

The Westend Weekly

Bringing Communities Together



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Singing away the January blues



Taylor Shouldice performs to help build a school in Kenya.



Pictured in back from l. Leah Bagacki, Izzy White and Paige Anderson. In front from l. Alexa Bagacki and Hannah Anderson.



Owner Ben Morelli (left) and Kenneth Kellar served coffee and refreshments to the guests.



Pictured from l. Bob Fichuk, Maisie Fichuk, Celia Berry, Curran Strachan, Taylor Shouldice and Carly Steinke.



Paul Lemesurier kept the crowd entertained with his up-beat, toe-tapping, sing-a-long tunes.



Larissa and Jessica Desrosiers perform a duet.



Jared Ball takes the opportunity to perform.

By: Teresa Hazel

From the Grind Up hosted an Open Mic Night last Friday in support of Project 10K. The evening was organized by Maisie Fichuk to raise funds toward her brother's endeavour to raise ten thousand dollars in one day to build a school in Kenya.

About midway through, Maisie received a tweet from her brother, Dexter Fichuk, announcing that almost eight thousand dollars had been raised thus far. Dexter and his friend Scott Pharand were also busy promoting the cause from their University campus in Peterborough, Ontario.

Meanwhile, in Fort Frances, guests were treated to a great display of entertainment, which included performances by Paul Lemesurier, Taylor Shouldice, Larissa Desrosiers, Jared Ball, Kenneth Kellar and even a dance routine and song by a couple of young girls who were there to support the cause.

Family was also showcased when Jessica Desrosiers

joined her daughter for a couple of cover tunes, including Angel by Sarah McLaughlin, which was beautifully sung by Jessica while Larissa played the guitar.

Randy Ball made an impromptu appearance after his son Jared performed. He played guitar and sang Hotel California by the Eagles, showing where his son may have received his musical talents.

"Really good. Awesome. Really like all the singing", were a few of the comments made by a group of young guests who were enjoying their hot chocolate and pop.

Fichuk sat with a group of friends and her dad, Bob, who was pleased with the event.

"It would be nice to have something like this every couple of weeks", he said. "It's good entertainment".

Maisie meanwhile was pleased with the turnout for her first-ever organized event following in the footsteps of her brother.

"My brother has a few more

connections to performers so it was great to see the public get involved this time and take part in the open mic", she said.

Ben Morelli, owner of From the Grind Up was seen serving coffee and mingling with the guests. Morelli has organized his own open mic nights at the coffee shop and plans to do more.

"I would like to have them monthly", he said.

Even the crowd got involved when Lemesurier sang Mustang Sally and everyone pitched in for the chorus line, "Ride Sally Ride".

Fichuk wrapped up the evening by thanking the performers and guests while Lemesurier closed it out with an awesome rendition of Bon Jovi's, "Wanted Dead or Alive".

For updates on Project 10K or to make a donation, like them on Facebook or contact Maisie Fichuk at 807.276.8847 or by email at maisiefichuk@gmail.com.

For information on upcoming Open Mic Nights at From the Grind Up, like them on Facebook.

Fort Frances jump-starts the 2014 Relay For Life



Allan Katz, President and CEO, Livia Lundon, Chair of the Foundation Board, Christine Denby, Relay for Life committee member and Jen Anderson Co-Chair of the Relay for life.

Fort Frances Ontario residents are banding together to help fight against cancer by lending their support to the 2014 Canadian Cancer Society Relay For Life, to be held on Friday June 20 at Fort Frances High School.

Last year 168 participants in the 2013 Fort Frances Relay For Life joined together to raise a grand total of \$77,338. Out of that total, \$31,482 was donated back into the community to help the Riverside Health Care facility purchase necessary equipment to treat

patients, such as an ultra sound machine and specialized equipment for inserting PICC lines (peripherally inserted central catheters). This year the goal is to raise \$75,000 to fund life-saving cancer research and help provide support for people living with cancer.

"We are very fortunate to have received this generous funding from the 2013 Relay For Life. It will provide staff training and specialized equipment for peripherally inserted central catheters (PICC lines) at Riverside Health Care's La

Verendrye General Hospital site. This new service will improve access to care for cancer patients and patients requiring extended antibiotic therapy, among others. Providing this high quality service closer to home is a key component of our strategic plan and we definitely appreciate this funding from Relay For Life," states Riverside Health Care, president & CEO, Allan Katz

The Relay For Life event helps bring communities together to fight cancer in over

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Photographers' showcase



The beauty of a Northwestern winter. This was taken January 8, 2014, at Rushing River Provincial Park. Photo by Michael Dawber, Emo



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