

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. 31 Wednesday, November 4, 2009
If you ever forget to pick up the paper, read it on line at www.westendweekly.ca

Barriers become windows to outdoors at Rainycrest Alzheimer Unit



by Marlene Deschamps

Through the Family Council at Rainycrest, the three locked doors in the Alzheimer Unit are now seen as windows to beautiful outdoor landscapes instead of barriers for the residents.

Each of the three doors has been painted by local artists, Pam Hawley, Sandra Brunetta and Jean Richards. The paintings provides a far more uplifting atmosphere in a unit where barriers must be set up for residents safety and protection.

ful outdoor landscapes instead of barriers for the residents. Each of the three doors has been painted by local artists, Pam Hawley, Sandra Brunetta and Jean Richards. The paintings provides a far more uplifting atmosphere in a unit where barriers must be set up for residents safety and protection.



Legion Poppy Campaign begins



Veteran Roy Legarie and Mayor Roy Avis.

by Marlene Deschamps

Friday morning saw the kick off for the annual Legion Poppy Campaign. Monies raised from the Poppy Campaign go towards caring for disabled veterans, maintaining graves and memorials plus

various charities supported by the Legion. Shortly after the above picture was taken, members of the Fort Frances Royal Canadian Legion Branch #29 took off to LCBO, Safeway, Walmart and Canadian Tire to sell their poppies.

Veteran Roy Legarie has a vested interest in both the Legion and the Poppy Campaign. He has had 60 years of service and has been a veteran for 45 years. He said he was in Halifax, Nova Scotia ready to go overseas, when the war ended and he was sent back to his base. Roy's family is still involved in the military and still protecting Canadians as his grandson, Gordon Legarie, is leaving shortly from Edmonton to go to Afghanistan. Roy, along with most other Canadians is hoping this brave young soldier will come home safely.

Poppies are available in Rainy River at all business outlets and available now in Emo also.

Please support the Poppy Campaign and please remember to find out where services are being held at cenotaphs in your community so you can attend the various services held throughout the district on Remembrance Day.

Boston Pizza Grand Opening Celebration



Boston Pizza's mascot, Lionel with managers Elizabeth Leishman-Fortes, Dale Fortes and their daughter Isabella.

by Marlene Deschamps

A grand opening of Boston Pizza, located next to the Adventure Inn on King's Highway, was held on Friday, October 30th for around 150 invite only guest which included family, friends, Town officials and dignitaries. It was a great party that gave Manager, and Franchisees, Dale Fortes and his wife, Elizabeth Leishman-Fortes a chance to introduce staff, trainers, supporters and friends and family to those attending to each other and to the media.

People had a chance to have their fill of some of the many varieties of pizza available on the menu, along with tastes of their delicious ribs and chicken wings. Howard Hampton MPP was spotted, along with his Mom enjoying some of what Boston Pizza has to offer and both seemed to really enjoy what they had on their plate. After people had a chance to sample all the food, visit and make remarks about this new meeting place where people could gather both as sports people and families, the introductions began.

Scott Drummond, lead trainer for Boston Pizza International, spoke of how Dale and Elizabeth were just the kind of people Boston Pizza were looking for to be franchisees. He said he had enjoyed his time in Fort Frances and working with them and staff who were now prepared to be part of the Boston Pizza family. Other trainers were introduced along with Piero Staltaro of Platinum Construction who had built the new restaurant which features the latest interior and exterior

designs creating a modern atmosphere for the location which will seat 250 in the dining room, sports bar and patio ensuring plenty of room for a party of any size. The huge flat screen HD televisions and wall to wall surround-sound create the perfect atmosphere for any sporting event. Scott pointed out that their suppliers are their partners and in this case, Molson's and Cisco were the main ones. The staff, which numbers close to 100 were then led through both the bar and restaurant sections. They all wear the Boston Pizza uniform and they all wear the big smiles that anyone who has visited a Boston Pizza are used to. Dale and Elizabeth were presented with the traditional gift of Seiko watches. Randy DeGagne was introduced as the Kitchen Manager and then Dale was handed the microphone. Both he and Elizabeth were very emotional as they explained how they became interested in opening a Boston Pizza. They thanked everyone involved in helping them reach their goal. He mentioned Geoff Gillon, Faye Flatt, Rick Halem, NCDS (they handled the job fair) and Mayor Avis. He and Elizabeth mentioned how pleased and proud they were to be back in the community where they formerly lived, met, married and began their family life. Mayor Avis was introduced and asked to say a few words. Avis thanked Dale for his kind words about the town staff and said it was a nice change. He said the new Boston Pizza was truly awesome and a needed success

story for the community. The Fortes have pledged to be major supporters of the community year-round, actively supporting minor sports teams, schools and charities within the local area. They will also help raise fund for Kids help Phone, Juvenile Diabetes, Research Foundation and the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada through donations to the Boston Pizza Foundation, which has generated more than \$9 million for various Canadian charities since it's inception in 1990.

During the six day dress rehearsals the staff pooled all their tips to present to the Salvation Army and United Native Friendship Centre's food banks. The total presented by two of the staff to Sheila McMahon from UNFC and Capt. Angel Sandoval of the Salvation Army was a whopping \$4,773. Dale told them he wanted that total to reach \$5,000 and the number of the large cheque presented was erasable, the staff were again adding this nights tips in hopes of reaching their goal (it has been noted that when that nights tips were totaled up it did add up to \$5,000). Dale and Elizabeth, along with daughter Isabella, and their nephew Jayden cut the ceremonial pizza. After many poses for pictures for the press, family and friends, the Fortes visited with as many people as they could before the evening's event was over.

The official opening to the public to come out and enjoy the Boston Pizza and Sports Bar is Monday, November 2nd.

R.R.D.S.B. develops proactive pandemic plan

The Rainy River District School Board is well prepared for the H1N1 virus pandemic, and has developed a pandemic preparedness plan for all schools and worksites. In developing the plan, the Board worked closely with the Northwestern Health Unit, Ontario Ministry of Education,

and the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. This plan includes guidelines that each school and worksite will follow in the event of a health emergency or escalating pandemic outbreak.

Currently, the Board is focusing on preventative measures as advised by local and provincial

health authorities. Resources are posted in schools to remind students and staff to promote proper hand-washing practices, safe cough etiquette, with hand sanitizers available in supervised areas. Thorough and effective routine cleaning and disinfecting practices, which include cleaning high contact

surfaces and high contamination areas, are in effect in our schools and are supported by the Northwestern Health Unit.

The Rainy River District School Board is committed to ongoing prevention practices to prevent the spread of H1N1 virus in our schools and facilities. The daily well being and

safety of our students and staff is a key priority within all school programmes. Students and staff who are sick are advised to stay home until their fever subsides and they are feeling better. Our partnership with the Northwestern Health Unit will ensure that we continue to strengthen our pandemic

preparedness planning. The pandemic plan for the Board is available on the Rainy River District School Board's website at www.rdsb.com through the H1N1 Virus Update link. If you have questions, please contact the Principal of your school or Diane Ross, Manager of Human Resources.



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