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AROUNDABOUT Your Community Connection

PAPERWORKS OFFICE & ART SUPPLIES

The Little Paper That Makes A Big Difference

# AROUNDABOUT

Your Community Connection

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April 21, 2026 Issue #16 - Volume 30

## The Fish Store

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## Cheque to Espanola Minor Hockey

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By Grant Lewis - Once again, the Lions Club is pleased to support Espanola Minor Hockey to the tune of \$14,700. Coaches, parents and volunteers of this group certainly know how to sell those Catch the Ace tickets. At the time of writing, the regular season was over and a few tournaments remained to be played. The program started back in October and ended with a banquet and presentation of two important awards. Riley Polden was named Coach of the Year and Cait Aubrey was awarded Volunteer of the Year. But the 167 kids, coaches, and volunteers are all winners!!! This year Minor Hockey must incorporate and pay a \$9,000 fee plus lawyer fees etc. This applies to all minor hockey leagues who wish to remain associated with the Ontario Hockey Association. This is not a

*Continued on page two...*

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## Espanola Helping Hand Food Bank Receives Gift Cards To Support Clients



**Photo** - Espanola's FreshCo owner, Kim Gardiner, presented nearly \$9,000 in gift cards to the Espanola Helping Hand Food Bank. With that latest donation, the store has donated over \$17,000 to the food bank since the end of the year. Photo by Rosalind Russell – VISTA radio

**By Rosalind Russell** - Some of the volunteers of the Espanola Helping Hand Food Bank were on hand for a donation from a local grocery store. FreshCo owner, Kim Gardiner, presented gift cards totalling \$8,986.64 to support individuals and families, donating over \$17,000 to the food bank since the beginning of the year. Gardiner adds the

store runs various programs to support local groups throughout the year, and has just donated another \$4,200 for local school breakfast programs. Fundraising usually takes the form of baskets filled with goodies where the public purchases tickets with 100 percent of the proceeds going to local charity organizations.

## Espanola Bank Supports Hospital Foundation Training

**By Rosalind Russell** - The Espanola Regional Hospital & Health Centre has received a donation from a local bank for ongoing trauma training. According to the release, the Espanola branch of the Royal Bank provided \$10,000 to go towards the integration of TIDES, an acronym which stands for Trauma-Informed De-escalation and Engagement Strategies. The training also focuses on mental health & addictions education for Registered Nurses working in the hospital's Emergency Department.

Pictured L-R, Karen LaLonde, the Chair of the Espanola Regional Hospital Foundation Board Royal Bank Canada Branch Manager, Jean-Paul Fredette, Anna Love, the Vice-President of Clinical Services, and hospital CEO, Martins Lees. Photo provided



## Easter Seals Egg Campaign Does Well In Espanola And Sudbury



**By Rosalind Russell** - Easter Seals campaign for March was a big success in Espanola and Sudbury to assist local children with disabilities. The #UnstoppABLE® campaign is an initiative by Easter Seals, which takes place at Giant Tiger stores in Espanola and Sudbury every March. This campaign, part of the "March is Easter Seals Month" Around&About April 21, 2026 Page 4

celebrations, encouraged customers to purchase a paper egg icon for \$2, write their names on it, and display it at the store. Espanola's Giant Tiger raised \$2,698 while the Sudbury outlets on Lasalle Boulevard and Regent Street raised \$3,562. Photo of Easter Eggs from Espanola's Giant Tiger by Rosalind Russell

# PORKETTA BINGO



Sunday April 26, 2026

Espanola Curling Club

1pm - 4pm

3 strips for \$30  
Cash Bar

Join us for Porketta Bingo, the only bingo where dinner could be your prize!  
Grab your friends and enjoy an afternoon filled with fun, laughter, and delicious prizes.



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Continued from front page...

## Cheque to Espanola Minor Hockey

one time fee either. Every year from now on leagues ,large and small ,must pay \$9,000. Also this year, Espanola Minor Hockey was part of pilot project called Game Time Unity. The program is to make the hockey experience more positive for everyone; players, referees and parents. Also new this year was a female designated change room. One of the squash courts was

renovated to become an overflow room to gather, discuss, and relax in between games. On hand to receive the cheque are members of the Executive and a few players. We applaud all the effort and dedication of the coaches and volunteers. I'm sure everyone is looking forward to a well deserved rest but looking forward to a new season next October.

## Step into the Wild P.LynnHalliday

*Missinaibi Mishap  
 (town is spelled- Missanabie and River is spelled- Missinaibi)*

### Chapter Eight

We continued to paddle towards the campsite, even though it looked occupied. What else could we do? Suddenly up ahead, we saw the figure of a man standing on top of the bluff waving a towel at us.

“What do you think that he wants?” I turned around to look at Bob.

“Not sure, but it looks like he is beckoning us over. Let’s go, I could do with a rest, anyway.” We paddled to the shore, where mystery man, met us.

“Hi folks, I saw you struggling against those waves and figured that you might enjoy a bit of a rest and a cup of tea, before heading onward?” He was a scruffy looking fellow, perhaps about fifty years old, wearing an old tattered cowboy hat, army fatigues, and sporting straggly beard and longish hair.

I gulped—then I glanced down at myself. I was still very covered in mud, wearing my oldest, grubbier zip-pants and a faded plaid shirt. It was amazing he invited us—I looked worse than he. I turned to Bob.

His head gave a slight nod. “Sure, that

sounds terrific—thanks.” We pulled up our canoe and followed him, hesitantly up to his shelter. When we reached the camping spot, we were surprised to find an elaborate array of old parachutes over the entire camping area, providing shelter for his tent and cooking area. It was a terrific idea and one that we have since time copied. We sat around his campfire, gradually warming up inside and out. He introduced himself, as Norm.

“This is quite the setup that you have here—have you been here long?” I asked.

“Yep, since the end of April. This is my base camp, while I spy out the area for guiding opportunities,” he replied.

“Guiding? Are you starting some sort of business?”

“Yes, I’ve lived around this area for years and love it. In my late teens I went away to work at the African Lion Safari in Cambridge and worked there until a year ago, when I was mauled by a bear.”

Wide eyed—we just stared.

*Coming this spring: Step into the Wild  
 New Novel by P. Lynn Halliday  
 Disaster! Around the Bend and Goat Tails  
 – Kid Version*

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## Potentia Awarded Agreement - Next Steps

*By Rosalind Russell* - Potentia Renewables Inc. (Potentia) has been awarded a Power Purchase Agreement from Ontario’s Independent Electricity System Operator for its Massey Solar Project.

According to their statement, this is an important step forward for the project, which remains subject to final approvals and next-stage planning.

Once Potentia executes the agreement, the project will move into a detailed development phase, including comprehensive environmental studies and consultation with the local community before submitting a Renewable Energy Approval application to the Ministry of the Environment,


Conservation and Parks.

This process will assess potential impacts to groundwater, wetlands, wildlife, and other environmental features, with findings shared publicly.

The project has been sited on rural land outside designated agricultural resource areas and will deliver emissions-free electricity, along with local economic benefits such as construction jobs, increased municipal tax revenue, and a community benefit fund.

Potentia is committed to working closely with residents, Indigenous communities, and local stakeholders to listen to concerns and incorporate feedback as the project advances.

## CELEBRATION OF LIFE



**Colette Hearn**  
January 25, 1951 - January 31, 2026.

**Celebration of life**  
to take place at the Nairn Centre  
Community Hall 64 McIntyre Street  
**April 25, 2026**  
between the hours of 1pm-4pm.  
Celebration will start at 2pm.

## OBITUARY



**HOULE, Eddie (Edward)** - Of Espanola passed away surrounded by his friends and family on April 8, 2026, at the Espanola Hospital & Long Term Care. Dear son of Edward Fountain & Marie Leclair. Cherished father of Nathaniel and Cassandra, both of Espanola. Will be remembered by the mother of his children, Shelley MacMillan. Loving brother of Judy (Marcel), Kathy, Harvey (Laura), and predeceased by Kenny and Diane. He loved his siblings dearly. Eddie adored his children's dog, Nuana. He spoiled her and loved her immensely. She truly was his shadow. Eddie was a very talented, self-taught guitarist. He also worked for more than 40 years at the Mill (DomTar). He loved the outdoors—fishing, campfires, even working, if it was outside, he loved it. Will also be deeply missed by many nieces, nephews, friends and relatives. Memorial service will take place at the Bourcier Funeral Home, Espanola, on Saturday, April 18th, from 2:00 p.m - 4:00 p.m. Interment of ashes at a later date in the Espanola cemetery. Arrangements by **BOURCIER FUNERAL HOME, Ltd., Espanola.**

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## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

**CARPENTERS WANTED** - Seeking experienced Carpenters with attention to detail for new residential construction with Olivadel Developments in Espanola. Must be physically fit. Salary to commensurate with experience. To apply call 705-863-0487 or email office@olivadel.com.

## COMMUNITY NOTES

**North Shore Quilting & Stitchery Guild:** Next meeting – Wednesday, April 22, 2026 at 7:00 pm at the Espanola Royal Canadian Legion. New members welcome.

**Espanola Elks Trivia Night** – April 24, 8:00 p.m. at the Espanola Elks. Text 705-822-3733 to secure a table.

**Voices of Spring Concerts** – 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 25, Espanola United Church. 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 3, at the Lutheran Church, Massey. Admission is by Free Will Offering.

**Celebrating National Superhero Day** - at the United Church of Espanola Tuesday, April 28, 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. activities and snacks for all abilities and caregivers. Contact 705-869-1215 or ucespanola@eastlink.ca for information

**Seniors Sewing Club Craft Sale** – at the Espanola Mall, Saturday, May 2, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

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

**Mothers Day Pancake Breakfast** – Sunday, May 10, 9:00 a.m. – Noon at the Walford Community Centre. Door Prizes. Bake Sale. For more Info Call 705-844-2887

**Free Mini Hearing Clinic** – Thursday, June 11, 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the Espanola Elks Lodge, 539 Second Ave, in conjunction with the Espanola and Area Lions.

**Calvary Baptist Church** - God-Centered Engaging Worship, 10:30 a.m. Sundays. Youth Group 5:00 p.m. Thursdays. 599 Barber St.

**North Shore Seventh-day-Adventist Church** - invites you to join us on Saturdays (Sabbaths) 10:00 a.m. for Sabbath School, 11:00 a.m. Divine Service. 10 Menard Cres. Walford. For more info call 705-865-3013.

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

**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.

**Free Community luncheon** - at the Light House 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month. 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. 84 Centre St. 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



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