

The Westend Weekly

Bringing Communities Together



Box 66, 303 Fifth St., Rainy River, ON P0W 1L0 Ph. 852-3815, FAX 852-1863, e-mail: westendweekly@tbaytel.net - Serving the District for over 19 years VOL. 19, NO. 12 Wednesday, June 22, 2011
If you ever forget to pick up the paper, read it on line at www.westendweekly.ca

Seven Generations Education Institute holds Graduation Ceremony



The event took place in a beautifully decorated venue.



Secondary Valedictorian, Jordan White (in black gown) with Donna Perreault, Coordinator at Seven Generations and grandmother of Jordan.

By Marlene Deschamps

Seven Generations Education Institute held their 2011 Graduation Ceremony and Dinner on Thursday, June 16th at the Memorial Sportscentre. The arena was brightly decorated with balloons and the tables were set with beautiful settings including bright yellow, orange and red napkins. There was a living plant at each of the tables.

The full program for the evening began with an opening traditional song by drummers and then the processional led by Donna Perreault, coordinator of Seven Generations. Master of Ceremonies was Marlo Dahl. She introduced Elder Willie Yerxa who spoke to the graduates and the crowd gathered for the event. There were opening remarks by CEO Delbert Horton before the valedictorian, Secondary School student Jordan White stood at the podium to address her fellow students. Jordan stood very proud in her cap and gown and spoke of how her son was her inspiration and how she intended to provide him with a good life after all the medical struggles he has had in his young life. She received a big round of applause and there were a few tears of emotion shed by some

during her speech. Post Secondary School Valedictorian, Lorie Labbe spoke next and she had a message of gratitude to both the institute, the staff and her fellow students for their role in her success. Both the valedictorians received a plaque and \$300.

Bursaries were then awarded to: Kennedy Detweiler, Grade 9; Timothy Smith, Cassandra Morriseau and Larisa Desrosier, Grade 10; David Fyfe and Brandon McGinnis, Grade 11; Jillian Mainville and Morgan Krueger from Grade 12. Excellent Attendance went to David Fyfe. Alternative Education went to Jordan White and Independent Learner Award went to Andrew Yerxa.

Academic Achievement Awards went to male- Brandon Sinclair and female- Sara Roach. Secondary School Bursary went to Caroline Chartrand.

Highest Academic Achievement Award Secondary went to David Adams.

Highest Academic Achievement Post Secondary under 2 years program went to Jessica Jamieson.

Highest Academic Achievement Post Secondary over 2 years program went to

Lorie Labbe.

Co-op Student Award went to Brittney Norris.

Outstanding Achievement went to Stephanie Adams.

Sandra Kakeeway Memorial Bursary went to MacKenzie Archie and Wilma Yerxa-Bird.

Diplomas were then presented by Principal Sean Taggart to 30 Secondary School Graduates. He told me earlier that he had been presented with an eagle feather that morning. The presentation had took him off guard and he felt very honoured.

Next up were the Post Secondary Graduates. 11 students were presented with Azhemiinagoziwin Training Certificates.

Four students were presented with Culinary Skills Chef Certificates from Canadore College.

Nine students were presented with Indigenous Wellness Addictions Prevention Certificates also from Canadore College. Receiving a Diploma in this field were 3 students.

Three students received ATEP Diploma Of Education from Queen's University.

Seven students received ATEP Bachelor of Education from Queen's University.

Three students received their Bachelor of Arts Degrees from Lakehead University.

Each of the graduates received an eagle feather along with their certificates or diplomas.



Post Secondary Valedictorian, Lorie Labbe

Market Thursdays drawing people downtown



A few of the vendors located at the Fort Frances Museum Courtyard. Karen Peri is in the forefront with Mona Hartnell displaying hand made crocheted rugs, plants and tree cuttings.

By Marlene Deschamps

Travelling down Scott Street on Thursdays, you see many more people on the street and in the stores. The Market Thursdays which began a few weeks ago seems to be catching on. The area in front of the museum has been dubbed Great Canadian Main Street Market Place. Every Thursday through September, there will be a tent set up in front of the Fort Frances Museum where people can show what they have to offer. People are encouraged to bring a table, chair and their goods to sell. Set up time is 8:30 am with

hours of sale from 10-4 pm. For special interest groups it is a chance for them to sell tickets or raise money for their cause. The BIA is hoping that artisans, musicians, crafters, greenhouses, furniture makers and veggie growers will show and sell their wares during Market Thursdays.

Featured in the picture above are first time attendees at the market and they appeared to be quite pleased to have an outlet for their wares which included handmade crocheted rugs of various sizes, plants and tree saplings. Also set up in the courtyard were four different

tables selling handmade jewellery items. Inside the Museum there was an art sale. Along the street many stores had racks and tables outside their store with some great bargains available. The BIA feels this event being held on Thursdays will catch people before they leave for the lakes or countryside for the weekend and also encourage tourists to stop.

For more information about Market Thursdays and to pre register you can call Richard Boileau at McTaggarts 274-5371.

Fort Frances Sportsman's Club sponsors students tree planting event



From left Skyler Comegan, Vic Alberts, Nick Pressenger, Mr. Hands behind students, Becca Paterson and kneeling is Corbin Grynol.

By Marlene Deschamps

The Fort Frances Sportsman's Club recently sponsored a tree planting event. It took place at an Abitibi site and the trees were donated by Abitibi Bowater. Henry Miller was informed about the area by Abitibi and went to the site and mapped out the area where the students would be planting. Taking part on the day the picture was taken were Mr. Hands 3rd and 4th grade classes and they were helped by students from Grade 7. The students were from Crossroads School and the teachers involved were: Ms. Kroocmo, Mrs. Lengyl, Mrs. Shute and Mrs. Vanderaa. They were accompanied by Mr. Hands and Henry Miller. Grade 7 students from J. W. Walker were also involved. These were from Jody Bonner Vickers Outdoor Education Class. She

received a grant to stage the event. Henry Miller said she also was involved with the Lake Hope event where they used nets to catch aquatic animals and insects which the students studied and released. The Grade 7 and 8's also visited a previously planted site to study the progress of growth. He said they have planted around 1,000 trees this year.

Another trip taken was by Vic Alberts who is member of the Sportsman's Club and also a bus driver. He volunteers to drive the students. The trip was to study rock and rock formations. Alberts is very knowledgeable in this area. This trip was to the Wasa area and Alberts was also showing them how miners panned for gold. They were shown how to do this in mud puddles and then

separate the sand and soil. According to rumours, a fleck of gold was found during the panning session. Miller said he had another group of students on this same trip that were studying plants and animals and their relationship with each other. He added that quite often, parents come out on these trips.

The Fort Frances Sportsman's Club continues to involve students in outdoors activities both to teach and to involve them in protection of the environment. The Club has 280 members and anyone interested in finding out more about all their events and activities or how to join can contact Henry Miller at 274-9606 or any member. Membership forms are available on their website at www.ffiportmensclub.com.

Rainy River Relay for Life set for June 24th

By Marlene Deschamps

Rainy River Relay for Life is all set to go but you can still get involved. Andrew Hartnell wants you to know that although they have 12 registered teams, you can still enter a team right up to the start of the relay. You still have opportunities to purchase your luminaries and you can still register to be involved with Cuts for Cancer. Last year Rainy River raised \$57,000. That was outstanding. Andrew said they had 30 survivors attend the dinner and participate in the survivors lap. They are hoping for that same number and hopefully

more to take part this year. He added that the money raised for the Canadian Cancer Society during Relay for Life comes back to the area in many ways. The research dollars have developed less invasive treatments, with better results. There are many treatments now offered right here in the district and better support programs.

If you are not involved in any of the dollar raising events, you

can still come down and support those who are and encourage their efforts over the 24 hour period that they will be walking. Get down there and cheer them on.

Fort Frances will also be holding their Relay for Life on June 24th. Get out and support their efforts and cheer them on. The relay will take place at the Fort Frances High School Track.

Reminder...

The Westend Weekly will be closed for holidays June 29 to July 18. There will be no paper on July 6 or 13.



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