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March 12, 2024 Issue #11 - Volume 28

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## Espanola Snowmobile Club Honours Past Groomers



By Rosalind Russell - The Espanola Snowmobile Club held a gathering to open its new rest area and to honour two past volunteer groomers.

The late Alger Boucher and the late Ed Land were both long-time volunteers with the club and spent many hours grooming the trails within the club's jurisdiction.

The new warmup shack at the intersection of D Trail and C108D was formally opened, and plaques dedicated to the two men unveiled.

The club also extends a thank you to the businesses and volunteers who helped design and erect the new warming station.

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## A Letter Of Thanks From Kelsey, Alex, And Iris Mae McKechnie.



Luck was in our favour the week leading up to the event, as volunteers from the Lions Club worked with the weather, resulting in great outdoor skating conditions.

The 6.5hour skate-a-thon that took place on February 24th, 2024 celebrating Rare Diseases Day raised just over \$50,000 for Sick Kids Rare Disease Research and Initiatives. A number of donations were received online as well as at the event, including \$11,000 from the Espanola Lions Club- raffle and donations, and funds from various event day volunteers and activities, as well shirt sales.

A huge thank you to the community and our main day Skate-a-thon supporters including our friends and family, The Espanola Lions Club, The Town of Espanola and Recreation Centre, Our Children Our Future LaCloche EarlyON, Espanola Volunteer Fire Fighters, Espanola Home Hardware Building Centre, Espanola Coffee Roasters, Larissa McCulligh- MC Snips, Bailey Bouwmeester and Brandon Mailloux, Northern Ford, Carsonomatography, Caitlin Christakos-Artistry Ink, Buckin Firewood, and Johns Flower Shop, as well as Boogie Mountain and Seldom

Seen. Advertising support made possible by the Around and About, Moose FM and The Monitor, as well as OJ Graphix who also donated all the awareness posters at the event.

Many thanks also goes out to our Raffle and Skate-a-thon prize donors including Espanola Home Hardware, The Espanola Skating Club and Lions Club, Jordan Stephens-Revel Reality, Canadian Tire, Freshco, Tanners Independent Grocery, Mike Belanger, Ladies night out gals, The Town of Espanola, Betsy Gagon, Espanola Ski hill-Boogie Mountain, Espanola Golf Club, Moga Mania, Dave Gallant, Espanola Paper Kings, Sudbury Wolves and Sudbury 5 as well as Roles and Associates.

An extended thank you to buisness' that hosted activities prior to event day, contributing to the total amount raised including HOP fitness, Natasha Mack-Hot Mess Medium, Espanola Beer Store, and My Place Yoga Studio.

The Espanola Oval and Recreation Centre welcomed a couple hundred people during the Skate-a-thon. The volunteers, the community, and all the individuals who donated online or in person,

our registered skaters who helped gather donations, those who attended the event, and anyone who has continued to have us in their thoughts-We could not raise awareness of rare diseases without any of you. Of the over 7000 rare diseases,

only 5% have treatment and we are lucky enough to say that Iris' condition-Pompe Disease is included in this. We will continue to learn and advocate for the rare disease community, and those that are struggling to get a diagnosis or treatment.

SUDBURY PERFORMANCE GROUP PRESENTS

Sudbury Performance Group's second annual

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## CLE Appealing To Government For Help

**By Rosalind Russell** - Officials say Community Living Espanola is facing serious financial pressures and challenges. Executive Director Louise Laplante says the sector has not received a significant base funding increase from the province in 30 years and now, with soaring inflation, they are finding it hard to pay for necessities like food, heat, hydro, repairs, transportation, and other essentials. She adds every year they are faced with the decision of where they will need to reduce costs to their operational budget to avoid of a fiscal deficit.

Chair of the board, Kathryn Lewis, concurs adding an increase based on funding is long overdue so they are calling on the Ford government for an immediate 5% increase in base funding. Both Laplante and the board are also

asking the public to sign the #5ToSurvive petition to make sure their call for action is heard by the local MPP, Mike Mantha, and the province.

CLE operates a Group Living program consisting of two group homes, a Supported Independent Living program, a Community Participation Supports program, Host Family and Respite program as well as a Passport Services program.

They currently have 30 direct care staff and provide support for 42 individuals in all programs.

To learn more, visit [www.communitylivingontario.ca](http://www.communitylivingontario.ca), click on "Learn More", follow the prompts and insert your information into the email campaign form.

## Espanola High School Wins Two Silver At Music Competition

**By Rosalind Russell** - The Junior and Senior bands from Espanola High School brought home medals from the Northern Ontario Music Festival held in Sudbury. The Junior Band was awarded a Silver Standard with the Outstanding Contribution award going to Willow Hobbs for her hard work and dedication as

well as the improvisation she performed on the solo saxophone feature.

The Senior Band was awarded a Silver standard with Outstanding Contribution awards presented to Ty Shipton for his solid rhythm on the kit and to Lilly Tilston for her feature work on the piano.

## North Shore Shares In Forestry Biomass Projects

**By Rosalind Russell** - Nairn & Hyman Township and Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory is just one partnership that is receiving funding to develop a forestry biomass project.

The Government of Ontario announced it is investing \$60 million in the Forest Biomass Program.

Officials say the program funds projects that harvest more wood from Crown forests, increases regional economic growth and finds new uses for

underutilized wood and mill by-products. They add Nairn and Wiikwemkoong are receiving \$250,000 to pursue local community energy production by examining the feasibility of an advanced bio char/bio coal product that could be developed as part of a proposed pellet plant facility.

The project is now underway. For more information on the Forest Biomass Program, visit: [www.ontario.ca/page/forest-biomass-program](http://www.ontario.ca/page/forest-biomass-program).

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## ÉSC La Renaissance Students Ensure The Transfer Of 18,000 Speckled Trout Into A Favourable Ecosystem



Since the launch of the Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) in Environment at École secondaire catholique La Renaissance in September 2023, students are offered the opportunity to acquire a solid background of knowledge and skills specific to the environment sector. This program also prepares students for the transition from secondary school to apprenticeship training, college, the job market or university.

With the support of teachers and community partners, students have the opportunity to experience authentic learning through the school's fish farming initiative. As part of the project, students are responsible for observing the daily growth and anatomy of trout eggs, maintaining the fish farm and seeing the eggs through to hatching. In mid-February, the students travelled to McKerrow to ensure the transfer of 18,000 speckled trout to a suitable ecosystem.

"What a success! This initiative is an excellent way for SHSM students to acquire skills specific

to the sector, gain hands-on experience in this area of interest and contribute to the vitality of the environment," explains Jennifer Bernard, Principal of ÉSC La Renaissance.

Students can accumulate specialist credits on sector-specific knowledge and skills as well as cooperative education credits in the related field. They will also obtain a minimum of seven experiential certifications that provide an advantage when they are ready to enter the workforce.

"The SHSM in Environment is of interest to students considering a career in an environment-related sector such as forestry, energy, natural resources and ecology. Given the existing range of courses related to this SHSM and its existing partnerships, the school already holds a solid expertise in this sector. With its proximity to waterways, forests, Manitoulin Island and the La Cloche mountains, the school is proud to encourage students to pursue their passion in the environmental sector," stated Ms. Bernard.

## Espanola Lions Club Makes Donation To Espanola Minor Hockey



**By Grant Lewis** - On hand to receive their portion of round two of Catch the Ace are members of the Board/ Executive of the Espanola Minor Hockey Association plus the kids who just got off the ice after playing a team from Sudbury. There are over 160 players divided into 9 teams to organize for local and away tournaments. These volunteers are busy... fundraising, getting coaches and refs, confirming ice times and schedules, registering with the N.O.H.A. AND NOTHING IS FOR FREE THESE DAYS. That is why the Espanola Lions Club

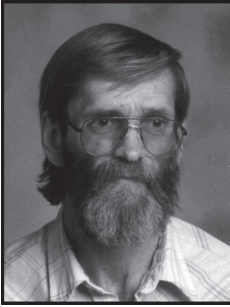
was thrilled to help out with a cheque for over \$14,000 to help out. This group sold an incredible number of C.T.A. tickets plus shared in the Lions Portion of the pot! Wine sales, bag and tag, 50/50 draws, and bake sales also help to defray the formidable expenses for this group. Kids pay between \$175 and \$600 to play, and pay for their equipment, travel costs, and registration to events. It is a busy time for kids, parents, and volunteers alike. A banquet in April brings the action to a close plus the A.G.M. on May 14th. A huge Lions Roar to the volunteers. Well done!

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## OBITUARY



**Keith Richard Gamble** – May 30, 1949 – February 16-2024. Passed away peacefully at home. Dear son of Erritt and Vera (Wilcox). Beloved husband of Deborah Lynn (Ferguson). Loving father of Keilyn Brianna. Survived by siblings Shirley Beange (Ches), Joan Alexander and Russell (Darlène). Predeceased by Elda Simms (Earl), Lillianne Dafeo (Glen). He was and electrician with IBEW-1687 for 47 years. Cremation has taken place and a graveside service will take place in July.



**McLeod – Dwayne (Dean)** of Toronto passed away at the Toronto Western Hospital on March 3, 2024 at the age of 54. Dear son of the late Raymond Lalonde & Betty Townshend. Loving father of Dwayne Jr. Gignac (Krista), Philip McLeod (Nicole) and Dean McLeod. Proud grandfather of Aydan, Sierra and Lydia. Dear brother of Lisa Millward Slater (Simon), Dan Townshend, Dale Townshend and the late Amanda. Also, will be sadly missed by many friends & relatives. Visitation will start March 7,

2024 at the New Community Centre, Sagamok at 11 AM. Funeral Service on March 9, 2024 in the New Community Centre at 11 AM with interment to follow in the New Sagamok Cemetery. Arrangements by BOURCIER FUNERAL HOME Ltd, Espanola



**Tabobondung – Jeannette (Gegwetch)** Oct. 3, 1951 – Feb. 27, 2024 of Sagamok passed away at the Espanola Regional Hospital at the age of 72. Dear daughter of the late Christopher (Da aawaa) & Victoria (nee Nahmiwan) Gegwetch. Beloved wife of Carl Tabobondung. Loving mother of Dawn Gegwetch, Cary Lee, Danny Dowdle, Patrick Gegwetch baa, Patricia Gegwetch baa and Bonnie Dowdle baa. Cherished by grandchildren Justin Tabobondung -Kahgee, Braden Kahgee, Lauren Gegwetch-Kahgee, Lucas Gegwetch-Kahgee, William Pegahamabow-Gegwetch, Selena Lee, Jasmine Lee and Jeffery Pegahamabow baa. Dear sister of Diane baa, Terry baa, Christine, Chester, Debbie, Carmen, Dean, Loretta and Milly. Missed by her Uncle Gordon Nahmiwan. Also, sadly missed by many friends & relatives. Visitation started on Thursday, February 29, 2024 at the New Community Centre in Sagamok at 2 PM. Funeral Service was on March 2, 2024 in the New Community Centre at 11 AM with interment following in the New Sagamok Cemetery. Arrangements by BOURCIER FUNERAL HOME Ltd, Espanola.



**PARADIS - Albert Joseph (Crow)** It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Albert Joseph Paradis on February 22nd, 2024, at the age of 82. Born December 6th, 1941 in Espanola Ontario, to the late Rémie and Marie Jeanne Paradis. Beloved husband of Thérèse (nee Maltais) (predeceased) and loving Father to Marcel (Sandy), Nicole and Laurent (Carrie). Proud Grandfather of Ashley, Kendra, Riley, Connor, Abigail, Amanda & Daniel, and will be greatly missed by all his great grandchildren. Dear brother of Marie (late Paul), Rose (late Andre), Eva, late Cécile (François), May (Noel), Jeannette (Benoit), Late Rita (André), Pierre (Phyllis), Pierrette (Allan). Albert will be greatly missed by friends and family, with a big thank you to all caregivers. Cremation with a Celebration of Life will be at a later date. Arrangements by BOURCIER FUNERAL HOME Ltd.

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### HELP WANTED

**HELP WANTED** – 1 - AZ DZ driver, local deliveries, no overnights. Farquhar's Dairy. Contact or email Stewart to apply. 705-862-0456. sfowler@farquhars.ca

### THANK YOU

**THANK YOU** – Zion Lutheran Church Women want to thank everyone who helped make our bean supper a success, the cooks, the servers, donations, the supporters, and dishwashers. Thank you.

## IN MEMORIAM

In Loving Memory Of

**Mike Gervais**

Mar 17, 1958- Mar 17, 2023

There was never a summer complete without a silhouette working in the driveway.

I always saw you first, before running up the stairs into the house. The garage door stayed propped open, I rarely saw it closed.

Even during thunderstorms the world seemed brighter with your presence. It was like working outside turned you into the sun.

Sometimes in life we have to learn to live at night. When there is no light to guide us.

It's like the storm took out the power lines and now we're left in the dark.

It never gets easier, but let us light candles to remember the brightness we once had.

We may not have the sun, but we will always have ways to keep the light going so long as we never forget to.

By Kit Gervais

Love always Pierrette, Shawn, Rob and family





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## COMMUNITY NOTES

**Espanola Elks St. Patricks Day Dinner & Dance** – March 16, turkey dinner: 5:00 p.m., Dance: 8:00 – 1:00 a.m. Take out available, call 705-869-1931.

**Espanola United Church Soup and Sandwiches** – Tuesday, March 18th, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**St. Jude Parish Catholic Church Lumber Luncheon** – Wednesday, March 20, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at St. Jude Hall. Homemade beans, ham, coleslaw, coffee/tea and dessert.

**Holy Week** – Palm Sunday, March 24, St. George's and the United Church will gather at 10:00 a.m. at the United Church. Maundy Thursday, March 28, United Church and St. George's will join together at 5:00 p.m. in the lower hall of the United Church. Good Friday, March 29, United Church and St. George's invite you to their joint service, 10:00 a.m. at the United Church. Easter Sunday morning March 31, service at 9:30 a.m. at the United Church and 11:00 a.m. at St. George's. Please note there is a ramp at the United Church building which leads to their worship space.

**Massey Area Museum AGM** – Thursday, March 21, 7:00 p.m. at the Museum in Massey. Seeking new volunteers to run for Office or hold a seat on the Board.

**Northshore Pins & Needles Quilting & Stitchery Guild** – Next meeting, Wednesday, March 27, 2024 at 7:00 pm at the Espanola Royal Canadian Legion. New members welcome.

**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

**North Shore Seventh-day-Adventist Church** – Saturday (Sabbath). Sabbath School 9:45 a.m. Divine Service 11:00 a.m. Bible Lessons available call 705-865-3013.

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

**Community Choir** – The Voices of Spring is starting Cup again. Rehearsals are at 10:30 am, Saturday mornings at St. Andrew's United Church, Massey. New members are welcome!

**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



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