

The Westend Weekly

Bringing Communities Together



Box 66, Rainy River, ON POW 1L0 Ph. 852-3815, FAX 852-1863, e-mail: westendweekly@tbaytel.net - Serving the District for 17 years VOL. 18, NO. 4 Wednesday, April 22, 2009
 If you ever forget to pick up the paper, read it on line at www.westendweekly.ca

Rainy River Skate Park receives funds



Fund raising began a little over a year ago when Ashley Stamler, left, accompanied by her son Kayle, sprang off the ice into the frigid waters of Rainy Lake during the 2008 Polar Plunge in Fort Frances, raising funds and community interest. Megan Shanks, right, Rainy River Rec Director has taken the reins and secured a \$10,000 cheque from Hydro One. The cheque was presented last Tuesday by Hydro One representative Brent McQuaker from the Fort Frances Operations Center. Fund raising projects will continue but anyone who would like to help get the project underway with a financial donation is welcome to contact Megan at the Rec Centre or Ashley at the C.I.B.C. in Rainy River. The kids would love to get started!

Rainy River Trade Show promises something to tickle everyone's fancy

by Don Ricci, Rainy River and District Chamber of Commerce President
 Things are really looking good for this year's Trade Show. Over 60 different organizations, businesses and government agencies are represented. We have a full house with booths lined up in the Community Centre foyer as well. There are many small businesses represented which makes this an excellent opportunity to shop locally. Crafts, art, antiques, and much, much more will be available. The local Farmer's Market will be there with their craft work and fine cooking. Food

booths, where a great smoke, cheese burger or an excellent Chinese meal will be available for your dining pleasure. To top this off, I am told that one booth is going to provide a variety of scrumptious pies. What a way to finish off a great meal. Do you need to get your passport looked after, or are you planning on applying for your Canada Pension? Services Canada and Services Ontario will be there to give any help needed. Many other agencies will be setting up to let you know of the many services available to help you out. John Rafferty, our local Federal MP, and Howard

Hampton, our Provincial representative will be around for the day. Drop in to their booth and have a friendly chat. If the weather holds out you might even see a vintage car from "Classic Cars" lined up outside the arena. Take a good look and let the memories flow. We are looking forward to a great crowd this year. We were so proud of the many who braved one of our worst snow storms to come last year. This year we are trying to make it a lot easier for you. See you there.. Maybe you will be the one who will win \$500.00 worth of Chamber dollars to spend at any Chamber business.

Somebody's not paying attention to fishing regulations!



At lunch hour on Sunday this hungry otter took a seat at the end of the dock. Suddenly he leapt off and reappeared pulling a great big (about 16") fish out of the water. As he enjoyed his first few bites a seagull appeared, then two, then about 20 circled overhead and began to swoop down at him. He jumped off the dock, his little nose peeked up, he took hold of the fish by the tail and "yoink!" the fish disappeared over the side. Seagulls don't seem to have much patience because they left right away. After a minute, the little nose peeked up behind a log next to the dock, a pause, then in a flash he was up on the log, then a loud "splat" and his meal was once again in front of him. The seagulls didn't return so he enjoyed quite a leisurely lunch. He didn't mind us watching from quite close as he munched away, looking over to acknowledge us every so often. And then he was off, leftovers in tow, perhaps taking home dinner to the wife and kids. Boy it's fun to live on the Rainy River!

We hate to blow our own horn but this is special

by Marlene Deschamps
 The Royal Canadian Legion Branch #29, Fort Frances held an Awards Banquet and Initiation Day on Saturday, April 18th. On hand were members who received pins and bars for their years of service to the Branch. There were several members who could not attend but will still receive their pins. Receiving 20 year pins were: Ann Watson (who also received a certificate of appreciation), Ken Desjardins and Douglas Derendorf. Receiving 25 year pins were: Doug Boyd and Drew Kaliska. Receiving 30 year pins were: Milton Gluehisen, Ed Kivimaki, Stan Ward and William Inkster. Receiving 35 year pins were: Irvin Eisenhauer, Paul Pirie and Robert Bagacki. Receiving a 50 year pin was: Ed Campbell. Receiving 55 Year bars were: Robin Bowes and Howard

Costello. Receiving 60 Year bars were: Richard Collett Sr., John Demianiw and John Fedoruk. Receiving a 65 Year bar was: Wm. Sambo Fedoruk. Ray Watson received a certificate of Appreciation Branch #29 President, Noris Piccinato, then called me, a complete surprise, to be pre-

sented with the Royal Canadian Legion Media Award. The Royal Canadian Legion Media Award has been established to recognize newspapers and radio and television stations who support the activities of Legionnaires at Branches, Zones, Districts of Provincial Commands with their work in the community. The inscription states "It is my honour, on behalf of all members of the Royal Canadian Legion to recognize the outstanding support that Ms. Marlene Deschamps and The Westend Weekly have provided to Fort Frances (Ont No.29) Branch, The Royal Canadian Legion." The award presented was the Royal Canadian Legion National Media Award and was signed by Jack Frost, Dominion President. What an honour to accept this marvelous award on behalf of myself and The Westend Weekly.



Marlene Deschamps

Road checks are on



Sr. Const. Don Haner, pictured above, will tell you they aren't in this to make money on tickets the purpose is to save lives.

by Marlene Deschamps
 Sgt. Scott Gobeil would like to remind drivers that the OPP do regular ride checks across the province on almost a daily basis. They are focusing on the Spring Seat Belt checks program that runs from April 15-26th but the need to drive safely and comply with provincial laws are what all drivers should be practicing on an ongoing basis. The ride checks for the Spring Seat Belt Campaign have seen 500 vehicles checked in the Kenora area and similar numbers in other districts throughout Northwestern Ontario. The stats for the Rainy River District will be released shortly. Another reminder from the OPP is to remove studded tires. The Highway Traffic Act states that studded tires must be removed as of April 30th.

Rainy River Trade Show

Saturday, April 25
10 am to 5 pm

It's the BIGGEST Show this end of the district has ever seen!

Support local merchants, artisans and crafters

\$500 in Chamber Gift Certificates

Food Booths & Prizes

Classic Cars on display

Business Booths
Government & Health Booths
More details on pg. 3

Rainy River Recreation Centre

There's LOTS to see!

Passport Photos & Forms