

The Westend Weekly

Bringing Communities Together



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Serving the Rainy River District for more than 19 years! Read us on line at www.westendweekly.ca

Photographers' showcase



These two watchers teamed up to check on the smooth-as-glass river ice.

Photo by Greg Wilson, Dawson Twp.

We invite readers to use this spot to show off a photo they are proud of or just think other readers might find interesting. No rules, just provide a sentence or two to describe the picture and send the highest resolution, not a reduced size for emailing.

Fundraiser for Cindy McCormick draws good crowd



Centre Line played for the dance that followed the supper. Left is Wes Morrisseau, on drums Tony Marinaro and on the right is Geoff Gillon.

By Marlene Deschamps

A spaghetti fundraiser dinner for Cindy McCormick was held on Friday, January 6 at the Couchiching multi use facility. Around 200 people attended and they raised around \$5,000 for the local woman and her family. There were also several draws with great prizes that were all donated by businesses and individuals. The supper was followed by a dance. The music was provided by Centre Line who also donated their services.

David Ashforth of Poor Boys also joined Centre Line for a few numbers. In speaking with Tony Marinaro who is Cindy's brother-in-law, he said he was amazed at the way the community came together to help out someone who needed it. He also passed on the great news that Cindy was recovering nicely so far and that she had been transferred back to LaVerendrye. She was flown to Toronto for life saving surgery to deal with

three brain aneurisms in December. Prior to this she worked at the Makabi Inn so all her co-workers and Terri Davis were anxious to help out. Sandra Allen spearheaded the benefit with the help of many volunteers and the evening was a real success. The meal was delicious and the evening was filled with great food and great fun. It is hoping that Cindy continues on her road to recovery with great results.

A warning from the OPP about our warm weather ice conditions

Thunder Bay OPP would like to remind the public to be careful when venturing out on the area lakes and rivers.

With the mild temperatures that we have been experiencing lately, the ice thickness may not be the same as in years past when we usually have had a stretch of -20 to -30 degree temperatures by this time of the year.

Some of the area lakes have up to 12 inches of ice thickness but near some of the islands and rivers where there are varying currents, the ice is questionable. Avoid fast moving rivers and hydro dams.

Always be prepared when you venture out, always advise someone of your destination and when you expect to return, carry a cell phone with you, if

possible wear a floater suit and have ice picks available.

Recommended minimum ice thickness for:

Weight of a person is 10 cm (4 inches),

Snowmobile, 12 cm (5 inches),

Vehicle, 30-38 cm (12-15 inches).

Always know the ice conditions before you venture out.

What a difference a year makes



This photo is taken from my front door this past week. Not much work to do here!



This photo is taken from my front door last year in the first week of January.

by Marlene Deschamps

Many people are talking about the lack of snow and warm weather this year. Some are pleased and some are not. Shown above are pictures taken last year and this year in January and from the same spot. Remember those shoulder high snow banks last year that made it perilous to get from the driveway to the road. Remember creeping out at the corners and

getting dangerously far out so you could see if someone was coming before you could cross the road or turn in whatever direction you needed to go. Remember the clever fellow who planted the Free Snow sign in his yard telling people they could take as much as they wanted. Weather reports from Winnipeg show that it is supposed to get much colder by weeks end and there will then

once again be average temperatures for this time of year. It is also predicted we won't be breaking any more records for highs at this time of the year. Come what may, it has been a treat to open those heating bills and find a real savings in comparison to the usually high cost ones that arrive in the mail. AND, it is only 3 months to April showers followed by May flowers.

It's a little girl!



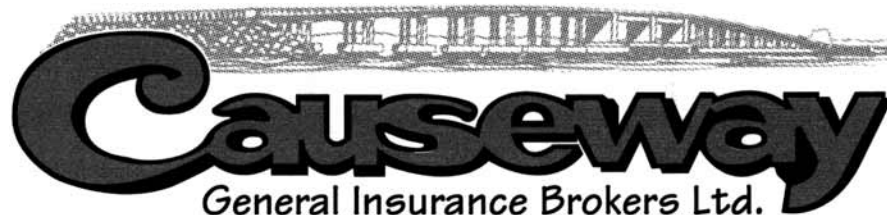
The New Year's Baby for 2012 is Elsie Faith Nighswander. She was born at La Verendrye Hospital on January 5th at 12:19pm weighing in at 7 lbs - 6 oz.

Proud parents are David and Pauline of Barwick, Ontario. Proud big sister is Sylvia aged 3. David was also the New Year's Baby 33 years ago, he was born in Emo.

Each year, gifts and gift baskets are provided for the New Year's Baby courtesy of Canada Safeway, Fort Floral, Pharmasave, and Shoppers Drug Mart.



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