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March 22, 2022 Issue #12 - Volume 26

Domtar Buys Massage Chairs For Health Care Staff



Photo - Pictured at the Espanola Regional Hospital & Health Centre- Domtar Wellness Corner (left to right) Leigh Nelson, Domtar-Environmental Manager. Jane Battistelli, Espanola Regional Hospital & Health Centre-Chief Operating Officer. Carol Lapointe, Domtar- Mill Manager. Darla Southwood, Domtar- Executive Assistant. Photo provided by ERHHC/Domtar and used with permission.

By Rosalind Russell - Domtar's Espanola Mill received a request from the Espanola Regional Hospital & Health Centre for a donation to assist in purchasing massage chairs.

According to the request made by the hospital, it was explained that the hospital staff had been working diligently over the past two years and the latest Covid-19 variant had been especially tough.

Hospital publicist Terri Noble says the hospital was continuously working short-staffed as more people were off sick taking a toll on all employees.



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EHS Junior Boys B-Ball Win The Gold



Photo - The Espanola High Spartan Junior Boys won the gold in basketball NOSSA finals. Photo by EHS and used with permission.

One of three local teams came out on top at the Northern Ontario Secondary School Association Boys Basketball tournament held in Sudbury.

The Espanola High School Spartans Junior Boys Basketball team captured gold at the championship.

The boys finished with a perfect 3-0 record beating Lockerby in the finals 52-41. EHS Senior team and Manitoulin Secondary teams also took part in the tourney.

So, You Want To Run For Council?



Photo - The public will have the opportunity to learn what is involved being on council through two training sessions hosted by the four local municipalities. Photo by Elections Canada

The municipal elections are coming up in the fall and the LaCloche Foothills municipalities are looking to help the public decide if they want to run or not.

A free candidate information session will be held for residents of the townships of Nairn-Hyman, Sables-Spanish Rivers, Baldwin and the Town of Espanola.

The speaker is Fred Dean, a lawyer who acts exclusively for municipalities across

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Ontario and has been providing training to councils since 2002.

His presentation will focus on the council's roles and responsibilities and how public office can impact one's life.

The session will be virtual and held over two evenings, April 4 and 7 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Registration is required by phone or email.

Anyone interested in being a potential candidate, spouse or partner of potential candidate, or anyone wanting to learn about local governance. Call the Town of Espanola t 705-869-1540 or via email at: town@espanola.ca to register for either session.

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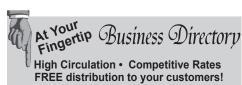




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Rainbow Community Non-Profit Housing Continues Effort To Save School





Photos - Architectural artistic drawings of what AB Ellis Public School could look like if converted into housing. Photos provided by the Rainbow Community Non-Profit Housing and used with permission.

The housing corporation focused on saving an Espanola school is not giving up their fight.

The Rainbow Community Non-Profit Housing group has been trying to save AB Ellis Public School since the Rainbow District School Board announced back in 2014 that they would be demolishing it to turn into a parking lot.

Housing chair Cat Ashton says last week's announcement that the government would provide nearly \$3 million to do just that came as a shock.

She says the group has made numerous presentations and appeals to the board to preserve the building for purchase and conversion into apartments.

Ashton says the group plans to continue to press the Town of Espanola and the Manitoulin Sudbury District Services Board to get involved because of its potential to meet urgently needed housing. She emphasizes the group has carried out architectural, engineering and financial stability studies that clearly demonstrate the viability of converting the building into 44 new one- and- two-bedroom apartments.

She adds the nearly \$3 million dollars could be put to better use in retrofitting the building for housing rather than using tax dollars to tear down a building that still has many years of life in it.

Rainbow Community Housing says there are many reasons they continue to advocate for preservation.

1. The group says independent architectural, engineering, and financial viability studies indicate the building is in very good condition and could be converted into up to 44 one- and two-bedroom apartments.

cheaper and greener than new construction, adding high-end estimates for converting the AB Ellis building to 44 apartments land at between \$225,000 and \$250,000 a unit.

- 3. In late 2020 a social media survey asked people to indicate their interest in living in an AB Ellis apartment. Of the nearly 100 people who said they would seriously want to live there, over 50 were lower income seniors, disabled people and/or sole support parents urgently needing safe and reliable housing.
- 4. The group says federal funding agencies and programs are aware of the affordable housing potential of the former school building, adding as recently as February 2022, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation suggested feasible financing arrangements. Rainbow Community Nonprofit Housing says it has very positive and promising relations with these funding agencies, but to be eligible for funding it needs cooperation from the Rainbow District School Board.
- 5. The group also says there is a 239-person waiting list for affordable one-bedroom apartments in this area, and there are no accessible affordable units for disabled people. The group adds the Town of Espanola does not have a plan to increase the stock of affordable housing. According to the group converting the school into urgently needed rental housing is still possible, but it requires that RDSB and the Town of Espanola work with Rainbow Community Housing. As a first critical step, it says it needs the Town to get behind the project.

Anyone wishing to lend their support is asked to contact Cat Ashton 705-863-0391 2. They say converting the building is or Lynne Dee Sproule 613-402-2334.

View the paper for FREE every week at www.aroundandabout.ca

Repairs Underway On The Big Canoe



Photo - The Chi-Cheemaun, known as the Big Canoe, is undergoing extensive repairs following a fire in its boiler room this weekend. Photo by www.ontarioferries.com

The Chi-Cheemaun is being repaired following a fire that caused extensive damage at the shipyard in Thunder Bay on last Saturday.

According to the press release, the Thunder Bay Fire Department responded to an alarm at the Heddle shipyard shortly after 2 am in the morning. Officials say the vessel was undergoing winter maintenance when a fire broke out inside the boiler room on the ship.

was There extensive damage to one of the ship's boilers and electrical system and the cause is under investigation.

The ship operated the Owen Sound by Transportation Company sailing season runs between Tobermory on the Bruce Peninsula and South Baymouth on Manitoulin Island.

The company has yet to announce how long the repairs will take potentially affecting when the ferry begins its normal sailing schedule.

Raising Funds For Survivors Of Residential School In Spanish

A fundraiser is underway by a Charlebois says over 100 prints Northeastern organization to help survivors of the residential girl's school in Spanish.

Centre Victoria pour The Femmes is selling prints of the painting Community Care by Indigenous artist Mishikenh Kwe to help female survivors of The Spanish Girl's School – St. Anne's in Spanish.

Centre spokesperson Mireille Charlebois says the Sudburybased group provides female Francophone survivors domestic violence, sexual assault and harassment with supports in a variety of ways.

have already been sold and will be available until the end of the month at \$40 each plus \$5 shipping.

charitable organization The has been organizing an event activity to recognize International Women's Day for more than 25 years, adds Charlebois and thought this year's focus should be on truth and reconciliation.

She adds over 100 prints have already been sold and will be available until the end of the month at \$40 each plus \$5 shipping.

To order print(s), visit https:// www.centrevictoria.ca/

Continued from front page...

Domtar Buys Massage Chairs For Health Care Staff

The mill provided the hospital foundation with a \$6,000 donation to cover the cost of two massage chairs, which staff considers a Godsend in taking a break and relaxing when downtime is needed.

The chairs have been well received by staff. Some of their comments are below.

I have certainly benefited from the massage chairs. I often have lower back pain and in the short time that we've had the chairs, I've seen an improvement. Thanks Domtar! We really appreciate it ~ Monique, MLT, Laboratory With this job being so physically demanding, it is very nice to have somewhere to relax and get a quick massage. ~ Shawna, PSW LTC I have noticed that my legs and feet are not swelling on the days I use the chairs ~ Avery, RN Emerge & Acute

These chairs are a very nice expression of gratitude. They are used and enjoyed frequently during breaks and lunches by many staff members. Thank you, Domtar! ~Kelly, MLT Laboratory

They are amazing!! I want one for my house! Thank you ~ Chelsey, RN, FHT

Fantastic chairs!!! Comfy, once you get in, you don't want to get out!! ~Tara RN, Emerge/Acute

love them... want one...~ Debbie, PSW, LTC

Best idea yet! During a regular workday or even a stressful day, if I have a moment, I sit on the chairs to escape. Thank you so much! ~Mireille, MRT/ DMS Diagnostic Imaging

The head and neck feature are my fav! What relief after sitting at a desk all day. Marlo, Manager, Human Resources.

Vale Expects High Water Levels In Agnew Lake Area

Residents in the Agnew Lake area have received notice that Vale, the mining company, will be drawing down water in the vicinity.

According to the notice, the company says there is about 8.5 inches of water in the snowpack and snow levels remain high upstream on the Vermilion and Spanish Rivers.

That in turn could lead to high water levels during the spring melt.

To alleviate that, the company will use its dam and pump system to gradually release the water in the attempt to prevent flooding.

The operation will continue until their staff says the ground water and river levels have stabilized.



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FOR RENT - House for rent in Webbwood. Available April 1. Call Greg 705-822-4734. 3/22

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IN MEMORIAM



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~ Jack Thorne ~

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THANK YOU

With (Sincere Thanks

The family of the late Bernice Sokoloski would like to sincerely thank everyone for the many acts of kindness and support received following the loss of our beloved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

For the many cards, flowers, condolence messages, donations of food and comforting words received from friends and relatives, we are most thankful. The support was of great comfort to us.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank the special caregivers that provided excellent care and support throughout, Birgitt, Chantal, Donna & Jaymie, we are forever grateful.

To Brenda McCarthy, thank you for being a wonderful friend who was always there for our mother.

Bourcier Funeral Home, our thanks and appreciation for your assistance.

To everyone, our deepest thanks. Salmaso, Sokoloski & Bois Families

Those we love don't go away They walk beside us every day. Unseen, unheard, but always near. Still loved, still missed and very dear.

Obituaries · In Loving Memory Thank You Ads · Births or Birthdays Anniversaries · Engagements

To place your announcement call or email

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The Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board is a municipal service management organization created by the provincial government to oversee the local planning, coordination and delivery of a range of services and programs divested to the municipal order of government. The specific programs our DSB is responsible for are: Ontario Works, Community Housing, Paramedic Services (Land Ambulance), and Early Learning and Child Care services.

The following Employment Opportunity is now available to anyone interested in joining our highly dedicated workforce.

2 Summer Students - Espanola **Temporary Full-Time**

Competition #2022-05-ISS Closing date: April 1, 2022 For position details, visit Job Opportunities on our website at

www.msdsb.net/index.php/careers

While all responses are appreciated, only applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

helps Lafarge **Incorporated** Canada Manitoulin Island's Angel Bus



Photo - Richard Patterson of Lafarge Canada, right, presents a cheque in the amount of \$4,000 to Ted Kilpatrick of the Angel Bus operations committee. Photo supplied

The Angel Bus is part of the transportation system that helps support seniors and individuals who need medical care on Manitoulin Island.

Lafarge Canada production supervisor Richard Patterson was in Gore Bay to present operations committee to help

continue operating, mostly in the west end of the Island.

He adds the company has been donating to the bus costs since 2015, which provides between 75 to 100 trips a year.

The bus receives government funding, so it a \$4,000 cheque to the bus relies on the communities at large to cover costs every year.

COMMUNITY NOT



Massey Area Museum Annual AGM - March 31, 2022, 7:00 p.m. Open nominations from the floor for Executive and Board members

Bridge Lessons – 4 weeks, starting Wednesday, April 6 at 1:00 p.m. at the Seniors Drop In Center. Call Daphne at 705-869-0475 to register or for info.

Espanola Minor Hockey Pancake Breakfast - Sunday April 10, 9:00 – 11:30 a.m. at the Espanola Complex. Please call 705-207-1088 for tickets, or purchase at the door.

AL-ANON -Support for people affected by someone else's drinking. Meetings every Tuesday at 7:00PM. St George's Anglian Church, Tudhope St., Espanola. More information at al-non.org

Meat Roll-Offs - The meat roll-offs are back at the Espanola Legion starting and will run every Saturday. The fun starts at 3:30 and everyone is welcome. COVID-19 protocols in place.

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

Regional EDO Supported By All LaCloche **Foothills Communities**

The four municipalities that make up the LaCloche Foothills communities have endorsed a resolution in support of hiring a regional economic development officer. The work on the regional EDO had begun back in 2019 but was delayed due to the pandemic. However, a grant is now available for four the municipalities to share in

a \$300,000 budget for the position over a three-year period.

The four councils of the Town of Espanola and the townships of Baldwin, Nairn & Hyman and Sable-Spanish Rivers have endorsed the resolution, so the grant application process will now be completed.

Final word on the grant is expected in late Spring.

North Bay Will Be Welcoming Hundreds Of Legion Representatives In May.

The Legion Branches of District H, including Espanola, Elliot Lake, Blind River and Massey, are hosting the 52nd Biennial Convention of The Royal Canadian Legion Ontario Provincial Command May 14-17 at Nipissing University.

One event on May 15th will see a parade of veterans and Legion members march from the North Bay Museum to the

Memorial Park Cenotaph on First Avenue, followed by a wreath-laying ceremony.

Local Arrangements Committee Chair Sherry Culling says they anticipate this convention will generate significant spin-off business to the area, including hotels, meals and purchases at local stores.

The last time the convention was held in North Bay was in June of 1965.