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September 8, 2026 Issue #36 - Volume 30

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Jump Day At Espanola High Welcomes Niners



By Rosalind Russell - It was a full house at Espanola High School for their annual Jump Day welcoming grade niners and new students to the school.

Teachers were available to talk about class schedules, provide tours, help find lockers and answer questions from parents and students.

The tour included not only the classrooms, but also the many special

Continued on page two...

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Flag-Raising Marks September As Childhood Cancer Awareness Month



By Rosalind Russell - Espanola Mayor Doug Gervais welcomed his council, municipal staff and supporters to the raising of the flag marking September as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. Moose Morning host, Rosalind Russell, who also sits on the Northern Ontario Families of Children with Cancer Gold Soiree Committee, spoke of the supports the organization provides to children and their families throughout Northern Ontario, followed by the

raising of the gold ribbon flag. She also highlighted the support of the local community, including Aiden Kallioinen and Jill Beer, who are running and walking in support of the upcoming Heart of Gold Radiothon, set for Thursday, September 17th. The Beer Store is also collecting empties throughout the month. For more information on the NOFCC, visit: nofcc.ca Photos by Rosalind Russell/Aidan Kallioinen

Massey Fair New Ambassador Focusing On A Career In Veterinary Medicine



By Rosalind Russell - The Massey Agricultural Society Ambassador for 2026 is focusing on a career in veterinary medicine. Seventeen-year-old Jasmina Capan, a graduate of Espanola High School, is off to veterinary school this September with a crown in hand. Capan, who was active in school politics throughout high school, is also known for her volunteerism, including a stint at the Sagamok Spay and Neuter Clinic. She says she was raised on a

horse farm for most of her life, but in recent years she worked in dairy, which sparked her interest in becoming a vet. Capan will not only represent the society at various events throughout the year, but she will also represent the region at the Canadian National Exhibition Ambassador Competition in 2027. Photo: Jasmina Capan, the new Massey Agricultural Society Ambassador for 2026, was crowned on Friday evening at the opening of the annual Massey Fair. Photo by Rosalind Russell

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Continued from front page...

Jump Day At Espanola High Welcomes Niners



facilities in the school, including woodworking, manufacturing, home economics, auto shop and more. The visit capped off with a barbecue and

social hour.

The first day of school is today, Tuesday, September 8.

Photos by Rosalind Russell

Step into the Wild P. Lynn Halliday

Disaster!
Northern Ontario Adventure Series
Camp Escapades – Story One –
Mopsy learns a lesson

Chapter One

Strange as it may seem, a person who becomes a counselor at most camps must change their name to a camp name and Camp ABK is no different. One of Jan's counselors had a head full of very wild, uncontrollable hair so her nick name was Mopsy. Chapter One is Mopsy's first opportunity to teach a valuable lesson for life. Jan, Ryla and Christine are all cabinmates and are sitting in the cabin before bed listening to Mopsy explain the message of the day..

"We don't often think of hardship in life as a good sign, I sure didn't, when I was younger. We think that when things go wrong, God is against us, and that's exactly what I've felt for most of my life. Our culture usually celebrates the strong and successful ones; these people overcome hardships by their own abilities

and strength— just like you were saying, Ryla. We have been taught to 'just do it'—but our natural success and talents can get in the way of learning the lessons of life. When we are weak and helpless, then we are ready to rely on strength that is greater than our own. I didn't really understand this until a few years ago when I went for a hike with some friends of mine beside the Spanish River, not far from here.

The day was hot, and the river looked inviting. We sort of dared each other to take a quick dip but we knew it would be cold and dangerous because it was early April, just after the ice had melted from the river. No one wanted to admit that they weren't brave enough to do this, so the challenge was accepted.

Book 1-Disaster! Around the Bend and
Book 2-Disaster! Not my Plan
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Espanola Council Approves 2025 Financial Statements

By Rosalind Russell - Espanola is in good financial shape according to an auditor's report based on the 2025 financial statements released on Tuesday.

Municipalities in Ontario must prepare audited financial statements to ensure transparency and accountability in financial management.

For the 2025 audit, the Town appointed Pahapill and Associates Professional Corporation, which conducted a thorough review.

According to the report, the town recorded total revenues of \$22.7 million compared to budgeted revenues of \$17.3 million. Government transfers totalled \$6.75 million, significantly exceeding budget as several major capital grants were recognized during the year.

Total expenditures were \$18.0 million, resulting in the reported annual surplus of \$4.7 million. The Town's financial position also strengthened during 2025, with cash increasing from \$5.53 million to \$6.03 million and long-term debt decreasing by \$346,477.

Net financial assets increased

from \$75,130 to \$1.16 million, and tangible capital assets increased by \$3.5 million to \$76.4 million.

According to the auditors, the results demonstrate continued investment in municipal infrastructure while maintaining a stable financial position.

However, they noted the town faces a financial challenge due to historically underfunded reserves, particularly in infrastructure-related service areas.

By continuing to rebuild reserve balances and align annual contributions with lifecycle replacement requirements, the town will be better positioned to manage future infrastructure demands, reduce reliance on debt financing, and preserve financial flexibility for future councils.

<https://pub-espanola.escrimetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=14011>
<https://pub-espanola.escrimetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=14012>

Council Approves Purchase To Help In Emergency Water Main Breaks

By Rosalind Russell - When a water main breaks in winter, it can be much harder to repair because of the frozen ground, according to Espanola Public Works Superintendent Dave Parker.

Parker asked council for their approval to spend just over \$36,000 for a pin grabber and hydraulic breaker.

He says a hydraulic breaker is an attachment to an excavator or backhoe used to break frost, concrete, and rock, while the pin grabber allows for the quick change of attachments.

He explains that during

emergency water main repairs in the winter months, the equipment is required to penetrate the frost at the road surface to excavate down to the broken main.

The equipment was approved for nearly \$33,000 in the 2026 budget, so the balance will come from reserves.

Council approved the expenditure, and Parker has been given the go-ahead to purchase the equipment from Toromont Industries Limited for \$36,140.00 (2-year warranty).

Baldwin Township Is Preparing To Celebrate 100Th Anniversary



By Rosalind Russell - 2027 is not that far away, so the Township of Baldwin is beginning its 100th anniversary celebration with a photo contest highlighting the diversity, history and beauty of the municipality.

According to the township, the contest is now open, and the winning photos will be selected through a blind vote to keep the judging fair for everyone.

Every month in 2027, a winning photo will be

featured as the Township's Facebook cover photo and in the Township's 2028 calendar (with photo credits given to the photographer).

All submitted photos will also be featured in an online gallery to showcase the community's talent.

The contest is open to everyone; send photos via email to admin@baldwin.ca.

Poster provided by Baldwin Township

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FOR SALE – RV for sale. 2022 Forest River Sun Seeker 2500TS. Excellent condition, fully automated, 3 pull outs. To view come to 428 St. Joseph Street, Espanola. & for more information call 249-999-0095. \$59,000.00. 9/22

OBITUARY



It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of **Jo-Anne Arbour (nee Donofrio)**. Beloved wife of the late Denis Arbour, Jo-Anne was the loving mother of Tony, his wife Janis and Paul, his wife Kathleen. She was a cherished grandmother to Mea (Tony), as well as Joey, Anne, Adrienne, and Jeanette (Paul). Jo-Anne is survived by her dear sister Sharon Carricato, and sister-in-law Donna Donofrio, and is reunited in peace with her late brothers Henry and Frank, and sisters Irene Fragale, Mary Schwartz, and Cecilia. A devoted member of the Catholic Women's League (CWL) and an active presence in the Espanola community, Jo-Anne's faith, kindness, and dedication to serving others will be fondly remembered by all who knew her. A graveside service will be held Friday September 25th, 2026 11h00 at the Espanola Cemetery. This will be followed by a luncheon at the Elks Hall. Arrangements by BOURCIER FUNERAL HOME, Ltd., Espanola.

THANK YOU

Thank you

Michael and I would like to extend our sincere appreciation and gratitude to all those who took the time to honor my dear husband and his father at his celebration of life. A special thanks to Paula Cochrane for being there for me throughout the entire process. A special thanks also goes out to Judy Gallagher who guided me along the way from the time of Reg's illness til the end and for her famous butter tarts. Thanks also goes out to Valerie Brill, Lynda Ramsey, Jim Rose, and to all of you who donated to the service, in case I forgot you, I am sorry. Sincere thanks to the Espanola Legion for getting us out of the rain by giving us a place to honor Reg. To those who had to travel I thank you for your dedication. There were many stories about Reg being passed around and giving people a chance to smile through their sadness. Thanks for being there for me and- my family and making it a little easier. I love you all.

NOTICE - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Community Living
Espanola

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday, October 5th, 2026 – 7:00 p.m.
At CPS ~ 345 Centre Street, Espanola
(Thornloe Street entrance)

A membership must be purchased prior to **September 25th, 2026** in order to be eligible to vote at the 2026 AGM. Memberships can be purchased for \$3 by calling Debbie at 705-869-0442 ext 21. (etransfers will be accepted)

If you are interested in becoming a Board Member for Community Living Espanola, please contact Debbie at 705-869-0442 ext 21 for further information.

Kathy Lewis, Chair

*Obituaries • In Loving Memory
Thank You Ads • Births or Birthdays
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To place your announcement call or email
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NOTICE



SALE OF LAND BY PUBLIC TENDER THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SABLES-SPANISH RIVERS

Take Notice that tenders are invited for the purchase of the lands described below and will be received until 3:00 p.m. local time on October 7, 2026, at the Township of Sables-Spanish Rivers Municipal Office, 11 Birch Lake Road, Massey, Ontario.

Description of Lands:

1. Roll No. 52 18 000 008 06800 0000; 290 IMPERIAL ST. N, MASSEY; PINs 73423-0431 (LT) & 73423-0432 (LT); File No. 24-02;
Minimum Tender Amount: \$22,713.34
2. Roll No. 52 18 000 010 07900 0000; 17 YOUNG ST., WEBBWOOD; PINs 73413-0187 (LT) & 73413-0397 (LT); File No. 24-03;
Minimum Tender Amount: \$63,569.80
3. Roll No. 52 18 000 010 18100 0000; 2 ALGOMA ST., WEBBWOOD; PIN 73413-0062 (LT); File No. 24-05;
Minimum Tender Amount: \$7,835.44

Except as follows, the municipality makes no representation regarding the title to, crown interests, or any other matters relating to the lands to be sold. Any interests of the Federal or Provincial Crown encumbering the land at the time of the tax sale will continue to encumber the land after the registration of the tax deed. Responsibility for ascertaining these matters rests with the potential purchasers. This sale is governed by the Municipal Act, 2001 and the Municipal Tax Sales Rules made under that Act. A full copy of the tax sale advertisement and further information about this matter is available online at www.OntarioTaxSales.ca or you may contact Ruth Clare, Treasurer, The Corporation of the Township of Sables-Spanish Rivers, 11 Birch Lake Road, Massey ON P0P 1P0, Telephone: 705-865-2646 ext 225, Email: rclare@sables-spanish.ca

COMMUNITY NOTES

Lee Valley Autumn Leaves Music Jam – Saturday, September 12, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. at the Lee Vally Hall.

All are Welcome Messy Church - Espanola United Church, Monday, September 14, 4:30 p.m. worship, dinner and activities. Contact ucespanola@eastlink.ca or 705-869-1215 for info.

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.

Sables-Spanish Rivers Twp All-Candidates Night - Join us at the Webbwood Eagles on Thursday, September 17, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. for the first of 3 events to ask questions and hear from your municipal election candidates.

North Shore Quilting & Stitchery Guild: Next Meeting – Wednesday, September 23, 2026, 7:00 p.m. at the Espanola Royal Canadian Legion. New members welcome.

Espanola Elks Trivia Night – September 25, 8:00 p.m. Text 705-822-3733 to secure a table.

Women of Faith Luncheon – Saturday, October 3, 11:00 a.m. at the Espanola Seniors Complex. For Tickets call: Evelyn 705-869-3561 or Marilyn 705-849-5095

Espanola Elks Elimination Draw, Dinner & Dance – October 24, 4:30 p.m. – 1:00 a.m. Perogies, baked beans, pulled pork, buns & dessert. For tickets please reach out to a local Elks member or message on Facebook.

Massey Legion Meat Roll Off - Every Friday. Door opens at 6:00 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 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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