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August 4, 2026 Issue #31 - Volume 30

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Sagamok-Anishinawbek First Nation Enters Capacity Funding Agreement With Massey Solar Incorporated



By *Rosalind Russell* - Sagamok Anishinawbek First Nation has entered into a capacity funding agreement with Massey Solar Inc., an affiliate of Potentia Renewables Inc., to participate in the consultation process focusing on the Massey Solar Project.

According to band council, the Massey Solar Project focusing on building a large solar farm, is within the Township of Sables-Spanish Rivers about 14 kilometres outside of Sagamok's reserve lands.

However, it is within the First Nation's Area of Interest for Heightened Consultation, and overlaps with the (Wawaskagaming) Birch Lake area, which holds historic significance.

The capacity funding agreement provides the First Nation with the resources needed to properly evaluate the project before taking a position on the project with Massey Solar Incorporated providing the

Continued on page two...

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Third Annual Back-To-School Campaign Underway In Espanola And The North Shore

By Rosalind Russell - The school bell rings in just over a month and the Retail Council of Canada and Caddle are studying trends on the \$4.5 billion Canadian 'Back-To-School' market.

They say average household spending ranges from \$600 to \$750 per child when electronics are included.

The Sables-Spanish Rivers Libraries in Massey and Webbwood want to help out by hosting their Third Annual Back-To-School Campaign to offset the costs of school supplies for local families that have difficulty purchasing the required items.

Spokesperson Tracey Vandergulik says they were able to get enough donations last year

to assist 20 local area families. She says anyone wishing to make a cash donation or supplies, can contact her at the Webbwood Library.

The study also shows brick-and-mortar shops are tops for Canadian parents with 99% planning to shop in-store for Back-to-School essentials this year.

Meantime, price remains the number one driver of where parents make their first purchase of the season with 85% of parents actively seeking deals.

The survey also shows 61% of parents have already started Back-to-School planning or intend to begin soon.

With files from Richard Coffin

Public Information Session – Closure Of A Firehall In Nairn & Hyman Township

By Rosalind Russell - A special meeting of council and public information session will be held in September focusing on the closure of a fire hall in Nairn & Hyman Township.

Fire Chief Richard Austin carried out a comprehensive review of the Firehall Station #2 located in Sand Bay and is recommending it be closed.

He says the recommendation is driven by the lack of

volunteer firefighters available emphasizing operating a firehall without the minimum number of staff is a safety liability for that same staff.

He is recommending the fire hall be closed as of December 31 of this year.

Council will provide the public with an opportunity to discuss the situation at a special meeting of council to be held on September 3 at 7:00 p.m. at the municipal hall.

Annual Art Contest Underway By The Massey Area Museum

By Rosalind Russell - The Massey Area Museum is looking for entries to its annual art show and sale.

According to the museum, the Jessie Burnside Art Show & Sale will feature artwork in multiple categories from paintings to sculpture in several age categories by the deadline August 12th.

All registrations must be made online, the link is on our websites, and there is no registration fee this year.

The public will decide on the winners by submitting their votes.

The featured artist this year is Joanne Hache from Espanola, a multi-media artist who has focused on painting and Zentangle, a drawing method that uses structured, repetitive patterns ("tangles") to create small abstract artworks on 3.5-inch square tiles.

This year's curator is well-known artist, film maker and teacher, Jayson Stewart.

The online show opens on August 15th and runs until September 12 with awards presented on the 14th.

To register or for more information, visit:

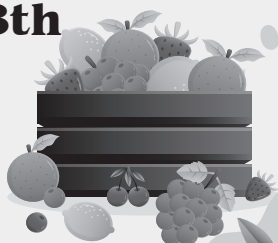
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COMMUNITY NOTES

St. George's Church - Hot Pulled Pork Dinner - August 28, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. Eat-in or take out. Contact Christina at 705-691-0971 or Jill at 705-862-1487 for tickets.

Learn to Knit - at St. George's Church starting on Monday, September 14, 6:00 p.m. Call Jill at 705-862-1487 with questions, or to register.

St. George's Church Soup and Sandwich lunches - first Tuesday of every month, beginning on September 1. Come and enjoy homemade soup at 213 Tudhope from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Massey Legion Meat Roll Off - Every Friday. Door opens at 5:00 pm. Roll Off starts at 7:00 pm. Pool table open! 50/50 draw! Everyone Welcome!

St. George's Anglican Church - New to Espanola or looking for a new faith community? Please join us at 213 Tudhope Street for worship service every Sunday at 10:00 am.

Calvary Baptist Church - Sunday worship 10:30 a.m. Care Closet: collections only Tuesday 11:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. & 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Wednesday 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Need kids clothes.

Church Services - St. Francis of Assisi, Walford, Saturdays 4:00 p.m. St. Lawrence the Martyr, Webbwood, Sundays 9:00 a.m. Immaculate Conception Parish, Massey, Sundays 11:00 a.m. Everyone Welcome

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.

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

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.

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.**
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Continued from front page...

Sagamok-Anishinawbek First Nation Enters Capacity Funding Agreement With Massey Solar Incorporated

financial support under the agreement. Sagamok Development Corporation (SDC) and the Claims and Negotiations Unit (CNU) are responsible for implementing the terms of the deal deploying local field monitors, reviewing technical reports and providing community members with opportunities to voice their opinion as Chief and Council work to take a position on the project. The date, time, and location for community information and engagement sessions will be provided when confirmed. Under section 35 of the Constitution, as well as several Supreme Court of Canada decisions, the Crown has a duty to consult First Nations when it considers policies and/

or projects that may impact Aboriginal and treaty rights.

Although governments hold the legal duty to consult, project proponents (companies) often carry out much of the procedural consultation on the Crown's behalf.

Governments and companies recognize that consultation cannot be meaningful if a First Nation lacks the resources to carry out the activities needed to evaluate a proposed policy or project.

As a result, capacity funding is now standard practice in Canada.

Photo of solar panels provided by Potentia Renewables Incorporated.

Step into the Wild P. Lynn Halliday

Disaster! Northern Ontario Adventure Series Story One Excerpts from Disaster! Around the Bend

In this book, Jan McLean, a perky little twelve-year-old tells the story of how she transitioned from Fear to Faith. She proves her heroine status both with animals and the events that she encounters, but the story of her journey begins with an odd friend—a Donkey, named Gaston. Enjoy.

Story #1 - Farm Funnies
 Donkeys have minds of their own
 "Special delivery for the McLean family. Anyone here want a donkey?" asked Farmer Dan.

"Mom, he's finally here," I said throwing my hands in the air, and jumping up and down.

"Jan, you sure are the excitable one of the McLean family. Probably because you are the youngest..."

"And best," added Jan, grinning.
 "A donkey?" roared Dave, Susie and Brad. (The rest of the McLean family). Mom and I folded over in laughter. Farmer Dan chuckled, slapping a glove against his leg.

"Hey, Dave. Don't you know what's going on at your own farm?"

A red flush flamed on Dad's face. He glanced at Mom, mumbling, "Another surprise?"
 "We could have told you he didn't like surprises," said Susie, watching Mom.

Farmer Dan observed the scene with a quizzical expression. He pushed his hat back onto his head. "I hope this works out—he's sure to be a handful." He chuckled as he moved to the back of the trailer, muttering under his breath. "This critter is the stubbornest animal I've ever handled." The outer doors banged open. Dad glowered at Mom. She shrugged, giving a nervous giggle.

"Remember the wild dog attack, how we nearly lost the sheep, how the goats weren't fierce enough, and we weren't quick enough—" She stopped speed-talking, mid sentence, when Dad's stony expression greeted her.

I looked from Mom to Dad. Something was wrong. Why wasn't Dad bursting with excitement?

Mom raised her head—determination shone in her eyes. "You needed help. I have provided it." She stomped over to the trailer, yanking down the tailgate. "Happy birthday, Dave."

Sighing deeply, he shuffled over. "Ya, happy birthday to me." He peered in— then whipped his head around. "Really?" Another sigh escaped. He shook his head. "A donkey—what next?"

**Book 1-Disaster! Around the Bend and
 Book 2-Disaster! Not my Plan**

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FOR SALE

FREE FIRE WOOD – 282 Bois St. Call Dave 705-862-1530. 8/4

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OBITUARY



The Family of **Margaret Strain** sorrowfully announce her passing peacefully on Sunday, July 19, 2026, surrounded by family and loved ones. She is survived by Ross, her loving husband of 50 years, daughters, Sue, Nancy and Sharon, 6 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, 2 great-great-grandchildren, sister Hazel Ruehle, brother Don Tenniswood and wife Venus, and many loving in-laws, nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. Her brother Dave Tenniswood and sister Olive Matheson have preceded her in death. The

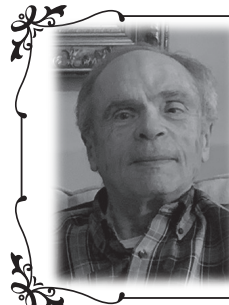
love, support, and genuine sympathy being given is strengthening. Deepest Thanks to those who were able to attend her Celebration of Life. Marge believed that no one should go hungry and we are honoring her with donations to the Community Luncheons in Espanola, hosted by The Lighthouse. Please designate the gift as For Luncheon The Lighthouse Church, 84 Centre Street, Espanola, Ontario, Canada P5E1S4. Margaret's Memorial Stone will be in Gordon TWSP Cemetery. We will all always love and remember you. Rest sweetly now in the arms of Jesus, our Savior.



Judith Deline at 78 years old passed peacefully at the Espanola Regional Hospital on July 23, 2026. A home town female entrepreneurial legacy, whose laugh could fill a room and had the most giving spirit. Judith was the beloved wife of the late Victor Deline (2015), daughter to Elsie & William Landrie. Judy will be greatly missed by her family, friends and her work family at Veteran's Transportation. A Celebration of Life was held at the Espanola Legion on Friday, July 31, 2026. Donations can be made to the Espanola Nursing Home,

where Judy volunteered and contributed to over the years. Arrangements by BOURCIER FUNERAL HOME, Ltd., Espanola.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE



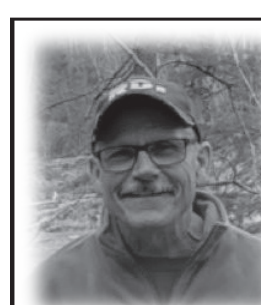
A graveside memorial will be held for

Richard Duranleau

on August 15, 2026 at 11:00 a.m.
at the Espanola Cemetery.

A lunch will be held at the
Elks Hall following the burial

THANK YOU



Thank you!

Our family would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to everyone for the overwhelming love, kindness, and support shown to us following the sudden passing of Robert (St. Amour)

Thank you for the many cards, messages, visits, meals, prayers, and countless acts of kindness, your compassion and thoughtfulness have brought us comfort

during this incredibly difficult time, and have reminded us how fortunate we are to be surrounded by such caring family and friends.

With our sincere Appreciation
Susan St. Amour & Family



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