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www.aroundandabout.ca March 30, 2021 Issue #13 - Volume 25

## Four Local First Nations Will See Water Improvements



By Rosalind Russell - The federal and provincial governments have announced major funding for water improvements for First Nations in Ontario.

Four local area First Nations will benefit from the program.

Sagamok - Anishnawbek, Wiikwemkoong, Whitefish River Zhiibaahaasing First Nations and will all receive around \$2.7 million each for various water infrastructure with federal improvements the government providing the bulk of that funding.

Work on all the new installations, upgrades or retrofits begin this Spring.

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#### Manitoulin Island Deemed Highly Threatened Ecoregion



A large swath of land that takes in Manitoulin Island has been designated as a highly threatened ecoregion.

The Manitoulin-Lake Simcoe ecoregion, one of 77 in Ontario, was identified as one of Canada's nine most significant and threatened places for biodiversity conservation in a recent study conducted by Nature Conservancy of Canada. The study, authored by

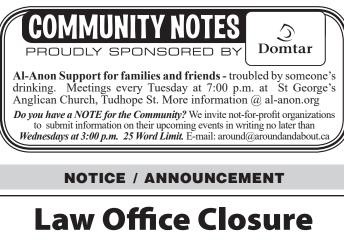
biologist Dan Kraus says there is a focus on southern Canada because that is where most Canadians live and where most endangered species are. Kraus says a great example is the lakeside daisy, the small vellow flower locally known as Manitoulin Gold, which is an endemic species that only lives around the Great Lakes with some of the largest populations in the world found on Manitoulin Island.

The study will be used to look at continued conservation and protection efforts in the ecoregion.

To read more about the Manitoulin-Lake Simcoe and other ecoregions visit natureconservancy.ca/casc.



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The Espanola office of Best Law Offices (Amy P. Best Professional Corporation, formerly D. Peter Best Law Offices) will be closing as of Friday, April 30th, 2021.

Our office in Sudbury remains open and available to serve our clients. Services and staffing at the Espanola office will be limited after Friday March 26th.

We wish to thank our valued clients, colleagues and staff for many decades of business serving Espanola and surrounding areas. To our clients, it has been a privilege and a pleasure to work for you over the years. Thank you for entrusting us with your legal needs.

Please contact Amy Best or Peter Best by phone at 705-674-9292 or email abest@bestlawoffices.ca

or pbest@bestlawoffices.ca with any questions about our office closure.

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## Recipe

You want to eat healthy, but every time you go to grab something from the fridge, nothing is ready to eat and you don't feel like cooking a full dinner; or you need to make your lunch for work, and



you don't know what to put in it? I like to prep chicken and use it in rice bowls for supper or add it to a salad. I also love the convenience of having it ready in the fridge for when I'm making my lunch in the morning. The big trick with meal prepping chicken breast is to marinade it. Take the 30 minutes it requires to infuse all that flavor into the chicken. Your chicken breast will wind up being so much more flavorful

#### Meal Prep Chicken Cubes

- 5 lbs of chicken
- <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> cup of olive oil
- <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> cup of water
- 1 tbsp chilli powder
- 1 tsp onion powder
- 1 tsp paprika

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- 1 tsp chilli flakes
- 1 tsp oregano
- 1 tsp garlic powder
- 1 tsp salt
- $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp pepper

Cube chicken into 1-1 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cubes and place in a medium bowl or Ziploc bag. Mix remaining ingredients together and pour over chicken. Mix well. Refrigerate for at least 30 minutes. Remove from fridge. Pour into a skillet and cook until cooked through. Serve hot in rice bowls, with vegetable stir fries, in pasta or cold in your lunch box or in a salad. Will keep in the refrigerator for 5 days.



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Around&About March 30, 2021 Page 2



# All The World's A Circus William Thomas

williamjthomas@gmail.com

## First There Was 'Fake Art'. Then 'Fake News'. Now Deepfake

Since dwarfed by Citizen Kane, this strange and fascinating film was shot on Ibiza, a Balearic Island off Barcelona. It was about that time I was backpacking around Europe and holed up on tiny Formentera. About once a week I'd take a small ferry over to Ibiza to collect my mail at the office of American Express.

Back then there were three famous 'fakers' operating on Ibiza: Orson Wells who was filming the story of Elmyr de Hory, the world's greatest art forger, and Elmyr's friend Clifford Irving, who was writing the bestselling biography of Howard Hughes, a complete and utter hoax.

F For Fake is such a masterful mix of truth and lies that by the end you're not sure which side Orson Welles, the star and narrator, is on. Watch it and you're left with a very healthy fear of fraud and its inevitable demise. De Hory killed himself, Irving went to prison and Orson Welles, paralyzed by such early success and then harsh criticism of his work, spent much of his life in self-exile, left 24 film projects unfinished and died in bed with a typewriter on his ample stomach.

More recently, in four astonishing and painful years, President Donald Trump turned "fake" into an art form. According to the US Press Freedom Tracker, Trump dismissed factual accounts about him and his administration by uttering the term "fake news" more than 900 times. Repeat it enough times and soon TV reporters at Trump rallies were being intimidated, threatened and punched.

Trump even lied about inventing the phrase "fake news" when he bragged that it was "one of the greatest of all terms I've ever come up with." Long before Trump but not necessarily that far removed — Hitler coined the term the "Lugenpresse" or the "lying press" in order to muzzle his critics.

So if you thought Orson Welles' fake art was troubling and Donald Trump's "Everything Is Fake But Me" was democratically dangerous well, wait for it... Deepfake is here and although previously not thought possible... maybe more treacherous than Trump.

Recently Jordan Peele of BuzzFeed used artificial intelligence and layer after layer of photo animation to get the image of Barak Obama's mouth perfectly shaped and flawlessly manipulated. Then he "ventriloquized" Obama in a totally believable but wholly fake video in which the former president rants on about things he has never said including "Donald Trump is a total and complete dipshit."

Normally new technology — which has become the tail that wags the dog with the

dog being you and I — begins with good intentions. However Deepfake, based entirely on deception and lies might be the first piece of hardware in the history of computer science that is just plain evil from the get go.

This rogue piece of technology now has film stars Scarlet Johansson, Natalie Portman and Wonder Woman's Gal Gadot starring in a Deepfaked porn videos. Queen Elizabeth delivered her last Christmas message on Channel 4 in Britain as a 'made-up monarch'. And after a daring news venture, the BBC was forced to publicly deny the outbreak of nuclear war. Timely, 'Deepfake armageddon' was detected before somebody pushed the panic button and a real shooting war broke out. How popular is Deepfake among the trolls? Scarlet Johansson's fake porn video has been viewed 1.5 million times.

In a Deepfake scene from an Austin Powers' movie, Mike Myers, as "Dr. Evil" has been seamlessly replaced by then President Donald Trump. (Funny how nuggets of truth keep popping up from the Deepfake state when it comes to a guy who in four years of office told 30,573 lies.)

Noelle Martin of Western Australia was just 18-years-old when her life was ruined by anonymous sexual predators. They Deepfaked her images onto pornography videos and distributed them around the world, complete with horrid comments about her face and body. In the agonizing years that followed Martin has fought a courageous battle, not just to clear her reputation but to pursue the perpetrators of Deepfake and bring attention to this fastspreading Internet disease.

From a near suicide victim to the world's foremost advocate for truth on social media, Martin has been named Young Australian Of The Year and was the face of International Women's Day in 2019. "It could have been any of us," she said.

There are days when the hate on social media is embraced by so many anonymous enthusiasts, it's difficult to imagine, even with the Noelle Matrins of this world, how ' good' can eventually win out over 'evil'.

Who knew that those two infamous words uttered by Kelly Ann Conway, head of the White House Liar's Club — " alternative facts" — would one day become the rally cry for world misinformation and its Deepfake delivery system.

If you don't believe that the digital world is moving at warp speed towards nothing that can be described as 'good', remember that it *Continued on page three...* 

#### Continued from page two...

was just 32 years ago, when music fans were outraged to learn that Milli Vanilli had lip-synced their hit song at a concert in Connecticut in front of 80,000 fans? The title of that song by the way — Girl You Know It's True.

With no known application for good, Deepfake is a highly sophisticated form of undetectable visual disinformation. Just wait until Trump's Proud Boys or even Vladimir Putin have this tool in their boxes of destruction.

When you get to the point where half the world's population denies the truth and believes in professionally created and falsely documented lies - democracies be functionally will dead, replaced by dictators whom we can only hope will be benevolent. For a comment or a copy of The Dog Rules — Damn Everything! Near email: williamithomas@gmail.com

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Interested applicants should forward resume/questions in confidence to jim@eclinicpharmacy.ca

We thank all interested applicants, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

#### **OBITUARY**



Bennett - Angus Roger of Sagamok passed away in his home on March 16, 2021 at the age of 54. Beloved son of Sylvester Sr. & Wilhemina (nee Southwind) Bennett of Sagamok. Loving father of Courtney Bennett and Patrick Bennett both of Sagamok. Cherished by 3 granchildren. Dear brother of Sylvester Jr. Bennett, Leroy Bennett, Elwood (Doreen) Bennett, Norman Bennett, Paula Bennett all of Sagamok and Paulette Tabogondung (Milton) of Parry Island. Also, sadly

missed by Stewart & Barbara Toulouse and many nieces, nephews, friends &relatives. Visitation was held on March 18, 2021 in the New Community Centre in Sagamok at 6 PM. Funeral service was on Saturday, March 20, 2021 at 11 AM in the New Community Centre with cremation to follow afterwards. Arrangements by BOURCIER FUNERAL HOME Ltd, Espanola.



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#### THANK YOU

## ESPANOLA ELKS **HALL 346**

We want to thank the essential workers and cleaners for all the hard work they are doing for all of the community. With everything, we at the elks hall wish everyone all the best, and keep up the hard work, and be safe.

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