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January 20, 2026 Issue #3 - Volume 30

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75th Espanola High School Committee Sets Events



By Rosalind Russell - Members of the 75th Anniversary Espanola High School Committee have solidified plans for the gathering this coming July.

Co-chair Richard Foucault says Friday night, July 3rd will be a wine and cheese night adding the reunion anniversary celebrations will be centralized at the Espanola Regional Recreation Complex. He says registration will take place from 6 pm to 10 pm.

Co-chair Bernadette Houle says on Saturday, July 4th, the opening ceremonies acknowledging local volunteers and alumni to mark the 75th anniversary will be held at 11 am.

She adds in the evening, attendees will have the opportunity to attend a dance and the closing ceremonies.

Foucault says the pre-registration will start on April 15th with forms emailed out to those who expressed an interest in attending with a closing date of June 1st. Other reunion events will be finalized over the next couple of months.

The next meeting of the committee is set for February 3rd.

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Espanola Council Approves Quote To Complete The Squashing Out Gender Inequality Project

By *Rosalind Russell* - multi-use space utilizing Espanola council has given both squash courts. its approval to a quote for the Squashing Out Gender Inequality Project. Manager of Community and Recreation Bailey Bouwmeester says the town was successful in securing funding for \$96,500 to update the recreation centre's underutilized squash courts. He says staff identified the need for improved female change room space as well as additional meeting room capacity and combined these requirements into a flexible, Council approved the tender from Quantum Builders for \$35,593.87, which must be completed with the next six weeks to receive the grant.

COMMUNITY NOTES

North Shore Quilting & Stitchery Guild: Next Meeting – Wednesday, January 28, 2026 at 7:00 pm at the Espanola Royal Canadian Legion. New members welcome.

Massey Area Museum Bingos - at Massey Arena. New start time, Mondays, 6:45 p.m. Dates: will resume again Feb 2, Mar 2, April 13.

St. George's Anglican Church - Community Soup and Sandwich Lunch Tuesday, February 3, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Takeout Pierogi and Meatball Dinner Saturday, February 7, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. while supplies last. 6-week Learn to Knit course beginning Monday, February 2. Contact 705 862-7445 for more info

Espanola Elks Winter Elimination Draw – February 6, 4:30 – 7:30 p.m. (dance from 9:00 - 1:00 a.m.) Spaghetti & Meatballs, Salad, buns, desert. For tickets call 705-869-7994 or 705-869-8653.

Webbwood Eagles #4269 Spaghetti Dinner - Saturday Feb. 7, Mar. 7, April 11, May 2, June 6. Eat in or Takeout 4:30-6:00pm. Spaghetti, salad, garlic bread & desert.

Espanola Public Library – Lens & Lines: an afternoon photography and poetry exhibit with local artist Jacqueline Rivet on February 12 at 2:00 p.m.

Annual CWL Pancake Breakfast – Sunday, February 15, 8:30 - 11:30 a.m. at the Walford Community Centre. 402 Hwy 17. Bake Table. Door Prizes. Call 705-844-2887 for details

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

Voices of Spring - If you enjoy singing, then join us on Saturday mornings at St. Andrew's United, Massey from 10:30 - 12 pm. New and former members are most 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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Step into the Wild

P.LynnHalliday

Not all who wander— in South Carolina Chapter Two

Off I went. I am very aware of my propensity for getting lost, so I was determined that it would not happen on this trek. As I stepped out of the door, I looked very closely at the house to the right and noted that there was no house—just a field on the left. Across the street was a plain two-story house, with brown shutters. Peering down the road, it seemed that the best way to go was right, so I headed that way. This cul-de-sac had fairly upscale houses, on decent sized lots with cultivated flower beds and paved driveways. Before very long, I reached a dead-end and had to turn around. Within fifteen minutes I was back at my starting place.

“Harumph,” that walk was much too short—I usually walked for an hour. Looking to the left, I decided that it would be equally safe to go that way, so I headed off. This time, the view was different. Gone were the prissy houses on nice lots—instead there were fields, barns, trailers and flags, everywhere.

Every fallen down porch had a flag and at least one goat on it.

“What a strange place this is,” I thought. “On one side of the side road, you had mansions and riches and on the other, homesteads and goats—plus flags.”

It wasn't long before this road also dead-ended, so I turned around, again. The sun still hadn't shown its shining face—lots of time left. There was another side road up ahead and I figured that I would head down this country road, then take the first cutoff to the right, then venture along that road to the first cutoff to the right, and lastly venture along that road to the first cutoff to the right and I would be back where I started because that was a square! The theory was very sound, but unfortunately the execution was a bit flawed.

**Coming this spring: Step into the Wild
 New Novel by P. Lynn Halliday
 Disaster! Around the Bend and Goat
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Unexpected Zamboni Problem Leads To Neighbourly Gesture



By Rosalind Russell - Skating and related programs are resuming at the Espanola Regional Recreation Complex, thanks to

the generosity of a neighbour. After an unexpected breakdown of the Zamboni earlier last week, the town had to cancel its skating programs including hockey.

However, the Town of Blind River has come through providing their ice resurfacer to Espanola until the repairs are complete.

It was transported to Espanola on Tuesday and the regular skating and hockey schedules resumed yesterday.

It is not known how long the repairs will take, so the town appreciates the assistance of their neighbours.

Photo: Town of Espanola

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Thank You

The Lighthouse would like to thank the people of Espanola for their generous support of the annual Community Christmas dinner. Whether through donations or the hard working volunteers, it is greatly appreciated. A special thank you to the Legion for the use of their space. We served and sent home over 160 meals, carols were sang and a great time was had by all. It's wonderful to be part of such a caring community.

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OBITUARY



Sunrise -March 24 1953, Sunset - January 2nd 2026. **John Marcel Wright -Mai'ingan.** Son of Fred Makadebin (Baa) & Madeline Wright (Baa). Husband to Gayle Wright (Ritchie). Father to Jamie Wright, Kelly Wright (Simon), Tanya Wright (Dennis), Sabrina Wright (Archie). Loving Grandfather to Donovan, Trent, Candace, Gavin, Ashton, Holden, Tiana, Conner, Dallas, Kade, Ryder, Brayden. Great Grandfather to Azina, Benjamin, Anikan (Baa), Levi. Brother to Myna Toulouse (Theodore), Linda Toulouse (John), Sandra Corbiere (Sam Baa), Leona Sinobert -Baa, Leo Makadebin (Liz), Peter Makadebin. He leaves many nieces, nephews, and special friends who will miss him dearly. Resting at the Sagamok New Community Hall January 5th 2026 3:30pm. Ceremony and Traditional Feast followed at 6:00pm. Traditional Funeral Service was on January 6th 2026 11:00am Sagamok New Community Hall. Ride fast! Baa Maa Pii. Arrangements by BOURCIER FUNERAL HOME, Ltd., Espanola.



Reverend Edith (Lyn) Heeley Of Massey passed away at Health Sciences North on January 9, 2026, at the age of 81. Beloved wife of Reymond Heeley. Dear daughter of the late Charles & Yvonne (nee Ethier) Tomlin. Loving mother of Christian (Wendy) of Halifax, Yvonne of Cambridge, Ted of Espanola, & the Late Patrick (2022). Cherished grandmother of Michael, Justin, Jesse, Sarah & Joshua. Dear sister of Patricia, Ted, Bill, and the Late Henry. Lyn was a devoted & proud Minister for the United Church, serving for many years in Massey and Blind River. Will also be missed by many friends and relatives. Cremation with a celebration of life at a later date. Arrangements by BOURCIER FUNERAL HOME, Ltd., Espanola.

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