

The Westend Weekly

Bringing Communities Together



Box 66, Rainy River, ON POW 1L0 Ph. 852-3815, FAX 852-1863, e-mail: westendweekly@tbaytel.net - Serving the District for 17 years VOL. 18, NO. 9 Wednesday, May 27, 2009
If you ever forget to pick up the paper, read it on line at www.westendweekly.ca

The water's warm-Honest!



From left Tyler Mosbeck, Ben George, Kendall Bruyere and Taylor Hazel and they are NOT shivering!

by Marlene Deschamps

Although many, if not most, can resist jumping into the water in May, even if it a beautiful sunny day, these four couldn't. The four young teens were having a great time and they actually did some swimming, although one of them did receive some help getting into the water from the friend that

pushed her in. She came up out of the water laughing and said "It's really warm." Two of the four said they also took a dip last weekend and the weekend before at a cabin, although on that day there was still a bit of ice on the shore. (Brrr). Watching them having a great time also brought back some

great memories of long, long ago when those in today's older bracket did the same thing, much to the concern of parents that were sure you were going to end up with pneumonia. Thanks kids for reminding us that we were once your age and just as brave when it came to braving the first spring dip.

Lots of options at the new condo project



This is the site of LaVerendrye Parkway Village Condominiums

by Marlene Deschamps

On Thursday, May 21st, from 4-8 p.m. there was an open house hosted by those who wish to build the LaVerendrye Parkway Village Condominiums on the site at the corner of Front Street and Mosher Avenue. The Civic Centre Council Chambers was set up with drawing, of both outside and inside the proposed condo. There would be three levels, consisting of two and three bedrooms, with a balcony, river view on those facing Front Street and they range from \$189,900 to \$259,000 as a base price. Options and upgrades are extra. There are underground parking stalls at a cost of \$9,500 (\$20.00/month condo fees) and these are available on a first come first served basis. There are outside parking stalls that comes with the price of the unit and they are wired. This insures that if the tenant is away they can have the plug-in made inactive so no one can tap into their electrical unit while

they are gone. The condo unit fees are approximately \$220 per month. This covers a list of services, including administrative and maintenance. This fee includes water but excludes gas and electricity.

There were many different floor plans available for people to choose from and your choice is determined by the buyer prior to construction. There are, of course, exemptions to carte blanche choice which is dictated by plumbing and gas line placements as required by building codes.

In order to reserve and/or pre-purchase one of the condo units, a deposit of \$2,000 is necessary. This deposit is totally refundable. When a contract is signed, \$10,000 deposits are required. When purchase is complete it is calculated at the price with the \$12,000 off the purchase price. Twenty sign-ups by June 15th are required for the developer to go ahead with the next step and the condominium is expected to be

ready for occupancy by the Fall of 2010 if everything goes according to plan.

Faye Flatt from the Civic Centre said there was a steady flow of people over the four hours and there was a lot of interest with some commitments made during that time. There were some people from our first condominium who attended out of curiosity. They related they were very happy with their decision to move into town from out in the country and were happy with their new home on the riverfront. They had no complaints and only good remarks were made about condo living.

The developer for the project is Robert Zanette from Thunder Bay and the Broker of Record is Re/Max First Choice Realty (Thunder Bay) Ltd. Brokerage. It is being marketed by Mario Tegola, MVA. He can be reached at 807-344-5700, Cell Phone 807-473-7206. Toll free 1-800-508-9976.

Ferris, Champlin start out 55th anniversary with season opener wins at Emo Speedway



Veteran driver Ken Anderson found his groove at the Emo Speedway on Saturday, as he would finish in third spot during the seventeen car field, the biggest opening car count of WISSOTA Midwest Modifieds at the track. He also finished second in the heat." OR, "Veteran driver, Ken Anderson had very little trouble on the new racing surface during WISSOTA Midwest Modified action, as he would finish second in his heat, and third in the feature.

by Anthony Leek

Under clear blue skies and decent temperatures, the Emo Speedway started its first race of its 55th anniversary. The facility was full of action after a one week delay due to wet and cold weather.

With 3,500 yards of new clay, officials were concerned that the softness of the clay could create an extremely rough surface and opted to make it harder and a bit more dry slick than usual to minimize pot holes and large ruts. It turned out to be quite successful as the track held up fairly well for its inaugural run.

The WISSOTA Midwest Modified car counts were in full swing already as seventeen cars appeared for the opening night. That is a good sign that the points championship battle will be a tight one. Never before in the Emo Speedway's history has the Midwest Modifieds had so many cars for a first night. Kendal Gamsby has his work cut out for him as his hunt for an unprecedented fourth title in a row looks to be a large mountain to climb. Gamsby is only the second driver in the history of the track to win three consecutive championships in a row, behind veteran Ricky Roche of International Falls, MN, who managed the feat in 1996 to 1998 in the WISSOTA Modifieds.

In the two heats of the Midwest Mods, Brady Caul would pass Chuck Lambert with only a couple of laps to go, taking the win, while Kendal Gamsby would take the checkered flag in heat two over Ken Anderson.

In the feature, Chuck Lambert started in poll position with Christopher Leek on the outside. As the green flag waved, Lambert flew out to the front while Leek seemingly pulled to the side a bit and let some of the field pull past him. It seemed Lambert would have a

great shot at winning the seasons feature opener. With only two early cautions, the rest of the feature was full out adrenaline. Lambert continued to lead, but Dwayne Pihulak and a hard charging Tridell Champlin had other plans. Heading into lapped traffic, Lambert got stuck behind Andrew Trimble who was having engine troubles, leaving Champlin and Pihulak to pass Lambert on the inside. Champlin would take an extended lead while Pihulak had car trouble and faded to finish thirteenth. Champlin would take the win, picking up where he left off last fall, winning day two at the Emo Fall Fair.

The Street Stocks were one car short of two heats, so as a result, nine cars were forced into one qualifier heat. Don Bowman of Bemidji, Minnesota out ran Jeff Wickstrom of International Falls. Defending Street Stock champion Tylar Wilson rounded out the top three.

In the Street feature, Scott Messner took the lead, not looking back, while Tylar Wilson and Don Bowman fought for second spot. Talking to Bowman after the races, he knew someone was close behind him in the race, but was unsure who it was. His guess was Jeff Wickstrom because of the yellow he noticed on the back of the car, but it was actually Tylar Wilson of Fort Frances. Bowman managed to hold him off just enough to take a well deserved second place.

In the WISSOTA Modifieds, Greg Ferris would win heat one, with Ken Anderson beating out speedy Gavin Paull in the second heat. In the feature, Ken Anderson was lucky enough to start on the front row and did his best to keep defending track champion Greg Ferris from passing him for the lead. The track had gained a tight inside line, and Ferris had to play a patient game in order to

get by Anderson. Anderson had a good run going until his engine started smoking as he entered turn two, cutting his evening short of the checkered flag. Gavin Paull moved into second spot, but was unable to catch Ferris in the caution free race.

With the 55th anniversary under way at the Emo Speedway, next week is the Emo Walleye Classic with Driver Introduction and Best Appearing Car - Fan Judged. Visit www.borderlandracing.com for more information on events this summer and catch all the excitement week in and week out every Saturday!

SUMMARY
WISSOTA Modifieds
Feature - Greg Ferris, Gavin Paull, Brady Caul, Glen Strachan, Dwyane Pelepetz, Ron Korpi, Bill Witherspoon, Ken Anderson, Gary Wilson, Dwayne Pihulak
Heat 1 - Ferris, Pihulak, Strachan, Korpi, Pelepetz
Heat 2 - Anderson, Paull, Caul, Witherspoon, Wilson
WISSOTA Midwest Modifieds
Feature - Tridell Champlin, Chuck Lambert, Ken Anderson, Brady Caul, Kendal Gamsby, Matthew Mutz, Steve Nordin, Mike Wilson, Christopher Leek, Jeff Davis, Rick Bourre, Anthony Visser, Dwayne Pihulak, Terry Martin, Andrew Trimble, Matt DePiero,
Heat 1 - Caul, Lambert, Pihulak, Leek, Martin, Nordin, Reimer, Trimble, DePiero
Heat 2 - Gamsby, Anderson, Champlin, Mutz, Visser, Wilson, Davis, Bourre
Street Stocks
Feature - Scott Messner, Don Bowman, Tylar Wilson, Jeff Wickstrom, Richard Visser, Chris Shine, Charlene Nicolson, Tyler Wickstrom
Heat - Bowman, Wickstrom, Wilson, Messner, Visser, Shine, Wickstrom, Nicolson, Hettinga

Forestry crisis draws crowd

by Marlene Deschamps


MP John Rafferty held Emergency Town Hall meetings on the forestry's crisis and the AbitibiBowater bankruptcy on Thursday, May 21st at the Rendezvous and then again in Thunder Bay the following day.

There were around 40 people who attended the meeting in Fort Frances and they came from other ridings as well as this riding. There were people from Dryden and Sioux Lookout who were also present. The meetings were


streamed on netnewsledger.com for anyone not being able to attend or stay for the meeting.

Although there were many questions at both meetings and much discussion regarding the

Please see Forestry on page 2




Martin Dufresne
275-8916
852-4237




Causeway
General Insurance Brokers Ltd.

Are you paying too much?
CALL FOR A FREE QUOTE


Proudly Serving the Entire Rainy River District




Robin Payeur
274-6688



Amanda French
274-6688



Holly Penney
274-6688



Pam Buttner
274-6688

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

Letters to the Editor

An open letter to the people of Rainy River and surrounding areas

I'm very pleased to announce the opening of a new exercise facility in the Rainy River Health Centre, and extend an invitation to one and all to attend our grand opening on the 28th of May at 6 o'clock p.m.

Many of you may remember a modest facility with a mixture of donated and second-hand equipment in the hospital. A number of people made extremely good use of it until an insurance and liability issue raised by Riverside Corporation caused clinic staff to stop promoting its use.

The hospital is now home to a brand new version of that facility, with all concerns addressed and equipped with a full range of top-quality aerobic and weight-training equipment. We have been very fortunate to secure the support of Riverside Corporation for this use of the hospital.

This initiative is designed for people with medical problems who wish to explore how aerobic and resistance training could improve their health. There will be two different programs: one for people whose health problems are more severe or complex and who

would benefit from a formal supervised program. The other, dubbed "Huff and Puff", is for those who don't require supervision or monitoring, but who would like to use such a facility to implement a health and fitness routine. There will be a modest user fee on a cost-recovery basis.

The medical conditions include heart and lung disease, blood vessel diseases of all kinds, diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, depression, arthritis, anxiety and weight control. There is a straightforward medical screening process for all who wish to use the facility; some people may require further tests or investigations to ensure that these programs and exercises would be safe for them. Further information, including copies of the questionnaires, will be available on May 28th.

The facility has been made possible by significant financial contributions from supportive organizations and the efforts of some dedicated individuals. The Rainy River Hospital Auxiliary, the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #54, the Legion Ladies Auxiliary Branch #54,

Riverside Health Care Facilities and CN have generously provided the funds to purchase the equipment. Mayor Ewald was instrumental in helping to secure insurance coverage through the Town, thereby addressing the liability concerns. Our nurse practitioner, Nicole Therrien, has worked tirelessly to raise funds, promote the concept and encourage its use, and I know has big plans for the facility. Tammy McNally has bent over backward to accommodate the concept and facilitate this use of the space. Dianna Gamsby handles the books, and our clinic receptionists have taken on the additional responsibility of collecting user fees. Ed Cousineau and his staff have helped modify the room, add electrics and move equipment. We owe a vote of thanks to them all.

So please join us on Thursday, May 28th to attend our opening celebration, check out the newly-appointed room, and enjoy some refreshments. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Sincerely,
Dr. David Singleton

Dear Editor,

In reflection of town council by-laws to fine town residents who feed deer I wish to make the following comments:

1. To simply create a by-law to fine residents thousands of dollars for feeding deer in the town limits is wrong and only provides a resident, so charged with a criminal record and the government coffers with more money, not to mention the fact that your new criminal record may bar your entry into another country like the USA.

2. Why councils decision is wrong is it places absolutely no common sense or thought in their actions other than to say you feed deer - you are a criminal-make them pay - problem solved. Well folks, the problem is no solved - the deer are still here and will remain here for some time - fining residents will not solve this problem.

3. No one has looked at the cause of this problem - the fact most of the wood lots in and around Fort Frances and District have been cut down. Just go out to our airport and it will provide an example of what I am telling you has happened. Industry, home expansions, human development and

progress have infringed on the natural wildlife habitat. This severely but negatively affected ample shelter from storms and predators decimating vital food sources and forage. This shift in land use patterns caused deer and predator migration into Fort Frances and many other communities across Canada and the U.S.

4. Now the deer and predatory animals are in and around Fort Frances. Why? Because shelter is more readily available and food sources are abundant. Your garden, my garden, flowers, apple and plum trees, shrubs etc.. In simple terms - plenty of shelter and food for deer and an easier ability to hide from predators. Now, I ask you - is fining any resident enough to convince the deer and other animals to leave Fort Frances? I think not. Thus, at this time our town by-law was enacted without foresight by not understanding the problem or finding a solution that would actually solve the issued at hand. This by-law, at this time, is both ineffectual and wrong.

What council should have done and can still do:

Set up a deer management committee consisting of mem-

bers of town council, Ministry of Natural Resources and game and health experts to create and review strategies to develop and implement a long range plan based on professional, scientific and health information which would meet the needs required to address this complex problem. If part of that strategy includes fining residents then that would be the time to enact a no feeding the deer by-law.

I mentioned health experts be added to this committee as lime ticks are prevalent in deer. It takes three days for a lime tick to remove enough blood into it's system before it lays thousands of eggs on the deer. Everyone knows lime disease can be very serious. Thus the need for health expert on this panel.

In closing, I believe council ought to rescind its by-law forthwith, enact a committee as suggested above and tackle this problem in a professional manner. Now let us look at the related problems of skunks, raccoons etc.-maybe they can be incorporated into this committees itinerary.

Thank you
Bill Krukoski

Dear editor;

To all residents in the Rainy River District: As advocates from the Northern Action Group we seek justice and dignity for any and all persons unfortunate enough to be trapped in bureaucratic systems they believe to be out of control.

If you or your family has experienced problems relating to the involvement of the Family Courts, Legal Aid lawyers, Office of the Children's Lawyer, Family and Children Services then we would like to talk with, and or meet with you. I want you to know we share your concerns.

Our purpose is to discuss personal issues of injustice and to implement a new strategy to protect your human rights, personal rights, privacy and find

ways concerned citizens can forge ahead to effectively deal with issued of injustice within our community.

If you feel injustices were forced onto your family by Family and Children's Services (FACS) or your Legal Aid Lawyer- who always enters court unprepared, failed to return your calls, failed to provide professional legal counsel and failed to provide due diligence, we want to hear from you. We share your concerns.

In closing, there are excellent employees who work at FACS and there are excellent lawyers in the Legal Aid system who demand justice and dignity for those they are privileged to represent and always conduct their business in a very professional manner. This letter is not about

you and not meant to reflect on you or your services.

We can be reached at 807-274-7288 - in confidence - if we are not in when you call, leave a number and we will return your call as soon as possible.

Thank you.
Allan T. Bedard
Advocate- Northern Action Group
(Our advocacy is always free of charge)

Riverside Health Care Facilities receives large contribution

Riverside Foundation for Health Care donated three hundred and ninety thousand dollars to Riverside this year to assist district health care.

Three hundred thousand dollars is a payment on their \$1.5 million pledge for the purchase of a CT Scanner. Last year, the Foundation paid one million on this pledge.

The additional ninety-one thousand dollars was used to help purchase equipment and supplies for Emo Health Centre, Rainy River Health Centre, La Verendrye Hospital and Rainycrest Long Term Care.

Equipment purchased this year included blanket warmers, a treatment table, a TV, night stands, blood pressure unit, exercise equipment, digital cameras, a laptop, furnishings, sponsorship of the Chemotherapy Program's FACE-UP evening, and activation supplies.

Deane Cunningham, Chair of

the Foundation Board talked about the community support needed to make this donation possible.

"These funds represent donations from our hospital auxiliaries, Rainycrest auxiliary, service clubs, municipalities, First Nations, individuals and organizations from across the Rainy River district", explained Cunningham.

"We are grateful to all donors...they make our health care better for everyone."

Cunningham went on to thank the Board, staff and management of Riverside Health Care Facilities for the work they do toward their Vision to be the centre of excellence and the leader in providing services in rural/northern healthcare.

"Their vision is our vision and we want to do our part to make it a reality", he said.

Teresa Hazel, Foundation Director was also pleased with this year's contribution.

"Everyone must work together to make our health care system great".

"The Foundation's success is the community's success...none of this would be possible without the generosity of our volunteers and donors, and the expertise of our staff and physicians", said Hazel.

The Foundation is currently selling tickets for their 3rd Annual Canada Day Cash Lottery. Fifteen thousand dollars in cash prizes is up for grabs. Draws will be made during the Fireworks on July 1st at the Harbourworks Restaurant. Call 274-4803 to purchase your tickets.

The Foundation is also partnering with RBC Financial Group to bring the 3rd Annual RBC Charity Golf Classic. This year's event is taking place at Heron Landing Golf Course on Saturday, July 11, 2009. Registration forms are available by calling 274-7271.



Town of Rainy River

Student Summer Employment Opportunity

The Corporation of the Town of Rainy River is seeking applications for various summer positions. Any student, over the age of 15, currently attending and planning to return to secondary school and/or post secondary school is encouraged to complete an application on or before 4:00 p.m. on Monday, June 8, 2009. Application forms may be obtained by contacting the municipal office.

"Student Summer Employment Position"
Town of Rainy River
Box 488
Rainy River, ON
P0W 1L0
Phone: 807-852-3244
Fax: 807-852-3553
Email: rainyriver@tbaytel.net
Web: www.rainyriver.ca

Please note, we thank all those who apply, but only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Personal information submitted will be used for the purposes of this competition only, in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

Kiddy Couture

Located at the **FARMERS MARKET** Starting May 9
Open Saturdays 9am-1pm
Children's NEW Quality Brand Name Clothing for LESS

Our products are purchased from high end department stores (Bloomingdales, Macys) from distributors located in New York City, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, L.A., Indiana, Illinois, etc. We carry sizes from 0-3 months to size 16. Brand name used clothing will also be available?
Present this ad at checkout and receive \$5.00 OFF any purchase over \$30.00!

A Little Church Humour

After the christening of his baby brother in church, Jason sobbed all the way home in the back seat of the car. His father asked him three times what was wrong. Finally, the boy replied, 'That preacher said he wanted us brought up in a Christian home, and I wanted to stay with you guys.'

Summer Fun!

at Sportsman's Lodge

Enjoy Riverside Dining

6 pm to 10 pm 7 days a week

Summer Dining Specials

Monday - Kids Eat FREE (1 child per 1 accompanying adult)
Wednesday - BOGO Night (buy 1 entree, get 1 at 1/2 off equal or lesser value)
Friday - Surf N Turf Night
Saturday - Prime Rib
Sunday - Chef's Special

Check out our NEW Summer Menu!

Always friendly, Always fun!
12 mi N Baudette on Hwy 172
218-634-1342
www.sportsmanslodge.com

FREE Limo/Van Rides

Call City Cab 283-8635

Starts at 9:00pm

I. Falls, Ft. Frances & Sha Sha

Happy Hour 9:30 - 10:30 pm
2 for 1 or 1/2 Price
Every Friday & Saturday


THURSDAY \$5 Spaghetti	SATURDAY \$16 Prime Rib or \$12 Chicken Cordon Bleu
FRIDAY \$10 Chicken and Ribs	

All dinners served from 5:30-9 pm.
Reservations Recommended Call 286-3545

GREAT FOOD • GREAT PRICE • GREAT SERVICE

ROADHOUSE Night Club & Supper Club

2 miles East on Highway 11 • 286-3545
Where the Music Never Stops!



Northwestern Health Unit

REQUIRES:

Youth Advisor for Rainy River District
17.5 hours per week, term to March 2012

Position Summary:
An exciting opportunity for an energetic professional seeking new challenges with a progressive team that values quality service. Working with youth and community members in the Rainy River District, you will develop and implement prevention strategies that address drug and alcohol use among youth.

Salary:
\$20.99 to \$26.95 per hour

For detailed information on this career listing, please visit the Careers section of the Northwestern Health Unit website at: www.nwhu.on.ca

Deadline for Resume Submissions:
June 10, 2009 at 4:30 p.m. CST

We thank all applicants for their interest, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Forestry crisis continued from page one

In speaking with Rafferty just prior to the Fort Frances meeting, he responded to a question regarding any upcoming election with a "No, I don't think so because there is too much work to do." He added that he doesn't understand McGuinty in his decisions regarding Bombardier and the train deal. The deal would be good for Thunder Bay, good for the environment and yet he doesn't want to put in his (the

Provinces) share to make it a go. He also said that the move to harmonize the GST and PST is a money grab that will see people paying on electric bills, fuel bills and a whole bunch of items not taxed under the Province. He also noted that many of the problems related to the forestry issue are directly related to the Province and the Province isn't stepping up to the plate.

<p>623 RIVER AVENUE, RAINY RIVER</p>  <p>SOLD</p> <p>Large 3 bedroom bungalow with attached in-ground pool and bar, 2 car garage, 2 baths, and sundeck, all located on a large lot in an excellent location. #1993 \$85,000.00</p>	<p>COUNTRY PROPERTY</p>  <p>NEW PRICE</p> <p>Home is only 8 years old. 3 or 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, appliances, centre island. Carport is large enough for an RV, 30x42 barn, 12x16 insulated office, separate fenced fields and corral. 33 acres fronting on 3 roads with access to the Rainy River. #1944 \$155,900.00</p>
<p>LITTLE GRASSY RIVER</p>  <p>Year round home or cottage, 2 or 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, loft overlooking livingroom and kitchen, 2 sundecks, dock, double garage. #4122 \$179,000.00</p>	<p>206 3rd STREET, RAINY RIVER</p>  <p>Older 1 1/2 storey home located within walking distance of all town amenities. 1200 square foot with 3 bedrooms, kitchen, dining room, laundry room, 2 baths and full unfinished basement. 1 car+ garage with back lane access. Worth a look! #1985 \$39,000.00</p>
<p>112 TOWER ROAD, RAINY RIVER</p>  <p>100x150 lot, 1400 square foot home, 2 bedrooms, kitchen, separate dining room, livingroom with gas fireplace, family room, 1 1/2 baths, utility room, close to river. Call today! #1991 \$79,500.00</p>	<p>113 1st STREET, RAINY RIVER</p>  <p>1232 sq. ft., 1 1/2 storey home, 3 bedrooms, kitchen, dining room, livingroom, den and 1 bath. Walking distance to school and all town amenities. 1/2 block to River. Take a look. #1998 \$35,900.00</p>

ROYAL LEPAGE

Landry's for Real Estate

Kenora - Brokerage
Independently Owned and Operated

231 First Street South
Kenora, ON P9N 1C2
(807) 468-9871
Toll Free (877) 468-9871
Fax (807) 468-9167
landrys@royallepage.ca
www.landrys.ca



Butch Creason
Broker



REALTOR.ca
Member of the
Thunder Bay
Real Estate Board