

# The Westend Weekly

## Bringing Communities Together



Box 66, 303 Fifth St., Rainy River, ON P0W 1L0 Ph. 807-852-3815, Fax. 807-852-1863, Email. westendweekly@tbaytel.net Vol. 22, No. 27 Wednesday, October 15, 2014  
Serving the Rainy River District for over 23 years! Read us on line at www.westendweekly.ca. Check out the pictures on line. They are so good!

# Fall Harvest celebration



Mr. Jones' Grade 8 Ojibway class from Robert Moore School depict a much different picture of students on the grounds of the former residential school.



Jadyn Bump helped erect the poles to construct a teepee with Mrs. Miller and Ron Berezow.



Catch of the Day! – Bill Perrault gave a "little biology lesson" on the various species of fish he caught including whitefish, tullibee, walleye and sucker.



Mrs. Moxham's Grade 5 class from Robert Moore School at the monument constructed to honour the children of the residential school.



Mookii Morrison from Rainy River First Nations shares stories as the children pick the husks from the wild rice.



Florence Yerxa (Couchiching First Nation) and Lorraine Smith (Naicatchewenin First Nation) help make the fry bread.



Dorothy Medicine of Rainy River First Nations showed the kids how fry bread is made and then shared the finished product.



Mark Sault teaches about the process to make corn soup using white corn.



Children checked out the goose being plucked to make goose soup.



Luke White from Mrs. Andy's Ojibway class at J.W. Walker School tried his hand at wood sawing at the Anishnabe games station. "It's not as easy as I thought", he said.

By: Teresa Hazel

Seven Generations Education Institute celebrated Fall Harvest and invited students from across the district to participate in educational activities with Elders.

There were fifteen groups of students rotating through fifteen stations ranging from teepee building to goose plucking and the making of bear grease.

Bear grease is used as a medicine for ailments such as eczema and arthritis explained Rita Johnson, an elder from Naicatchewenin First Nation.

As the kids went through the stations, they learned about making bannock with Dorothy Medicine from Rainy River First Nations. They learned about roasting wild rice with Willie Yerxa from Couchiching First Nation. Then Tommy Councillor from Naicatchewenin helped lace

up moccasins so the kids could dance on the rice to loosen the husk. Before beginning to winnow the rice, the kids received a lesson on respecting nature. "Trees are like people", explained the elder from Seine River First Nation through an interpreter. "When you break branches on trees, you are hurting them. Respect trees, just like people. There are all kinds of trees and all kinds of people". As the kids continued to process the wild rice, they heard stories from Mookii

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Teachings on respect for nature with Rosie from Seine River First Nation and interpreter, Sherri Kabatay.

Morrison of Rainy River First Nations.

Mark Sault and Fred King were making corn soup and popped rice for the kids to try as well as Labrador tea.

There were teachings about traditional drumming and a couple new activities this year were the Metis Voyageur Games and the Anishnabe Games where kids could be seen laughing and having fun in some friendly competition.

"The games teach balance, body strengthening and teamwork", explained Wanda Botsford who helped organize the Metis Voyageur Games.

Wayne Anderson of Seven Generations Education Institute explained that although they have lost some elders this year, others are stepping up to the plate.

"That is awesome", he said.

Some elders were giving biology classes around fish species and science lessons using the insides of a goose.

"Eat healthy for a healthy



Fred King showed how the corn is hung.

heart", advised Nancy Jones, an elder from Lac la Croix First Nation.

"Geese are vegetarians. They eat plants on clean ground so the goose is healthy. It is like eating medicine when you eat the animals, like beaver or goose".

The kids entered a teepee to participate in storytelling and singing with Laura Horton using rattles and hand drums.

As I wandered the grounds at the NANICOST building and heard the children laughing and learning about the Anishnabe culture, I couldn't help but be taken back to a time when on these very same grounds and within the building, educators were stripping away the culture that was now being celebrated.

Kudos to Seven Generations Education Institute for your vision and courage to utilize the same building that housed a residential school to provide culturally-based education to native and non-native students. The school works in partnership with main stream education although not at the cost of giving up cultural learning and



Rita Johnson of Naicatchewenin First Nation fried the bear fat to make bear grease.



Christopher Labelle roasts bannock on a stick.

traditional values passed down from generation to generation. This mutual respect for learning is a model that is working. It was achieved by going back and looking at what didn't work and asking the right questions to move forward.

More pictures on page 2

## Photographers' showcase

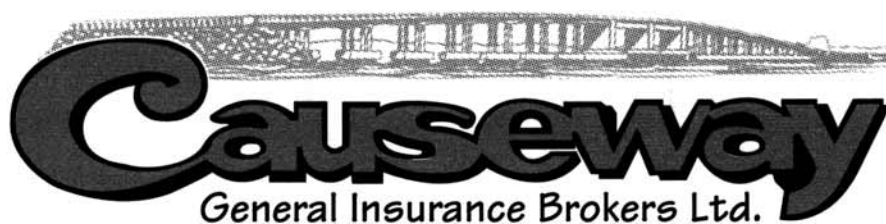


Here's a picture of Chippy, he comes to the front door for his daily peanuts. My husband befriended him after the passing of our cat Buffy.

Photo by Donna Bone, Riverview Drive, Fort Frances



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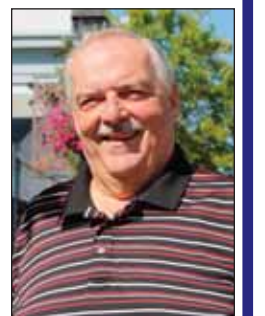


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# Signing Ceremony with New Gold, the Rainy River First Nations and Naicatchewenin First Nation

In the spirit of partnership and mutual cooperation, the leaders of New Gold Inc., the Rainy River First Nations and Naicatchewenin First Nation came together today to formally solidify an Impact Benefits Agreement (the "Agreement") that will see all parties benefit from the development and operation of the Rainy River gold project in Northwestern Ontario.

The Agreement, signed by New Gold President and CEO Robert Gallagher, Chief Jim Leonard of Rainy River First

Nations and Chief Wayne Smith of Naicatchewenin First Nation, marks an important milestone in the project's development and further solidifies New Gold's relationship with its First Nations partners. The Agreement commits New Gold to work together in partnership with the Rainy River First Nations and Naicatchewenin First Nation to ensure their communities and members benefit from employment, training, contracting and other opportunities that result from the project in their

traditional territory. Beyond these commitments, the Agreement also embraces commitments related to environmental and sustainable development.

"For New Gold, having the support and participation of the Rainy River First Nations and Naicatchewenin First Nation is key to making the development of the Rainy River project a great success," stated Mr. Gallagher. "Entering into this Agreement demonstrates our commitment to developing mutually beneficial and cooperative relationships and we are excited to formalize this partnership today."

"On behalf of the Rainy River First Nations, we are proud to be a signatory to this Agreement. As First Nations members, we can determine our future and prepare a path that will bring prosperity and progress," stated Chief Leonard. "This Agreement not only incorporates our community's beliefs, but the values that are held by New Gold."

Chief Smith added, "Naicatchewenin First Nation recognizes the historic importance of this Agreement. We enter into the day with a new partner to build a project that engages our communities, not only from a business standpoint, but also on the environmental side. New Gold is committed to what's important to all of us - sustainable development that provides opportunities."

The signing ceremony was held at the Naicatchewenin First Nation.

## To the editor

Dear Editor:

As election time draws nearer, I thought it might be a good time to remind everyone to only vote for the councillors you actually want on Town Council. We have an option to vote for six people, but that doesn't mean you have to vote for all six. Ensure that your vote counts for your preferred choices and only choose the person(s) you really know and support. Most importantly, fill out your ballot and return it on time.

Good luck to all candidates.  
Respectfully,  
Diane Maxey

## Legion Chat

by Walter Wagner, Major Hughes Br. 54 president

Kudos to the volunteers who shingled the Legion garage. Good job people.

This Friday we will be serving wings during the meat draw.

This article is being written on Thanksgiving weekend and the Legion is grateful for its volunteers and members.

The Legion is eternally grateful for the members who served in all our conflicts and who gave their lives for our freedom.

*We Will Remember Them*

## Carr's Repair

is pleased to announce that they have a 12,000 lb. overhead hoist to service your vehicles.

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## Harvest celebration

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Laura Horton shares stories and songs with the children.



Balance and strength training at the Metis Voyageur Games.



Teamwork and fun!



Nancy Jones of Lac la Croix First Nation gives a science lesson utilizing a goose.



Traditional drumming is used for healing and learning.



Tommy Councillor (Naicatchewenin First Nation) laces up the moccasins for a student to dance on the wild rice to loosen the husk.



Dancing on Wild Rice!

Willie Yerxa (Couchiching First Nation) watched as children helped stir the wild rice while it was being roasted.

*St. James Anglican Church  
in Rainy River*

**Harvest Supper**  
Thursday, October 23 5:30  
**EVERYONE WELCOME!!**

**Roast Pork**  
and all the trimmings  
Adults \$12.00 Family \$30.00  
(2 adults & children under 12)

Tickets available at Rainy River Drugs or from Church Members. Deliveries available Call Pam 852-3750

**The Fort Frances Aquanaut Swim Team Presents...**  
The Maritime's Best... Good Clean Fun!

How's she goin' by?  
Comedian **Jimmy The Janitor**  
"LIVE"

**Saturday, October 18**  
Good Clean Comedy PG 13+  
**Townshend Theatre**  
Doors open at 6:30 pm  
**Showtime 7:30 pm**  
Tickets \$25.00  
Available at:  
**Fort Frances General Supply &  
Donald A. Taylor Law Office**

**LaVerendrye Hospital Auxiliary**  
**Fall Tea & Bake Sale**  
Saturday, Oct. 18, 2 to 4 pm  
New Beginning Fellowship Church  
Admission \$4.00 \* Door Prize  
Tea, Coffee, Sandwiches, Dainties  
Bake Table • Penny Table • Cookie Walk  
2015 Memberships Available  
Everyone Welcome!

**Lakers Fort Frances** **Upcoming Home Games**

Tuesday, Oct. 14, 7:30pm - IFK  
**Minnesota Iron Rangers**  
Saturday, Oct. 18, 7:30pm - IFK  
**English River Miners**  
Tuesday, Oct. 21, 7:30pm - IFK  
**Dryden**  
Saturday, Oct. 25, 7:30pm - IFK  
**Dryden**

**GRAND OPENING Tournaments**

Thursday Oct. 30<sup>th</sup> **BLACKJACK TOURNAMENT**  
Start Time: 3 p.m. / \$60 to Play  
• Progressive Add-On  
• Gifts for Each Registered Player!

Friday Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> **MAIN EVENT POKER TOURNAMENT**  
Start Time: 7 p.m. / \$155 to Play  
• Register by October 26<sup>th</sup> and receive \$2000 in extra chips  
• 1 Re-Entry & 1 add-on at First Break  
• Gifts for Each Player!  
• Mystery Bounty Prize!

Stop by the Blackjack Pit / Poker Room for details.

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