrees for 40 minutes or until the rhubarb is tender. Serve with vanilla ice cream or whipped cream.

### Fire Bans In Place In Several Communities

Communities across the North Shore corridor are putting fire bans in place since the current fire rating is extreme.

Espanola, Nairn Centre, Blind River, and Elliot Lake are just some of the local municipalities that either put total fire bans in place or limited burning.

Blind River, Elliot Lake and Nairn Centre have total fire bans in place while

Espanola allows backyard pit burning after seven pm under supervision.

Billings Township on Manitoulin Island has also announced a total fire ban.

Since local fire bans and permits differ for each municipality, the public is advised to visit their municipality's website or call the municipal office for the latest fire information.