

# The Westend Weekly

## Bringing Communities Together



Box 66, Rainy River, ON P0W 1L0 Ph. 852-3815, FAX 852-1863, e-mail: westendweekly@tbaytel.net - Serving the District for 17 years VOL. 18, NO. 12 Wednesday, June 17, 2009  
If you ever forget to pick up the paper, read it on line at [www.westendweekly.ca](http://www.westendweekly.ca)

### Huge pieces of equipment headed for wind farm



by Marlene Deschamps

Sometime late last week several long flat cars loaded with equipment for a wind farm probably located far from this area, rolled into Fort Frances. The flat cars were first on the siding close to Fourth Street but were then moved to the northern siding and visible to those

on Fifth Street. They were moved out of the Fort Frances area sometime Monday night or early Tuesday morning as they are now gone. The size of the blades used are really huge although they don't appear to be when you see pictures or even see the real thing from a distance, but close up they are

pretty impressive. From news reports there is a real push on to have more wind farms in order to decrease reliance on oil and decrease our footprint. Just thought the readers would like the chance to see what one section of the structure looks like up close and on it's side.

### “Infrastructure dollars good news for Rainy River”

by Marlene Deschamps

Mayor Deborah Ewald of Rainy River just today, (Tuesday, June 16th) heard about the Provincial and Federal Government Infrastructure dollars Rainy River would be receiving. She said they will be using the total of \$30,000 for Municipal Office Renewal to retrofit windows and doors and put in air-conditioning for both the Municipal Office side and the

Seniors Rainy River Activity Depot. She cited this would make the building more energy efficient and save on both heating and cooling costs.

The total of \$280,000 for the refurbishment of the Municipal Garage/Fire Hall will also be well used. The Mayor noted it has been a long time since any serious monies have been available for necessary upkeep and repairs and they had to just do

small repairs using small amounts of money that was available. These dollars will allow for a new heating system and replacements of the big garage doors which she said were in such a bad state they leaked. This work will also result in lower heating costs at the site.

Mayor Ewald said, "This is really good news for Rainy River."

### New site chosen for the Hallett



by Marlene Deschamps

Many people are not pleased with the Town's decision to move the Tower and the Hallett and don't mind telling anyone who will listen. The picture above is the site picked for the Hallett and it is taken from the middle of the west exit for the big trucks. Travelling east, just off centre from the east exit is the site for the Tower. Many

question the wisdom of these sites and say they are just an accident waiting to happen. People would like to know why these two structures are being moved from their present location and want to now why this waterfront is equated to one that has the waterfront spreading out into a retail section. What is here is a lumber yard and they feel that would stymie

any real amount of usage of the area that would justify the move and the costs of that move. Comments heard from persons walking along while photos were being taken were "For dumb". "Who decided on this stupid move." "I wonder when the first bad accident will happen." "So now what is at the end of this beautiful walkway-nothing."

### Fort Frances Community Garden started



Three year old Shaylynn Jerry planting her choice (beans) in first row of garden with an assist from Becky Holden from the Health Unit.

by Marlene Deschamps

Tammy Cameron is a local citizen who likes gardening. She started talking about it in February and got help from Beck Holden from the Health Unit, Michelle Shute from Social Services and Karry Zub from Barwick. She also got help from Darryl's Custom Landscaping who removed the sod and put peat soil in. Dave Szpara then rototilled the area. The garden is located by Sixth Street and Webster Avenue and although there weren't too many to get it started, Tammy is expecting more to come on board. She said she will start

the process for next year's garden much earlier and maybe pick a different spot. Just north of the garden is a not too tall fence and beyond that is the bush. Those that live in the area say there are literally dozens of deer in that bush area. Tammy did get some suggestions on how to keep the deer away and she will try them all as well as hints on gardening she has received from some locals who have lush gardens every year. Although there weren't too many this first session of planting, 3 year old Shaylynn was there, still in pajamas and wait-

ing anxiously to start planting. She had on boots and tried to work with the garden gloves provided (which were far too big for her little hands) but after a few tries discarded them and used her bare hands. She chose beans as what she wanted to plant and with a little help got the first row started. She will no doubt be keeping a close eye on those beans and watching them as they grow.

This is a grass roots project and if anyone else wants to get involved or pass on gardening wisdom to Tammy, give her a call at 276-2181.

### Saw Tech/Log Expo has disappointing turnout



Portable Saw Mill, one of the many displays.

by Marlene Deschamps

The Big Saw Tech/Log Expo held on Friday, June 12th and Saturday, June 13th at the Sports Plex displayed millions of dollars of equipment, live demos, bio-energy, value added wood products, mining and exploration showcases, local and district businesses, but the turn-out was disappointing for many. Although those manning the registration table said it was fairly steady both days, there was no big influx of people at any one time. The Expo which was suppose to showcase the newest products and machines available for anyone involved in forestry, farming, logging,

trucking, construction, access road building, mining & exploration or even owned a cottage or lodge appears to have missed the target in getting the word out across the district to all those involved in those sectors of our economy.

For anyone not involved in forestry, farming or any of the above mentioned sectors, it was a real surprise to see the massive machines used and the massive costs that go along with having to purchase any of them. There was a well driller that was huge and was one of the first pieces of equipment people spotted as it towered up

into the sky. There was even a portable saw mill that held demos most of Saturday afternoon. The price tag on that item was said to be around \$43,000.

Inside, the arena floor was filled with booths displaying products and services available to, not only forestry or farming persons, but to the general public as well. There was an electric bike which looked like it could be an interesting way to reduce your footprint.

It is too bad there wasn't a bigger turn-out for the Expo considering forestry and farming are such an important part of life in the Northwest.



Martin Dufresne  
275-8916  
852-4237

**Causeway**  
General Insurance Brokers Ltd.

Are you paying too much for rural insurance?

Insure a \$175,000 home for less than \$500\*

\* with \$1,000 deductible and qualifying discounts

Proudly Serving the Entire Rainy River District

#### The Fort Frances Team



Robin Payeur  
274-6688



Holly Penney  
274-6688



Pam Buttner  
274-6688

229 Scott Street, Fort Frances 1-800-289-9917