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January 7, 2025 Issue #1 - Volume 29

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Photo - On hand to receive the cheque are Kim Armstrong and Alysha McDonald and two keen players.

What would this town do without the dedication and skills of local volunteers? And Espanola Minor Hockey is yet another prime example. Over 160 kids in town have the opportunity to have fun, improve skills and play their favourite sport ... hockey. Only because of volunteer coaches and helpers. Minor Hockey has 9 teams from Under 7 to Under 18 and each team needs coaches and staff. Expenses, like everywhere

Continued on page two...

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COMMUNITY NOTES

Lee Valley Hall Music Jam - Saturday, January 11 at 1:00 p.m.

Espanola Game and Fish Big Buck Night - "The Espanola Game and Fish will be holding their Big Buck Night on Thursday, January 16, 2025, at the Espanola Elks Hall from 6 p.m. - 9 p.m."

North Shore Quilting & Stitchery Guild: Next meeting - Wednesday, January 22, 2025 at 7:00 pm at the Espanola Royal Canadian Legion. New members welcome.

Webbwood Eagles #4269 Spaghetti Dinner - Saturday, February 1. Eat in or Takeout 4:30-6:00 p.m. Spaghetti, salad, garlic bread & desert.

The Remnant Call Church - Services at 10:30 a.m. every Sunday. All are welcome. (Elks Hall, Espanola)

Overeaters Anonymous - Do you have an eating disorder? We can help. Tuesdays 7:00 p.m. The Anchor Inn, 1 Water St. E, Little Current, Downstairs.

North Shore Seventh-day-Adventist Church - Saturday (Sabbath) Song Service 9:45 a.m.. Sabbath School 10:00 a.m. Divine Service 11:00 a.m.

The Baytones - North Bay's women's acapella chorus are recruiting! If you love to sing, come join us! For details call Janet 705-662-2770

NAR-ANON - Are you affected by someone else's addiction? NAR-ANON offers hope. Every Thursday, 1:00 p.m. at the Noojmowin Teg Health Centre, 407 Centre St, Espanola.

Narcotics Anonymous Meetings - Tuesdays 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. and Saturdays 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. United church, downstairs. 137 Shepard St. Espanola

Al-Anon - Do you worry about how much someone drinks? Al-Anon can help. Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M., St. George's Anglican Church, Espanola. (basement).

Toasts & Roasts Speaking Club - 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. at the Espanola Library. For more info, email toastandroastsspeakingclub@gmail.com

Paroisse St-Sébastien Parish Reminder - The Sunday (bilingual) Mass at St-Sebastien (Spanish) is held at 4:00 p.m.

St. Andrew's Church Massey - Services at 10:30 every Sunday. All are welcome.

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



Got a news story? Hosting an event? Give us a call at 705-869-NEWS (6397) ... we look forward to continuing to provide you with up-to-date news, weather, sports, and events in 2025. Want to text us? 705-869-6999? Or email? russell@moosefm.com ... Talk to you Soon!

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HELLO 2025

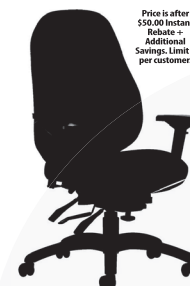
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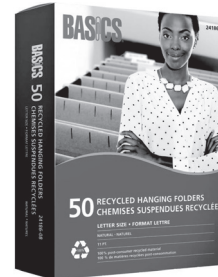
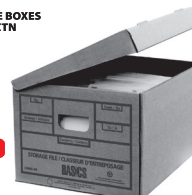
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Continued from front page...

Volunteers Make A HUGE difference!

else, are increasing; so the Espanola Lions was thrilled to present a cheque for over \$17,000 to the group. It was a profitable combination of Catch the Ace tickets sales and sharing “the pot” AND can this group sell tickets! The monies are split between the nine teams according to individual team sales. Tournaments, prizes, travel, ice rental, association fees, plus a myriad of other expenses,

all add up. The executive of Minor Hockey appreciate the generosity of local businesses, sponsors and individuals who help make it all possible. Future plans are player welfare and health and welfare. On hand to receive the cheque are Kim Armstrong and Alysha McDonald and two keen players.

Article and photo...Grant Lewis.

NOJHL Board Grants Elliot Lake Vikings Leave Of Absence, Due To Ongoing Arena Closure



SUDBURY, Ont. – The Northern Ontario Junior Hockey League’s Board of Directors announced Tuesday that they have granted the Elliot Lake Vikings a Leave of Absence, effective immediately, for the remainder of the 2024-25 season, due to extenuating circumstances, resulting from the ongoing closure of Rogers Arena, formerly Centennial Arena, in Elliot Lake.

With the venue remaining shuttered and unavailable for use, the Vikings have not practiced, or played, at home for a second consecutive season, making it extremely difficult in terms of finances, including incurring additional travel costs, along with the inability to skate and compete on home ice.

As well, the burden placed on the players and staff had a detrimental effect on the entire organization and played a pivotal role in this decision being made.

“It was originally scheduled for the arena to be open and operational for all users, including the Vikings, in time for the start

of the 2024-25 season,” stated NOJHL commissioner Robert Mazzuca.

“However, due to no fault of their own, the extended delays and the recent announcement by Elliot Lake city staff that the venue would remain closed indefinitely, a difficult choice had to be made,” provided Mazzuca.

“The entire NOJHL commends Elliot Lake team president Jef Jarmovitch and the entire organization, especially the players, who had aimed to persevere with the hopes of getting back in their venue and compete at home this season,” summarized the commissioner.

“We look to welcome them back to the league once it becomes feasible to do so.” With the announcement the following will take place:

- The remaining regular season games involving the Vikings will not be played, with the opposing teams being credited with 1-0 victories, and given two points in the standings.
- Every effort is being made to find new teams for the players to join and compete with for the remainder of the campaign, via the transfer of their playing rights, or other available transactions, prior to the NOJHL/Canadian Junior Hockey League roster deadlines.
- All player and goaltender statistics to this point will remain intact and credited to them.

Photo credit: Northern Exposures Photography

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OBITUARY



Rheal Richer - January 31, 1924- December 22, 2024. With heavy hearts we regret to announce the passing of our father Rheal Richer at St. Joseph's General Hospital, Elliot Lake, Ontario. He was 40 days away from his 101st birthday. Rheal was born in Massey, Ontario to father Amede Richer and mother Melanie Richer (Courtemanche) both predeceased. Rheal and his wife Marie-Ange (nee Labreche) had two daughters, Louise Richer (Ken Gilbert) of Walford and Clare Richer (Ken Snow) of Elliot lake. Grandfather to Jamie Rogers (Laura), Christopher Beckerton (Tiffany) and Marty Beckerton (Danielle). Great-Grandfather to Charlee, Jacob, Everett, Dylan and Ellie. Predeceased by siblings Loretta Hayes, Wilfred Ritchie, Clara Roach, Isadore Richer, Emile Richer and Leo Richer. Survived by many nieces and nephews. Special Uncle to Alex Richer and his wife Charmaine. Good friend to Betty Gilbert, predeceased. He lived a simple life. Enjoyed tending to his garden and farm animals. Always happy to share a good cup of tea to those who would stop by for a visit. Rheal will always be remembered for his ability to figure out how things worked and to fix them. If he couldn't get a part to fix it he would figure out how to make it. A Jack of all trades and master of none. As per his request there will be no memorial service. We would like to thank The Centennial Manor in Little Current for the care given to daddy during his stay with them. Thank you to Dr. Athena Nelson and Dr. Stirrett, St. Joseph's General Hospital, 3rd floor Manager, Katrina Engle, and staff for your care and compassion during daddy's final journey. *Although we smile and make no fuss. No one misses him more than us. And when old times we oft recall, It's then we miss you most of all.*

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