

The Westend Weekly

Bringing Communities Together



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Legion Auxiliary Branch #29 honours members for 50 plus years of service



Pictured from left sitting: Laura McConnell, Dorothy Burnell, Jean Hoffman, Marie McDiarmid. Standing, Sgt. at Arms, Yvonne Chambers, Nancy Shaw, Elaine Bone, Jane McLeod, Joan Taylor and President, Sylvia Gunderson.

By Marlene Deschamps

On Sunday, May 1st, the Royal Canadian Legion Ladies Auxiliary Branch #29 held an appreciation tea to honour the 50+ years members. Many of these members are still actively working for the Auxiliary by making crafts, making some of the most delicious pies to be found in the district and selling tickets.

Each member was called up by President Sylvia Gunderson and escorted to the front of the hall by Sgt. At Arms Yvonne Chambers. There they were presented with a rose bowl and certificate of appreciation. They were then escorted to a seat at the side. When all who present received their rose and certificate and were seated,

Branch President Norris Piccinato shook each one's hand and thanked them for their continued involvement in the Auxiliary.

Although only eight were present, the following is the complete list of those honoured. Those not present will also receive a rose bowl and certificate. There was also an honourable mention made of Grace Angus who has served for 48 years.

50 years service: Jean Hoffman; Eleanor Kurchma; Emily Monroe.

53 years service: Joan Taylor. 54 years service; Elaine Bone and Eva Costello.

55 years service; Marie McDiarmid.

57 years service; Kay Boucher; Clara McEvoy; Mary Clinker.

58 years service; Jane McLeod; Veereen Zuchiatti. 60 years service; Dorothy Burrell; Laura McConnell and Dot Cupp.

69 years service; Nancy Shaw (Nancy can still be seen down at WalMart taking her turn at selling 50/50 tickets and still donates beautiful hand knit items for Auxiliary sales.)

The local Auxiliary just wouldn't be the same without the continued help and wisdom that these wonderful women provide and it was an honour for the entire Auxiliary to honour them on this special occasion.

Election changes the face of federal politics in Canada

By Marlene Deschamps

The May 2nd federal election held a lot of surprises for everyone in this country. For the first time in our history, the NDP will form the official opposition. The Bloc have lost official party status and Gilles Duceppe lost his seat to an NDP candidate forcing him to step down. The Liberal party came in a distant third with leader Michael Ignatieff also losing his seat and stepping down. According to news reports, Ralph Goodale will take over the role of interim leader of the Liberal party. The Green Party has won a seat in parliament because Elizabeth May won over a Conservative incumbent in British Columbia. Two prominent Liberals also lost their seats as both Gerard Kennedy who previously ran

for the Liberal leadership and Ken Dryden lost their seats.

This election has left a lot of people stunned, shaking their heads and asking themselves "What just happened." And what just happened was that Stephen Harper has just won his third election - but this time he will be leading a majority Conservative government. In his speech late in the night he said he was thankful and humble and he would work with the others in a new era of cooperation to move the country forward.

In the Thunder Bay- Rainy River riding, incumbent MP John Rafferty won 49% of the vote and will be returning to Ottawa. In a telephone interview, John said he thanked everyone who supported him and added he thought it was a

good thing that the NDP would be the opposition. He voiced his hope that Prime Minister Stephen Harper meant what he said about working together. He said this election really changes the face of Ottawa and added that the NDP would be an effective opposition and hold the government's feet to the fire on coming through with promises to work together. As for John, he said he will immediately roll up his sleeves and get to work concentrating on the three issues important to his constituents which are affordability, retirement security and health care. He ended the conversation by saying he will be visiting the Rainy River District this weekend, making stops in Rainy River and Fort Frances.

Home and Leisure Show a big success



LaVerendrye Auxiliary "Rockin for a Reason" Seated in front John Beaton and Shanda DeGagne. Seated at Back is Dixie Badiuk. Standing at back is Shirley Scofield.

By Marlene Deschamps

Chamber Manager Anthony Mason said the Home and Leisure Show was another success this year. He added the strongman competition brought in many who maybe didn't attend before. The number of people who came through was

pretty steady both Friday evening and all day Saturday and the around 50 exhibitors who came from Thunder Bay, Winnipeg, Dryden, Kenora as well as from all over the Rainy River District, were pleased at the response from the public. Anthony said people who visit-

ed came from Rainy River to Atikokan and from Minnesota. He added they even had a couple from Toronto who seemed to enjoy the show. Anthony said he considers the show a success and next up on the Chambers plate will be Quest for the Best.

Farmer's Market offers fresh salad makings



Fresh, local grown lettuce, radishes and onions available at first Farmer's Market.

By Marlene Deschamps

The First Farmer's Market held on Saturday, April 30th saw a pleasant surprise with a table of fresh lettuce, green onions and radishes that were grown in Emo.

There was quite a good sized crowd out for this first market, despite the rainy weather. There were a big variety of booths and items available for so early in the season and lots

of samplings. Remember to support your Rainy River District farmers and cattlemen and buy local whenever you can. You can taste the difference.

Badiuk's Boat Show draws a crowd

By Marlene Deschamps

Badiuk's Equipment has the floor space of the 52 Canadians Arena full of boats, motors, mowers, ATV's and every kind of equipment that could be needed for the outdoors. From mowing your lawn to clearing your property to enjoying our woods and waters, Badiuks has what you need to make this happen and all this was available at great sale prices. If you missed the chance to see the show you should travel out to Badiuks and see all the prod-

ucts they have that highlight the benefits of having the right

equipment to enhance living in Northwestern Ontario.



Jim Badiuk talking with a potential customer.

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