

The Westend Weekly

Bringing Communities Together



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11th Annual Gord Dunville Mixed Darts Classic



by Marlene Deschamps

The 11th Annual Gord Dunville Mixed Darts Classic was held at the Royal Canadian Legion in Fort Frances on March 19th and 20th. This year there were 40 teams coming from Fort Frances, Thunder Bay, Rainy River, Atikokan, and from Virginia and Grand Rapids, Minnesota. The two day event is always well attended and everyone has a great

time while trying to win the cash prizes as well as the table full of donated prizes that are drawn for throughout Saturday. Winning the Doubles draw and \$500 was John Rutherford and Christine Stark from Thunder Bay. Coming in 2nd and claiming \$300 were Rochelle Johnson and Steve Luama from Grand Rapids, Minnesota. Winning the Mixed Team and

\$800 were John Rutherford, Christine Stark, Shawn Harris and Christie Brinmore from Thunder Bay and taking 2nd and \$400 were Dan and Nina Bird and Kirk and Tessa Larson from Fort Frances. It was quite evident that everyone enjoyed the day of darts, prizes and friendship that is what the Gord Dunville Classic is all about.

Lions Club holds Groceries for a Year Raffle



From left, Jeannie Fiset, Jeanette Roth and Jacques Fiset making the draw for the big winner.

by Marlene Deschamps

The Fort Frances Lions Club held its Groceries for a Year Raffle on Sunday, March 21st at Safeway. There were quite a few people on hand to watch the draw, both Lions members and people who had purchased tickets and were hoping to win. Jacques Fiset, local President said they were totally sold out of the 3,500 tickets early in the day.

Before the draws were made for 1st and 2nd prize, he thanked everyone for supporting the fund raiser and the other programs the Lions run. He said if it wasn't for that support they wouldn't be able to do all they do for the people in the

area. He also thanked Safeway and WalMart for allowing the members to sell tickets at their businesses.

He called Safeway's Velma Valenzuela to make the draw for the 2nd place winner who would receive \$1,000 in gift certificates from Safeway. Winning that great prize was Viola Medicine. Then Jacques made the draw for the big winner who would receive a total of \$5,200 worth of gift certificates from Safeway.

The big winner was Deb Westover-Morriseau. Exciting news for us at The Westend Weekly as Deb has been a member of our team.

In other Lions' news, they

continue with the TV Bingo's and they continue to sell bricks to be laid at the Lions Park on Second Street. They will be laid at the annual Dandi-Lion Picnic to be held in the first part of June. There are still bricks available and you can get an application from Luke Schill by calling him at 274-6235.

Both the Fort Frances Lions and the Voyager's Lions (the major movers for an Emo Charter) are quite excited with the news that Emo will send in for its Charter as they have the required 22 members and are set to go. They are expecting to receive their Charter the first part of June.

St. Patrick's Day community dinner



Emcee Rilla Race (dressed in green) by tables full of people celebrating the day and enjoying the entertainment.

by Marlene Deschamps

A St. Patrick's Day dinner was held at the Chapple Hall on Saturday, March 20th. The meal was traditional corned beef and cabbage along with roast pork, potatoes & gravy, buns veggies, salad and some very delicious desserts. This year the Women's Institute Museum and the Chapple Museum decided to have a joint venture and it worked out very well. The hall was full of people wanting a good dinner, good entertainment and good company. There was much visiting going on at the Hall and there were people there from all over the district. Besides the great meal, Highway 621 provided entertainment. People both listened and got up and danced to the many old time favorites Highway 621 is known for playing. There were also silent auctions and a penny table where people could buy a chance on winning some great prizes. One young lady ran up to the front at least four times to get prizes she was lucky enough to win. It was sure her

big night for good luck. All proceeds from the dinner and draws will go to the Chapple Museum and the Rainy River District Women's Institute Museum.

"Our Changing Landscape" exhibit of pictures on how the landscape has changed around the Rainy River District over the last 100 years and exhibits on the changes of tools and household appliances exhibit is being extended into the month of April. There will also be a Gigantic Flea Market on April 16th and 17th at the Museum in Emo. They are looking for donations of any kind. Give them a call at 482-3991.

Keep in mind that May is Museum Month and make a point of visiting at museums throughout the district.

Coming up in Chapple is the museum opening featuring "Jewelry" and the annual yard sale in Barwick. June 5th will be the Tea on the Lawn (weather permitting) and in the library at the Chapple Museum. On Friday July 30th at 7 p.m. there will be another evening on the

Both Farm where people can enjoy a wiener roast, music and home made ice cream. The following day there will be Chapple Days at the Both Farm where there will be pioneer activities and the heritage farm house will be open to tour. Make sure you mark these dates on your calendar so you don't miss any of the fun.

In discussions at the dinner, all the great things brought to the Canadian public by Women's Institutes were mentioned. A few of those notable things were: school vaccinations, wrapped bread and of all things, a big push that led to there being a line painted down the centre of highways-but not many know about that one. Most of the things brought forth by the various institutes had to do with safety for families and especially children and with the preservation of the history of the pioneers. They always were and continue to be, a very forward thinking group of women you might want to get involved with.

Safeway to sponsor KidPro Tournament

Canada Safeway announced that once again they would be sponsors of the Safeway KidPro, which kicks off the Fort Frances Canadian Bass Championship on Sunday July 18, 2010 from the Sorting Gap Marina in Fort Frances. This marks the fourth year that Canada Safeway has been the Safeway KidPro sponsor.

Speaking on behalf of Safeway, John Graham, Public Affairs Manager, noted that Safeway is pleased to support this part of the tournament and have Safeway associated with this community festival in Fort Frances. "It is a great opportunity for the youth of the region to fish with a pro. We hope that some of the youth will eventually find their way into the big tournament."

"Fort Frances is a great community and I'm proud that Safeway is again putting our support behind such a special community event as the Fort Frances Canadian Bass Championship", said Kevin Langford, store manager.

The Safeway "KidPro" tournament provides a day of fishing on Rainy Lake under tournament conditions to youth 10-14 with a professional tournament angler. In addition, "The Outdoor Educator", Rick Socholotuk provides a day of classroom instruction to all the kids who register for the tournament. The instruction includes rules of fishing safely, fish handling, photographing

fish, and handling lures, rods and reels.

Rick who began the KidPro tournament in 1996 noted "It's a great program for these young people. It gives them a one on one learning day with some of the best anglers in North America. The kids learn. The "Pros" enjoy teaching the kids and often this often leads to lifetime friendships. It may even lead them to tournament angling."

Andrew Rogozinski, who was one of the original youth in the KidPro, remembers riding fast across the water in a big bass boat. It is one of his first entries into his log that chronicles every day on the water. Today he participates as a "pro" and notes "It gives me a chance to give back to the community and maybe put a fishing spark in a young person's mind like the pro did for me as a kid."

John Craig and his partner Larry Hullett who fish as a team at the Canadian Bass Championship annually contribute hats and rods to the KidPro tournament. "I know some of the kids are not as well off as I am" noted John and "I know often that their parents don't have as much time as I do to take their kids fishing and I remember how much fun it was for me to have my dad take me fishing. I hope that it may help get them away from the TV or video game into the outdoors and an enjoyment of fishing. It sure gives me a good feeling to

see those kids out fishing with the pros."

The youth winner of the tournament receives a replica mount of their winning catch. All fish that are caught are photographed measured for length and girth and immediately released. The winning weight is then calculated later in the day. Each youth receives a copy of all the pictures that they take with the pro for a lifetime of memories.

Joe Thrun who has won the tournament five times with his fishing partner Jim Moynagh commented on the Safeway KidPro; "I think it is a real opportunity for young people to learn. I can't imagine how excited I would have been at that age to fish with anglers and have the excitement of travelling so fast across the water in a bass boat. I hope we create an excitement with these young people for fishing that will last the rest of their lives"

This will mark the 15th year for the KidPro tournament that is part of the Fort Frances Canadian Bass Championship. Almost 500 youth have had the chance to fish with the tournament anglers.

Canada Safeway has been a sponsor and supporter of the Fort Frances Canadian Bass Championship since its inception in 1995. Canada Safeway operates 215 stores across western Canada and has operated a store in Fort Frances since 1929.





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