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November 11, 2025 Issue #45 - Volume 29

The Fish Store

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Two Espanola Businesses Receive National Accolades



By Rosalind Russell - Two Espanola business owners are being acknowledged for their business initiatives.

Dan Vanier, the owner of Giant Tiger in Espanola, has won the 2025 Jean-Guy Desjardins Award, receiving recognition for his generosity, entrepreneurship and commitment at a reception held in Ottawa. The award is named in memory of Jean-Guy Desjardins, the first franchisee of Giant Tiger.

Vanier began working with Giant Tiger at multiple locations in 2000 before returning to Espanola and purchasing the local store. Espanola Home Hardware Building Centre has received not one, but two awards of

Continued on page two...

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COMMUNITY NOTES

Lee Valley Hall Music Jam - Saturday, November 15, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Everyone Welcome!

Soup & Sandwich Lunch - at the United Church of Espanola on the 3rd Tuesday of the month, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.. Everyone welcome.

Massey Legion Wing Nights - Thursdays 5:00 - 9:00 p.m. Wings, deep fried pickle spears, mushroom caps, onion rings, Cheese sticks

Massey Area Museum Bingos - at Massey Arena. New start time, Mondays, 6:45 p.m. Dates: Dec 1, Jan 5, Feb 2, Mar 2, April 13.

Webbwood Eagles #4269 Spaghetti Dinner - Saturday Dec. 6, Feb. 7, Mar. 7, April 4, May 2, June 6. Eat in or Takeout 4:30-6:00pm. Spaghetti, salad, garlic bread & desert.

Annual Walford Christmas Bazaar & Tea - Saturday, November 22, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. at the Walford community centre. Call 7058442887 for more info.

North Shore Quilting & Stitchery Guild: Next meeting - Wednesday, November 26, 2025 at 7:00 pm at the Espanola Royal Canadian Legion. New members welcome.

First Walford Christmas Vendors Market - Saturday November 29, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Call 7058442887 for details.

Christmas Tea & Bazaar - Saturday, November 29, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at the Espanola United Church, 137 Sheppard St. Fully Accessible.

Espanola Elks 49th Christmas Hamper - Saturday, November 29 from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at the Espanola Mall.

Zion Lutheran Church Massey Annual Harvest Dinner - Sunday, November 30, 4:30 - 6:00 p.m. Turkey dinner and all fixings, dessert.

Journey to Bethlehem - will happen this year on Dec 6 & 7. For more information or to volunteer please contact Elizabeth brown at 705 582 2010 or ebrown1645@gmail.com

Meat roll-offs - every Saturday at the Espanola Legion. 2:30 p.m. everyone is welcome.

Al-Anon - Not everyone Trapped by Alcohol is an Alcoholic. Family and Friends are suffering too. Meetings: Tuesdays at 7, St George's Anglican Church. 213 Tudhope St, Espanola on.

Free Community luncheon - at the light house 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month. 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Everyone Welcome.

The Remnant Call Church - Service: Sunday 10:30 a.m., Espanola Elks Hall; All welcome. Non denominational.

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

Rockin' Around The Christmas Oval

Saturday, November 22nd



10am - 8pm **Christmas Market and Bake Sale**

11am - 12pm **Free Skate with the Paper Kings**

11am - 12pm **Santa's Boogie Bash at the EPL**

12pm - 2pm **Free kids lunch & visit with Santa!**

2pm - 4pm **Free rec. swim**

Free events Sponsored by the Espanola Lions Club

5:30pm - 7:45pm Rockin' Around the Christmas Oval

5:30pm Skating Club performance in the arena

5:45pm-7:45pm Stationary holiday floats and displays around the Track & Field



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Continued from front page...

Two Espanola Businesses Receive National Accolades

distinction.
 The store has won the 2025 Beaver Homes & Cottages Store of the Year, and staffer Erik Carlson won the 2025 Beaver

Homes & Cottages Consultant of the Year, acknowledging its business acumen and dedication to customer service.
 Photos provided

Sables-Spanish Rivers Names Its Entrepreneur Of The Year



By **Rosalind Russell** - The Township of Sables-Spanish Rivers has named its Entrepreneur of the Year.
 The township hosted its business awards night on Wednesday naming Jessica

Rainville as the township's big winner.
 Rainville is the proprietor of Jessie's Design, a business she founded five years ago, which produces various articles of clothing and accessories.

She is also known for her volunteerism and avid support for other local businesses and organizations.

Rainville was presented with a plaque and flowers by Mayor Kevin Burke.

The evening was also an opportunity for businesses to network and highlight their challenges and successes of the last year.

Photo provided by the Rainville family

Step into the Wild P.Lynn Halliday

Not All who wander – At Home

Chapter four

"I don't know of any barns that you can see from the other trail. How could I have missed such a landmark?" I shook my head. "Well, there was no point in stopping now, and it's so nice to see something other than brush." I blazed ahead. "Yippee," I yelled. Jumping up and down in joy, I pointed ahead. "Who are you pointing for? Dah, fluff for brains." I laughed at myself as I chopped the last branch and stepped onto the trail in front of me. Wiping the sweat from my brow, I casually looked to my left, then to my right. I scratched my head. A puzzled look shone from my face. "Hmm, this doesn't look like the trail I was aiming for?" I turned a full circle. "Where am I? And look, someone has been cutting on my trails. There's a brand-new trail over to my right." Puzzled, I looked ahead. There was the barn roof that I had spied earlier and it belonged to a very familiar family—mine! I plopped down on a boulder beside the trail, head in hands. This was impossible. I jumped to my feet and looked to the right, then the left, then back down the trail that I'd just cut. It slowly dawned on me that I had arrived right back at the same trail where I began—a mere metre from the original starting point.

"Good grief. I've cut a complete circle in the bush—totally missing the trail I was aiming at." I shook my head in amazement.

I thought I knew where I was going. I thought I had

a plan, but, clearly without the proper equipment, an important component of good preparation, my plan fell apart. Looking up, I said, "Okay, Lord, I've learned this lesson." I grinned and headed for home. I giggled, as I considered my husband's reaction, to my latest adventure.

Not all who wander are lost...but sometimes we are. I'd have to find another mantra.

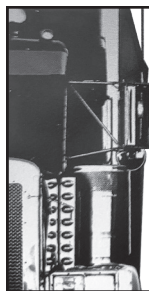
Shrugging, I headed for home.

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THANK YOU / CELEBRATION OF LIFE

We would like to thank our family, friends and the community for supporting us in the lose of our son Ryan. It was so appreciated.

Please join us for a Celebration of Ryan's Life

Friday November 21st

at the Espanola Legion

between 1-4 pm.

Thank you all. Tom & Alta

OBITUARY



MOKOHONUK, Bertha Ann - Of Espanola passed away October 27th, 2025, in her 89th year. Beloved wife of the late John Mokothonuk. Will be sadly missed by her family, friends & relatives. The family would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to Dr. Knox, the Palliative Care Team and Bayshore Home Care. Cremation with interment of ashes in the Espanola Cemetery at a later date. Arrangements by BOURCIER FUNERAL HOME, Ltd., Espanola.



In Loving Memory of Shirley Taylor - February 2 1947 – October 14 2025. Shirley always said she had a perfect life. There were always good friends and a good family close by. She was the heart and glue of our family - strong, loving, and always bringing us together. Born in Espanola on February 2nd, 1947, Shirley grew up with a deep appreciation for creativity, connection, and community. She met the love of her life, Ken Taylor on a blind date in 1966 and they were married within a year. Shirley is survived by Ken, her two sons, Bruce (wife Tracy), Curtis (wife Lisa) and her two grandsons, Sean and

Liam. She was predeceased by parents, Hazel & Rene Groleau and survived by her brother, Dave. Her love of gardening, drawing, cooking, and documenting our family history through photos added richness and warmth to our lives. Shirley had a remarkable talent for drawing and painting, often capturing the beauty of nature and her gardens with grace and detail. Her sketchbooks are filled with moments that reflect her love of nature, particularly Manitoulin Island. She also had a passion for preserving family memories, carefully organizing photographs and creating albums that told the story of generations. Her dedication to documenting our history has left us with a priceless legacy that we will treasure forever. She was a devoted wife/mother/grandmother/sister/friend, always putting others first and offering support with quiet strength. Her presence was a source of stability and love, and her absence will be deeply felt by all who knew her. Shirley's special request, anyone wishing to, in her memory, should send a flower to a loved one or plant a tree. A celebration of Shirley's life will be held on November 29th at Baldwin Recreation Centre (Snoopy's Landing, 9 Short Street, McKerrow) from 1 - 4 pm. Arrangements by BOURCIER FUNERAL HOME, Ltd., Espanola.

IN MEMORIAM



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sever, love and
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OBITUARY



It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of **Berthe Michon**, a devoted wife, mother, cherished friend, and loving soul, who left this world peacefully at home on November 2nd, 2025, in her 80th year. Born in Kirkland Lake, Berthe dedicated her life to her family, raising four beautiful children André (wife Stephanie, children Gabriel & Matthew), Lynn (daughter, Jenna Bourcier), Roxanne (husband Gregg, children Connor & Andrew Langlois), and Dan (wife Kristen, daughters Elizabeth & Ava) with unwavering love, strength, and grace. Her

days were filled with laughter, compassion, and a tireless commitment to nurturing those around her. Whether she was cheering from the stands at the arena or the bleachers at the ball field, overseeing her family in the pool, helping with homework, or simply offering a warm hug, her presence was a constant source of comfort and joy. Berthe had a gift for making everyone feel seen and heard. Her kindness extended beyond her family, touching the lives of neighbours, friends, and anyone fortunate enough to know her. She was known for her warm smile, her generous heart, and her ability to find beauty in the everyday. She also had a deep love for music and a beautiful singing voice that brought joy to many. For countless years, Berthe directed the church choir, sharing her passion and talent with her community. Her leadership and spirit uplifted every service, and her voice will echo in the hearts of those who sang beside her. A lifelong educator, Berthe taught for over 35 years, shaping the minds and hearts of generations of students. And in true teacher fashion, she never really stopped - continuing to guide and support her children and grandchildren as they pursued their own educations. It became a running joke in the family that even after retirement, "Mom was still grading papers and giving homework help." Above all, Berthe adored her grandchildren. They were the light of her life, and she loved them more than anything. Her pride in each of them was immeasurable, and she cherished every moment spent with them. Berthe was predeceased by her father Léopold Lamontagne and her mother Donalda Lamontagne (nee Carrière). She is survived by her loving husband Pete, with whom she shared 57 wonderful years of marriage, her children and their families as listed above, and her siblings: Laurette, Maurice, Marie-Ange, and Diane, as well as many nieces, nephews, and countless friends who will miss her dearly. A Funeral Mass will be held at St. Jude's Church in Espanola on Thursday, November 6th at 10:30 AM, followed by a Celebration of Life at the Royal Canadian Legion in Espanola from 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM. The family would like to extend a special thank you to Dr. Ainslie for her exceptional care and compassion. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the Canadian Lung Association, in honour of her lifelong dedication to helping others. Her memory will live on in the hearts of all who knew her. She was, and always will be, deeply loved. Arrangements by BOURCIER FUNERAL HOME, Ltd., Espanola.