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November 30, 2021 Issue #48 - Volume 25

# Retracing The Steps Of The Fur Traders



**Photo** - The Marrones of Espanola. Photo by the Marrones - FB media access and used with permission

By Rosalind Russell - Alone television alumni Keilyn Marrone and her husband Dave will spend the winter in the snow ... literally.

The owners of Lure of the North in Espanola plan to snowshoe from Lake Superior to Moosonee for some three months starting January 10th.

Dave says it is about 900 kilometres and will follow a traditional travel route used by the fur traders a few hundred years ago, averaging some 10 kilometres a day.

Keilyn says the expedition is part of their business mission statement, to get people to love and be active in winter, so she is pleased ten people will be joining them on the epic journey.

Continued on back page ...



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### **Retracing The Steps Of The Fur Traders**

competing on the survivalist show. Alone. Keilyn adds she believes the group will be well equipped and ready to survive the wilds of the northern winter using two long traditional toboggans and large tents with food drops along the way.

The Marrones will be updating their social media accounts from the trail and providing progress reports.

For more information about Lure of the North and its mission statement and reports. visit:

www.lureofthenorth.com

### **Agnes Michon Lions Christmas Toy Drive Is On**



Photo - The Angel Tree is once again set up at Tanners where people can buy a gift and drop it off in the decorated bin, and the local Legion tree is also set up for knitted gifts such as mitts and hats. Photo provided by Tanners/Lions and used with permission.

By Grant Lewis - Can you imagine men brandishing fiery sticks, dressed half goat and half demon, wandering the dark streets looking for children who have been naughty. This Austrian tradition occurs December 5th. Children hover in their homes fearful of being snatched away and stuffed in straw baskets. Heavens, I think even I would behave all year.

Thank goodness our Christmas traditions in Espanola are less terrifying. We have Angel Trees, Teddy Bear tosses, Tip a Teller, the Hart Store checkout, and the Agnes Michon Lions toy drive. The Angel Tree is once again set up at Tanners. Pick an Angel, buy a gift and drop it off in

the decorated bin. Tip a teller at the Toronto Dominion Bank with proceeds going to purchase toys for kids in town to make sure they have a brighter Christmas. When you buy a toy at the checkout at the Hart Store, you are helping local kids and you will receive a \$5 coupon as a thank you.

don't forget And Christmas tree at the Legion lobby will look complete with gifts underneath. For all you knitters, and we know you are out there, get those needles clicking. Rumour has it that one keen knitter has surpassed one hundred pairs of mitts! Please call 869-5798 and one of Santa's helpers will gladly pick them up.

Speaking of helpers! If you are available and willing to wrap gifts, please mark Thursday December 16th on your calendars. Santa will need your help at 10:00 a.m. at the Legion. Covid protocols will be in place and proof of double vaccination is required. We all hope this will be the last Christmas season with Covid. Maybe those Austrian goatdemon characters will scare the virus away FOR GOOD!!! We will miss the contribution of Mrs. Santa Claus, Agnes Michon. She personified the true meaning of love and giving at Christmas. The Lions club was blessed by knowing her. The Agnes Michon Lions toy drive will be a new tradition.



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# All The World's William Thomas

williamjthomas@gmail.com

### As I Get Older The World Gets Smaller And The Coincidences **Are Starting To Scare Me**

About four months ago I started a column on murder in Canada. the annual tongue-in-cheek Bulwer-Lytton Fiction Contest in which participants create the worst possible opening sentence of what will become, if they're allowed to proceed, a really bad novel.

For example, Lisa Kluber won the 2020 award with: "Her Dear John Missive flapped unambiguously in the windy breeze, hanging like a pizza menu on the doorknob of my mind." Yes, there's something beautiful in the construction of a work of art that is designed to be really, really bad.

The contest is named after Edward Bulwer-Lytton a novelist and poet who lived in Canada during the mid-1800s as Britain's Secretary To The Colonies. He coined such phrases as "The pen is mightier than the sword" and "The pursuit of the almighty dollar." He famously began his 1930s novel Paul Clifford with the opening line: "It was a dark and stormy night....'

The town of Lytton, B.C. was named after Edward Bulwer-Lytton. I shelved the column while waiting for the 2021 winners to be announced and then the town of Lytton burned to the ground. A firm believer in the impending disasters of global warming ever since Al Gore's 2006 Inconvenient Truth, I'm still astounded by the photos showing how unrelenting record heat can incinerate an entire town.

My friend and favourite crime writer Peter Edwards wrote a touching piece in the Toronto Star about the devastation of his hometown, Lytton, B.C. He had contacted a childhood friend in the area and sure enough, the house in which Peter grew was now a pile of ashes.

So I contacted Peter — we're both with the same publisher and his publicist, Ruta used to be my publicist — and he mentioned he has a new book out titled The Wolfpack. From The Bandido Massacre, the "execution assembly line" murders of eight bikers near the village of Shedden, Ontario to Business or Blood, the money and killings that swirled around Montreal mob boss Vito Rizzuto to Hard Road — Bernie Guindon and The Reign Of The Satan's Choice Motorcycle Gang — Peter Edwards has investigated and written about every major organized crime member and

Co-authored with Luis Najera, once a reporter for Grupo Reforma based in Ciudad Juarez, the drug cartel capital of Mexico, The Wolfpack is a rip-roaring romp through the Canadian world of bikers and hitmen, gangsters and Mafioso, drug dealers and narcissistic sociopaths, some as efficient as a corporate CEO, some as "dumb as a bag of hair"... with the Mexican cartels waiting in the wings.

Coincidences? Niagara is the book's hub of the drug activity which then splits off into contract killings and massive cocaine deals in Vancouver, Toronto and Montreal. Welland and Port Colborne get almost as much mention in this real-life crime thriller as Montreal, the organized crime capital of Canada.

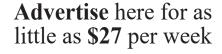
Coincidences? I too have watched a World Cup soccer match on the patio of the Sicilian Sidewalk Cafe in Toronto's "Little Italy" where drug kingpin Johnnie Raposo was assassinated at the urging of Nick Nero of Niagara Falls.

And the warehouse where the cocaine was stored and the money dropped, where a "narco junior" from "El Chapo" Guzman's Sinaloa Cartel came north to inspect the facility: well that would be on the outskirts of Dain City where I lived for the first 17 years of my life. The square unassuming einder block building is on Nugent Road (I went to school and played hockey with Earl Nugent) was once owned by a friend of mine, Dale Kramer. He assembled his ultralight aircrafts in that plant and when I featured him in What's Up Niagara, we photographed him at the entrance of the building for the cover of the magazine. At that same entrance Niagara members of The Wolfpack left bundles of bills for their local dealers.

Coincidences? At this point I'm wondering if Peter Edwards was named after Edward Bulwer-Lytton!?! Or if I might be the older and illegitimate brother of Ruta?!?

There are at least 20 writers in Canada who earn a living by writing crime fiction and mystery novels and I'm thinking — why would you do that? Why would you make that stuff up when, like Peter Edwards, all you have to do is keep an eye on a hotspot like Niagara, stay alert and take good notes. The real rough and tumble

Continued on page three...



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Continued from page two...

stuff is so much more entertaining than that carefully crafted drama. Peter Edwards wrote about the mob murders of Pops Papalia in Hamilton and his lieutenant Carmen Barillaro in Niagara Falls and later the killing of Angelo Musitano in the driveway of his home in Waterdown and more recently the gunning down of his brother Pat Musitano in a Burlington shopping plaza.

Before their demise, Peter wrote: "The Musitano brothers are the owners of a pizza restaurant in downtown Hamilton that serves a tasty, thin-crust pie."

I had to re-read it several times, laughing harder with each pass. For ten summers I taught a

"Writing Funny" course at New York's Chautauqua Institute and I used that quote to show my students how you could slip a lighthearted restaurant review into a serious feature on an organized crime killing spree.

Over dinner at Port Colborne's San Marcos restaurant I called Peter on it. "What the hell were you thinking?" He just laughed and said it was just a nod and a wink to the Mafia brothers. Everybody's just doing what they gotta do. Peter Edwards included.

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

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St. Georges - is offering an afternoon program, Surviving The Holidays. December 12th, 1:00pm at 213 Tudhope St. To register please call: (705)691-0971 or Email: stgeorgesespanola@gmail.com

Meat roll-offs - every Saturday at the Espanola Legion. The fun starts at 3:30 p.m. and everyone is welcome. COVID-19 protocols will be in place and proof of vaccination is required.'

Walford Christmas Bazaar n'Tea 2 Go – December 11 from 1:00 – 3:00 at the Walford Community Centre. Donations Appreciated. Advanced Penny Sale & 50/50 tickets will be available. Call 705-844-2887 for more info.

Craft Sale - Espanola Sr Quilting & Sewing Club. Friday & Saturday December 17, 18 at the Espanola Mall.

Craft Sale – Every Thursday at the Sr. Drop-In-Centre (799 Queensway) from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Every week until Christmas.

Samaritans Purse Christmas Gift boxes - Anyone interested in operation Christmas Child, you can text me at 705 506 5702 and I will be happy to get the boxes to you.

Lions Catch the Ace - Tickets are available at Tanner's, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:00 a.m. till 3:00 p.m., and in the Mall Mondays and Wednesdays from 11:00 a.m. till 3:00 p.m.

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

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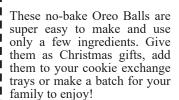




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### Recipe





### **Christmas Oreo Balls**

- 1 package (family size package) mint, regular or Golden Oreo Cookies
- 1 block (8 oz) Cream Cheese, softened
- Almond Bark white and chocolate or chocolate chips
- Christmas Sprinkles

Line cookie sheet with parchment paper. Add softened cream cheese to the bowl. Crush Oreo cookies including the centers in food processor. If you don't have a food processor, you can also use a resealable bag and a rolling pin to crush them. Add cookie crumbs to bowl with cream cheese. Stir the cream cheese and crumbs together until well combined. Using a cookie dough scoop, form a ball. Roll the ball between your hands until smooth. Place on lined cookie sheet. Chill in the refrigerator for at least 30 minutes. Place chocolate in microwave safe bowl and melt. Start with 1 minute, then stir. Heat for 30 second intervals, stirring after each heating. Stop when there are a few bits of chocolate left, then stir until completely melted. Using a fork, dip the Oreo ball into the chocolate and shake off excess. Place on lined cookie sheet, removing from fork with another fork or knife. Add sprinkles immediately. Store in refrigerator until ready to serve. They may stay at room temperature for a few hours.

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### **OBITUARY**



Sangster - Catherine of Walford passed away at Health Sciences North, Sudbury on November 18, 2021 at the age of 67. Dear daughter of the late Patrick & Lourdes (nee Maloney) Bannon. Beloved wife of Ronald. Loving mother of Matthew (Nicole) of Walford. Cherished by her grandson Brandon. Dear sister of Mike, Marion, Frank, Don, Lourdes, John, Dan, Bernadette, Mark and the late Lorrie. Also, will be sadly missed by many friends & relatives. Cremation with a Celebration of Life was on November 24, 2021 at the Walford

Community Hall. Interment followed in the Walford Protestant Cemetery. If so desired, donations to Northern Cancer Foundation Walford Community Hall would be appreciated. Arrangements by BOURCIER FUNERAL HOME Ltd, Espanola



Kenneth Alexander Fletcher (67) of Massey, Ontario passed away at Health Sciences North on November 23, 2021. He was born in Whitefish Falls on June 30, 1954 to the late Reginald and Rose (Moseley) Fletcher. Predeceased by brothers Ron and Randy, and sisters Nina and Florence. Survived by Gord (wife Rose) of Hamilton and Ernie (Sheila) of Massey. Fondly remembered by many nieces, nephews and friends. He was known for his great sense of humour and for his love of his barn cats. He loved to spend his days sitting outside at the farm with his binoculars watching

the treeline and the fields, eager to spot any wildlife and checking on the cows. Many thanks to all of the healthcare providers at both Health Sciences North and Espanola Regional Health Centre for the care they provided him in the last few months. If you wish to make a donation in his memory please consider your local animal shelter or food bank. A celebration of life will be held in Ken's honour at a later date.



Nadeau - Ronald Leo of Espanola passed away at the Espanola Regional Hospital on November 23, 2021 at the age of 72. Dear son of the late Leo & Mary Anne (nee Laframboise) Nadeau. Beloved husband of Simone (nee Lacasse). Loving father of Leanne Waytowich (Niel) of Peterborough and Dan (Kaeleigh) of Whitby. Cherished by grandchildren Liam (Kara), Moira, Alexander and Abriel. Dear brother of the late Dan Nadeau (wife Kaye) of Gore Bay. Also, will be sadly missed by many friends & relatives. The Nadeau family would like

to thank the Doctors/Nurses and staff of the E.R.H.C.C as well as the Espanola Paramedics for the exceptional care they provided to Ron. Cremation with a Celebration of Life and interment in the Espanola Cemetery at a later date. If so desired, donations to Espanola Regional Hospital, Lung Association or the War Amps would be appreciated. Arrangements by BOURCIER FUNERAL HOME Ltd, Espanola.

### Purchase Of Domtar By Paper Excellence EACOM Sawmill In Nairn Centre Part Of Sale Light From Competition Green Commissioner



Photo - The sale of Domtar to a B.C.-based company is nearly complete. Last Thursday, the two paper companies jointly announced the acquisition has received approval under the Canadian Competition Act. The move also affects the Domtar Mill in Espanola. Photo by Rosalind Russell

The sale of Domtar to a B.C.based company is nearly complete.

According to Northern Ontario Business, Paper Excellence has moved a step closer to finalizing its \$3-billion purchase of Domtar having received approval from the competition commissioner.

Last Thursday, the two paper companies jointly announced the acquisition has received approval under the Canadian Competition Act.

standards meet the set out by the Act, Paper Excellence will be required

Espanola's Biggest Variety

to sell Domtar's pulp mill in Kamloops, B.C., after the merger concludes to alleviate the commissioner' concerns about how the sale could impact the purchase of wood fibre from the Thompson/ Okanagan region in British Columbia.

The transaction is expected to close by year's end.

Paper Excellence picks up 13 pulp and paper mills and 10 manufacturing and converting Domtar facilities across North America including the Domtar Mill in Espanola.

Be listening to The Moose 99.3 FM - CJJM for all the latest news, weather, sports and events. Hosting an event? Have a story to share? Call the NEWS LINE AT 705-869-NEWS ... that's 869-6397!



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Another major business is being sold in the North Shore area.

Interfor, a forestry company based in Burnaby, British Columbia will acquire EACOM Timber Corporation in a \$490-million cash deal. According to Northern Ontario Business, Interfor will increase its total lumber production capacity by 25 per cent, and help the company expand into eastern Canada.

The deal include the sawmill in Nairn Centre as well as others in Ear Falls, Elk Lake, Gogama and Timmins and an engineered wood plant in Sault Ste. Marie.

Intefor President, CEO Ian Fillinger says the transaction will make the company a true North American lumber producer.

The process of closing the deal is expected to take up to eight months to complete.

### **MOOSE 99.3 FM Radiothon Set To Go**

MOOSE 99.3 FM Radiothon is set to go for another year in support of the Espanola Regional Hospital & Health Centre.

The Espanola Knights of Columbus kicked off this year's radiothon last week with a donation of \$9,000 to the hospital's new x-ray suite.

This year's radiothon will take place on Friday, December 3rd from 10 am to 2 pm.

Everyone who makes a pledge of at least \$5 will receive a ballot to win a fully decorated Christmas tree.

There will also be random prize packs to entice the public to donate via phone, through the hospital's portal or bringing donations to the hospital foundation office.

Nearly \$175,000 of the \$550,000 needed to pay for the project has been raised so far.

# RADIOTHON 2021



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