

# 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 almost 17 years VOL. 17, NO. 46 Wednesday, March 11, 2009  
If you ever forget to pick up the paper, read it on line at [www.westendweekly.ca](http://www.westendweekly.ca)

### Fort Frances Jr. Sabres awards banquet



Award winners, from left, Chris Sinclair, Mike Boese, Mitch Cain, Rod Bouchard, Kenny Carpenter and Ryan Faragher.

by Marlene Deschamps

The Fort Frances Jr. Sabres Fan Club put together an Awards Banquet for the team on Saturday, March 7th at the Adventure Inn. Larry Patrick acted as emcee for the evening that saw 108 people gather to enjoy the event.

After a delicious meal, Larry spoke about the season the Sabres have had. He told the crowd that in it's second season the Sabres had won 30 games and ended up in third place in the league. He mentioned what a valuable asset the team members have been to the community and cited the Adopt a School Program that had an impact on literacy in the schools. The program saw different team members attend at elementary schools throughout the district where they would read to and

with the young students and interact with them through demonstrations. The response from the children and the schools has been very positive. Larry had each Sabre player stand up as they were introduced as they were for the most part sporting very different and colourful hair styles making some hard to identify. Each player in turn introduced who he was with and in the case of out of town players, their host families.

Everyone then got a chance to watch a Sabres Hi-Lights video put together by Tom Foley. Tom also put together a DVD of the highlights as a gift for each of the players. The video was awesome and everyone felt that it was a great substitute for a guest speaker.

The awards were then pre-

sented by the Coaching Staff of Head Coach Wayne Strachan and Assistant Coaches Dale Cooper and Bob Mainville. The Awards winners were: Fan Favourite-Chris Sinclair; Most Sportsman Player-Mitch Cain; Rookie of the Year-Mike Boese; Most Improved player-Kenny Carpenter, Best Defensive Player-Mike Boese and MVP Ryan Faragher. After a round of applause for the winners and another round for all the players, coaches and host families, Larry held the draw for the prizes available at the draw table. Conversations from people who were slowly leaving the banquet showed that a good time was had by all.

Playoffs start this weekend so make sure to go down to the arena and cheer on the Sabres.

### Andrea Horwath is new leader of Ontario NDP



From left, Howard Hampton's uncle Allan Gustafson, Andrea Horwath, Elsie Hampton (Howie's Mom), and Federal candidate in 1997 Ruth Bergman.

by Marlene Deschamps

Andrea Horwath became the first woman to lead the Ontario NDP on Saturday, March 7th after beating out Peter Tabuns on the final ballot. Michael Prue who visited Fort Frances earlier dropped off in the first round of voting threw his support behind Gilles Bisson. Bisson lost out in the second round of voting and threw his support behind Horwath. This set up the last round of votes which saw Horwath emerge as the victor. Horwath also made a stop in Fort Frances for a meet and greet at Kettle's where she spoke to many people to find out what the concerns and issues were in this part of the province. She is the 46 year old

mother of one and has a background in community organizing. She was persuaded to enter the race and won a seat at Queen's Park her first try.

Horwath has stated both in her speeches at the convention held in her home riding of Hamilton, and during her visit to Fort Frances that she wants to rebuild the party and wants to get back to the original roots which were supported by the unions.

During a brief appearance after the convention, Howard Hampton MPP who has been leading the party since 1996, replacing former leader, Bob Rae, said this was a great hometown victory. He went on to say Andrea Horwath was

intelligent, full of integrity and energy and yet down to earth. He along with MPP Peter Komos and MP Chris Christopherson also stated they were very pleased to see the candidate they supported rise to the top. Christopherson said this was especially great considering this was the day before International Women's Day.

Howie will remain on as our MPP as he has stated many times and will, no doubt, help Horwath in the transition into the leadership role. By making the choice to step down, he will no longer be working on behalf of the entire province of Ontario but can devote his time to Kenora/Rainy issues. THANKS HOWIE!!!

### A skating extravaganza



Pictured from left, Olivia Vaagen assisted by her big sister Carly, Madison Kreger, Jethro Kwandibens and Annie Beyer, performing the "Disco Duck" charmed the audiences at the Rainy River Figure Skating Show last Saturday night and Sunday afternoon. This theme of this year's production, Disco Fever, allowed the coaches, choreographers, decorators and costume designers go wild with the throbbing beat and flamboyant style to put together a really entertaining show. Emcee Jodie Brown kept the pace fast moving and fun not to mention her fabulous arrangement of the American National Anthem. Erica Tymplin then performed a beautiful rendition of O Canada. Saturday night's audience was treated to a special performance by medal winning pairs champions Sophie Potvin-Begin and Michael Nelson from the Borderland Skating Club in Fort Frances. Coach Lesley Wood must be commended for the fine job she did putting together this season's figure skating program. With the help of her assistant coaches, this year's students have made wonderful progress.

### FACS holds open house



by Marlene Deschamps

Family and Children Services (FACS) have recently seen the completion of the renovated basement section where three of their programs will be housed. To celebrate the completion, they held an Open House for the public on Thursday, March 5th. Quite a few people took advantage of the Open House to visit and find out more about the programs that this section of FACS offers families.

The three programs now offered in the newly renovated area are: Volunteer Program; Family Centered Conferencing and Supervised Access Program. The waiting room area that families come into upon arrival are all decorated

with Disney characters with the word welcome printed beneath each in the appropriate language. It is very warm and inviting and children are soon at ease in the setting with the familiar characters they all know and love. Off to the left of the waiting room, is the Family Centered Conferencing area which is open and also family friendly. There is a Wii set up for the whole family, including extended family members, to engage in various popular game programs. There is also a dedicated room for the Volunteer Program. This program is vital to FACS as they help by becoming a driver, a special friend/mentor, child care provider, tutor and are also involved in special events and

more. The third program housed in the area is the Supervised Access Program. This program provides both supervised access and safe exchanges between parents and their children during what can be a traumatic time in a child's life.

All the programs are geared to the well being of children. The staff work to reunite and reconnect children with their families, but only when this can be done in a safe manner. There are 50 full and part time workers at FACS. This includes casual workers. They are currently working with fifteen supervised access cases. They received 50 applications from people who wish to become volunteers and these volunteers will be attending orientation meetings and training sessions for tutoring and mentoring clients. Manager of Community Services, Betty-Anne MacKintosh, was very pleased with the response and comments she heard from the public during the Open House. She was also pleased that people can now visit them on the web at [www.facsrr.ca](http://www.facsrr.ca) to find out all about FACS and the available programs. If you or someone in your family needs help from FACS or want to know more about programs that you and/or your family can use you can find out how to access them and where to get a referral if necessary, on this web site. You can also contact FACS by calling (807) 274-7787 or the toll free number at 1-800-465-7764.



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# Obituaries

## Frank Edward "Ted" McDonald

Frank Edward "Ted" McDonald passed away peacefully at Rainycrest Long Term Care Home in Fort Frances, Ont. on Friday, Feb. 27, 2009 surrounded by his devoted wife, family, and dear friends.

He was born in Fort William, Ont. on Nov 29, 1935 to Vona and John McDonald. He was raised in Fort William (Thunder Bay) along with his older brother, Jack.

Ted's love and appreciation for cars was very apparent at an early age as he always drove the cleanest vehicle in town. He took great pride in car detailing for others, making sure their vehicles were as clean and shiny as his.

During his life, he served in the navy, worked for CN in Thunder Bay, worked for various contractors, and owned his own caulking and waterproofing business.

He eventually found his niche after moving to Fort Frances, where he began a new career as a salesman for Ford, then at West End Motors Chrysler Dealership, where he excelled,

winning many awards. Prior to retiring, he won the award for "Top Sales Achiever" 2000 in the Western Division.

He moved to Fort Frances in 1983, where he married the love of his life, Renee, on Aug. 26. They spent the next 25 years sharing adventures, travelling, skiing, boating, and dancing. Their life was always filled with laughter and love.

Ted was filled with pride by the accomplishments of his children, grandchildren, stepchildren, and step-grandchildren, and they could count on him for his support and advice. He treated all of them with understanding, love, and a sense of humour.

He is survived by his wife, Renee (nee Thompson); brother, Jack and wife, Shell, their son, John, and his family; his daughter, Kelly and husband, Don Hughson; his son, Teddy; stepchildren, Kim Perreault and friend, Allan Larocque; Bob Martin, and Tanya and husband, Peter Koukos; grandchildren, Ryan and fiancé,

Andrea, and Sean Carlson, Colin and Genevieve Andresen, and Talladega and Bristol McDonald; and step-grandchildren, Nathan and Sara DeGagne, Zachary Martin, and Pelayia Koukos.

He was predeceased by his parents, Vona and John McDonald; former wife, Fran; and son-in-law, Tim Perreault.

He will be greatly missed by family and many friends. "Happy Hour" won't be the same, but his jokes and great sense of humor will live on in our memories.

A celebration of Ted's life was held on Saturday, March 7, 2009 at 11 a.m. from the Royal Canadian Legion in Fort Frances.

The family requests that, in lieu of flowers, in memoriam donations be made to the Rainycrest Family Council, 550 Osborne St., Fort Frances, Ont., P9A 3T2 or the charity of your choice. Online condolences may be offered at [www.northridgefuneralhome.com](http://www.northridgefuneralhome.com)

## Florrie Sybil Rahn (nee Lauzon)



Peacefully on Tuesday March 3, 2009 at the La Verendrye Hospital, Florrie Rahn of Fort Frances, Ont. passed away at the age of 81.

Florrie was born in Nelles Twp, Ont on October 16, 1927 to the late Antoine and Florrie Lauzon.

Florrie worked for many years throughout the community including the Emo Hotel, Husky House and the Fort Frances Hotel in Fort Frances, and Green's Camp in Nestor Falls, Ont. Florrie's fondness for country music and dancing will always be remembered. Spending time with her family meant everything to Florrie especially her grandchildren

and great grandchildren.

Florrie will be sadly missed by her children Reg (Liz) Johnson of Burriss Twp, Ont. Karen (Dennis) Pelepetz of Emo, Ont and Doug (Sharon) Johnson also of Emo, Ont. Grandchildren Jeremy (Janel) Johnson, Kelly (Andy) Lengyel, Cindy (David) Poirier, Dwayne (Sue) Pelepetz, Laurie-lee Pelepetz, Brian (Sowmya) Johnson, Janene (Jay) Mosbeck, Julie Johnson.

Great Grandchildren, Colton Lengyel, Magen and Nicholas Poirier, Fabiana and Conor Johnson, Taylor and Brandon Pelepetz, Paige, Codey, Robin Vien, Mia-lee Wilson, Ariya and Sahana Johnson, Cameron and Teagan Mosbeck.

Florrie is also survived by her sisters Violet Schram, Edna Brown, Shirley (Sylvester) Armstrong, Judy Rissanen and brother Albert (Michelle) Lauzon, sister in law Bessy Lauzon, and Yvett Lauzon.

She was predeceased by first husband Keith Johnson, infant daughter, and second husband Jack Rahn brothers Ben

(Violet), Gordon (Minnie), William (Lily), and Jim Morrison, Charlie and Philip Lauzon, sisters Ruby (Amy) Gaudry, Clara (Axel) Lundstrom and infant sister Helen, brother in laws Henry Brown, Sid Schram, and Harold Rissanen.

Family and friends were received at the Northridge Funeral Home, Emo, Ont. on Friday March 6, 2009 from 7-9 p.m. where funeral service was held on Saturday March 7, 2009 at 11 a.m. Rev. Dennis Schram officiated. Interment will take place in Barwick Cemetery at a later date.

Pall Bearers were Kelly Lengyel, Cindy Poirier, Jeremy Johnson, Dwayne Pelepetz, Laurie-lee Pelepetz, Brian Johnson, Janene Mosbeck, and Julie Johnson.

If desired memorial donations may be made to the Emo Hospital, c/o Northridge Funeral Home, Box 89, Emo, Ont P0W 1E0. Online condolences may be offered at [www.northridgefuneralhome.com](http://www.northridgefuneralhome.com)

## Ernest (Marv) Marvin Olson

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Ernest Marvin "Marv" Olson on March 1, 2009 at La Verendrye Hospital. Marv was born October 20, 1929 in Sprague, Manitoba to Ernest and Anna Olson. Dad was raised in Sprague and started working in the bush and lumber yard at the age of 14. He married the love of his life and best friend on September 4, 1954. Marv and Theresa then moved to Atikokan in 1959 where he worked at Caland Ore on the drills, blasting and finally as an Assistant Foreman. In July 1972 Marv had a vision that with the mines going to close shortly he would move his family to Calgary, Alberta where Marv worked as a carpenter until 1986 then moving to Regina where he continued his carpenter work. In 1989 Marv and Theresa moved to Fort Frances and continued with his carpenter work until he retired. After retiring Marv took up curling and golf and continued golfing 5 days a week 18 holes except on Wednesdays when he golfed 27 holes until his illness in June 2008. Marv loved all Sports and enjoyed watching all of them on television. Dad was a kind and funny man who was always there to help his

family in anyway he could. After his retirement mom and dad would plant their vegetable garden together and then do the canning of the pickles and beets together.

Every summer since 2002 great papa looked forward to his great-granddaughter (Alexis) coming to spend 3 weeks with him and granny. Grandpa loved all his grandchildren and always liked to joke around with them. He will be fondly remembered by all who loved and truly knew him.

Marv will be lovingly be missed by his wife of 54 years Theresa, daughter Debbie (John) McTaggart of Fort Frances, son Dale (Tamarah) of Salinas, California, son Curtis of Calgary, Alberta. Granddaughters Christie (Kieran) Monaghan, of Sarnia, Ontario, Laura (Craig) Speziali, of Toronto, Ontario, Christine (Daemon) Thome, of Calgary, Alberta, Sheri (William) Wright of Lethbridge, Alberta, Grandson Robert Olson of San Ramon, California and Granddaughter Lisa Olson of Calgary, Alberta. His great-granddaughter Alexis and great-grandson Braden of Sarnia, Ontario. Sisters Arlene Herrit of Liliott, B. C., Marlene (Earl) Leach of

Squamish, B. C., and Karen (Art) Boser of Duncan, B. C. Marv has numerous nieces and nephews and brother-in-law and sister-in-laws also.

Marv was predeceased by his son Lyle in 1957, father Ernest Olson in 1966, mother Anna Olson in 1986, brother Rollie Olson in 1989, brother Ken Olson in 1991, sister Vivian Jones in 1999 sister Anne Faykes in 2009, mother-in-law Theresa Stamler in 1969, father-in-law Frank Stamler in 1970, brother in-laws, Earl Jones, Bill Faykes, Wells Herrit, Frank Stamler and sister-in-law Mary Gobeil.

Cremation has taken place. A celebration of his life will be held on Wednesday March 11th at 11:00am at the Fort Frances Royal Canadian Legion.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to Riverside Foundation for Health Care, Tamarack House, Thunder Bay or Thunder Bay Regional Sciences Foundation Cancer Fund, "Garden of Friends", Thunder Bay, in memory of Ernest "Marvin" Olson c/o Northridge Funeral Home Box 89, Emo, Ontario P0W 1E0. Online condolences may be offered at [www.northridgefuneralhome.com](http://www.northridgefuneralhome.com)

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### Happy 90th Birthday Linnea Johnsrud



Family and friends are invited to join Linnea for coffee and cake on Saturday, March 14th 2 pm to 4 pm Stratton Senior Centre

### OPTOMETRIST

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 Saturday and after hour appointments by request

### 4-H news

**By Nolan and Aaron Short**  
 The Pine River Club met on January 30th for its first project of the year. The club leader is Kim Desserre and there were 13 members for this project. We did the Explore 4-H project which was a good introduction, for our 6 new members, to what 4 H is all about. The club members met at the Stratton Senior Center on three different occasions to learn a little bit about cooking, sewing, photography and etiquette. We made ourselves lunch of soup and biscuits, made and decorated pillow cases, took pictures of different subjects and learned about telephone and table manners and more. We will wrap up our project with our achievement program on March 1st which will be a short meeting followed by skating at the Stratton rink. 4-H is a good way to meet people, learn things and have fun. If you would like more information about becoming a 4H member or leader you can call our local 4H Association Contact, Kim Jo Bliss, at 482-2863.

**Rainy River District School Board**  
 requires  
**Accounting Clerk III: Payroll/Benefits**

**Description of Duties:**  
 The Accounting Clerk III is responsible for the payroll and benefit deductions for the Board.

**Qualifications Required:**

- College Diploma in business/accounting would be required plus a minimum of three years experience in payroll, employee benefits or equivalent combination of work and/or experience.
- Proficiency in computer software programs for word processing, spreadsheets, email and internet.
- Ability to deal with tact and sound judgment in oral and written communications with staff and the public. Excellent interpersonal skills are required.
- Ability to organize and complete work assignments with a minimum of supervision.

To ensure consideration, please submit cover letter for requested position, resume, and two professional references (one of which must be from a current or former supervisor). Written authorization to contact references is required with the application (Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act).

**Offer of employment is conditional upon the successful candidate providing a current, original Criminal Background Check with Vulnerable Sector Screening. This document does not need to be included in your application package.**

**Apply in writing to:**  
 Rainy River District School Board  
 522 Second Street East  
 Fort Frances, ON P9A 1N4  
 Fax: (807) 274-1950  
 Email: [ncousineau@mail.rdrdsb.com](mailto:ncousineau@mail.rdrdsb.com)

Only those applicants short listed will be contacted.

**Closing date for applicants is**  
**Wednesday, March 18, 2009 at 4:00 PM**

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D. Belluz Chair  
 J. McMaster Director

**YOUTH INTERNSHIP**  
**RAINY RIVER FUTURE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

**Position?** To work as an Events Coordinator. The primary focus of the position would be coordination of the 2010 Northern Networks Conference and the enhancement of other events throughout the Rainy River District.

**Who is eligible?** Unemployed or underemployed youth (under the age of 30) who have graduated with a degree or diploma from a post secondary institution within the last three years, are legally entitled to work in Canada, and not previously employed under a FedNor Youth Internship Initiative Funding Agreement.

**Salary?** Negotiable. This full-time position is partially funded by FedNor's Youth Internship Program.

Successful candidates will have:

- Post-graduate degree/diploma
- Degree in Marketing, Business or Tourism would be an asset
- Proficient computer skills, and an understanding of website development
- Knowledge of the Rainy River District is an asset
- Highly developed writing and organizational skills are a priority

Deadline for applications is Friday, March 27, 2009. Position to start May 1, 2009. Position is dependant on FedNor approval. This will be a contracted 13 month position to May 31, 2010.

**Please mail, fax or e-mail resume and cover letter to:**  
 Rainy River Future Development Corporation  
 608 Scott Street  
 Fort Frances, ON P9A 1H6

Phone: (807) 274-3276  
 Fax: (807) 274-6989  
 Email: [info@rfdc.on.ca](mailto:info@rfdc.on.ca)  
 If emailing please confirm receipt.

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Got 24 hours to spare?

**...Stay tuned to this space.**

**Town of Rainy River**  
**Notice**

The Rainy River Volunteer Fire Department is planning to conduct a controlled burn on March 14, 2009 involving the property located at 310 Fifth Street. The boundaries of the areas to be burned are limited to that property. Smoke is expected to be very visible within the Rainy River area.

**South Kenora Rainy River Stewardship Council**  
**2009 Tree Sale**

The South Kenora Rainy River Stewardship Council is taking orders for seedlings. Black Spruce, White Spruce and Red Pine are available for purchase for \$0.25 per seedling. They will be sold in bundles of 20 for \$5.00. There is a maximum order of 10 bundles (200 seedlings). Orders over 200 seedlings will be considered, call for more details.

All orders must be placed and payments received before March 31, 2009.

Pick-up of the trees will be at the Emo Agricultural Research Station just west of the Town of Emo on Friday, May 1, 2009 from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Trees will be sold on a first come first serve basis. Please call Colin Langford, Stewardship Coordinator at 807-274-8637 to order or for more details.

Family and Children's Services of the District of Rainy River  
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