

Chad Norman Supporting SPCA

By Linda Harrington

Chad Norman spent several of his childhood years living in Masstown before moving out west. He returned to Nova Scotia in 2003 and since then has been living in Truro. Writing poetry is certainly very much a passion for Chad, having published 18 books in the last 30+ years, the latest being "Simona: A Celebration of the S.P.C.A".

In 2008, Chad and his family bought a house in Truro and soon after decided it was time to add a cat to the household. They visited the Colchester SPCA in April 2009 and instantly fell in love with a muted calico cat named Simona. By September, Chad had begun writing poetry about Simona.

"She was very fearful of trades people wearing work boots and if she heard the brakes on the oil delivery truck, she would dart off into hiding," says Chad. "Her behav-

ior plus a scar on her nose lead us to realize she had experienced physical abuse." He began writing about this realization, his family's experience at the SPCA, emotions behind choosing a pet and life with Simona.

"Simona became a muse for me and what it was like to be a cat owner again", says Chad, who remembers his mother having Siamese cats when they lived on the farm in Masstown. "Simone challenged me as a man, to have wonderful interactions with her and I began to see myself as a human being, not only as a man."

When Chad first started writing the poetry about her, he thought they would simply be a section in a book he was writing titled "Learning to Settle Down", that was published in 2015. Once all fifty of the poems were completed in 2016, he realized he had enough for a book on their

own. He started submitting the poems to ten different Canadian and American publishers and was rejected by them all. Then he was approached by a press in India, who offered to publish the book. "The publisher is called cyber.wit.net and they have been a joy to work with, letting me make a lot of my own decisions."

Henry Beissel, professor emeritus from Carleton University, says, "Norman introduces the reader to the world of cats. We come to see and feel the world through Simona's senses and emotions. This is where Norman's poems reach beyond the pleasure of enjoying a pet: we are led to realize that cats, like humans, have feelings, fears, hopes and affections."

Chad took some time off work during the pandemic but kept busy with his writing. He has recently been compiling 60 pages of poetry about interactions with the crow families around his neighbourhood and another book titled "A Matter of Inclusion", which deals with immigration, looking closely at people who make the decision to leave their homeland and come to Canada.

The pandemic presented a series of challenges for Chad to promote his books. "I was supposed to travel to ten universities throughout Italy to give readings from my book "Squall", a celebration of the eight-year marriage of Mary & Percy Shelley, but this was cancelled." Mary Shelley was an English novelist who wrote the Gothic novel Frankenstein and her husband Percy was a poet who drowned off the coast of Italy in 1822.

Chad has already sold out of the first printing of "Simona: A Celebration of the S.P.C.A", with copies sent out across Canada. "The difference from my other books, is this time I will have the opportunity to help the SPCA. I plan on giving a percentage of my sales directly to the SPCA."

Anyone who would like to order a copy of "Simona: A Celebration of the S.P.C.A", can reach out to Chad via email at namronskichacha@gmail.com. He would be happy to send out an autographed copy.

Here is one of the poems from the book:

A BATH IN BED

No debate on who is master now.

**Nothing said with the human voice matters,
she looks up dazed and unimpressed,
she does not need water,
she requires absolutely no soap,
she makes it so clear any shampoo
is a blend her coat will not wear.**

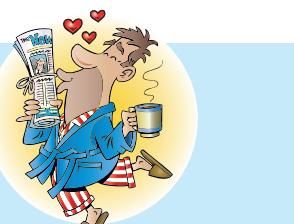
**Nothing the tongue does
is about allowing her to be unclean,
is other than how she stays so queenlike,
is how one part of her body
knows, yet mysteriously, when
other parts of her body are ready
to be cleaned, sought by teeth too,
the positions she masters then
so easily and so beautifully.**

**Nothing the tongue seeks is exempt,
even the region under her tail,
a bath taken in one of her
many cozy, unpredictable beds,
daily licking when noticed
seems to last forever.**

**Casa Harris
November 22, 2012**

Shoreline
Journal

For coverage of your event contact
Maurice Rees at 902-647-2968



GEOfood Initiative to be Rolled-Out Spring 2021



By Maurice Rees

The Cliffs of Fundy UNESCO Global Geopark has joined the international GEOfood initiative and will roll out the GEOfood program in the spring of 2021. As part of the roll-out, they will host a series of information meetings for local producers, harvesters, restaurateurs, groceries, farmers' markets and accommodation providers.

The GEOfood brand defines the "taste quality" based on local traditions and users, connected with geological heritage along with the history of the Geopark. The support to local communities, as well as the holistic and bottom-up approach which characterizes the UNESCO Global Geoparks is the core of the GEOfood brand.

This brand has its routes within the UNESCO Global Geoparks, and it can be used only to identify foods grown, produced or harvested within these designated areas. This unique branding is also a way to demonstrate/educate about how the geological conditions have a positive impact on the quality of the food.

GEOfood's mission is to support the sustainable development of local communities, increasing the actions towards the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals. In particular, the GEO food program impacts the following UN Sustainable Development Goals: Goal # 2 - Zero Hunger - achieving food security, improving nutrition, and promoting sustainable agriculture; Goal # 3 - Good Health and Well-Being - ensuring healthy living and promoting well-being; Goal # 12- Responsible Consumption and Production - ensure sustainable consumption and production practices; Goal # 14 - Life Below

Water - conserve and sustainably use the ocean, seas and marine resources for sustainable development and Goal #15 - Life on Land - protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems; sustainably manage forests, combat desertification; halt and reverse land degradation, and halt biodiversity loss.

The GEOfood initiative began in Norway and is widespread throughout Europe. The Cliffs of Fundy is the first Geopark in North America to adopt the GEOfood program. The GEOfood label and brand are well-known by international travellers. Locally the committee anticipates this to be an excellent marketing tool for local businesses once worldwide travel resumes.

For information on the Cliffs of Fundy UNESCO Global Geopark and local geosites, tourism packages and various suggested itineraries, visit <https://fundygeopark.ca>. The main office can be contacted at 902-641-2225 or by email at beth.peterkin@fundygeopark.ca

Hockeyville Update

By Debbie Brown

Three rinks in Colchester competed for this year's Kraft Hockeyville: the Don Henderson Memorial Sportsplex, Brookfield; Tatamagouche's North Shore Recreation Centre and the West Colchester United Arena, Debert. None of the three made it to the next round. The overall winner receives \$ 250,000 in repairs and upgrades for their arena and an NHL game in their hometown.

Many of you will remember the first Kraft Hockeyville in 2006 and our Salmon River winner, Deuville's rink as the most outstanding nomination in Canada. The stories, experiences and abundance of support each our hometown rinks shared on the Kraft Hock-

eyville site this February reminds us that our rinks are a vital, integral part of the community and the life force of hockey.

Congratulations to all the participants representing rinks throughout Colchester for



CONROY
refrigeration • hvac

"Installing Heat Pumps in N.S. since 1985"

Daikin Heat Pumps

- EXCEPTIONAL COMFORT • QUIET
- LOWER OPERATING COST

Ask about our financing

**AS LOW AS
\$50.00/mo.
INSTALLED**

