

# Spirit of giving alive and well



PHOTOS BY RONALD WOLF

Santa and his helpers made the annual Salvation Army Christmas dinner a huge success. Seen with Santa are Jocelyn Matheson, Sharon Giavarini, Kendra and Doreen Skinaway, Phyllis Gustafson and Carolyn Fedorak.



Brenda Wiime of Fort Frances was one of the first contributors to Stuff a Cruiser in Fort Frances. Provincial police auxiliary Sgt. Major Murray Alexander gladly accepted the donation.

BY RONALD WOLF

**T**WAS the column before Christmas and all through Fort Frances, not a single creature was stirring. There were several stirring. If anyone in Fort Frances knows how to keep the Christmas spirit alive, it's the good people at the Salvation Army. They held their annual community Christmas dinner last Sunday. A traditional feast of ham and turkey was served to a full house of the hungry masses. An early visit from Santa was included in the entertainment.

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It was a first for the Rainy River. Thanks to the local provincial police detachment and Treaty 3 Police, the first Stuff a Cruiser hit the streets last Saturday in search of non-perishable items for the needy.

Several cruisers were parked at various locations throughout the district, including Wal-Mart, Canada Safeway, The Place and The Cloverleaf Grocery from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The items collected will be going to the Salvation Army, United Native Friendship Centre, Sunset Country Metis and Fort Frances Volunteer Bureau.

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Tis the season to buy community lottery tickets.

The Fort Frances Muskies Blue-line Club is holding its seasonal 50-50 draw while Royal Canadian Legion Branch 29 is also hosting a 50-50 draw.

Tickets for these draws can be purchased at stores such as Einar's Foods on Scott Street.

"We enjoy helping out our fellow people at Christmas," noted owner Nancy Cawston.

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A handful of people were treated to an afternoon of photo editing at the Fort Frances Public Library and Technology Centre on Dec. 5.

Raj Sritharan, technology co-ordinator, taught the group how to get rid of red eyes in pictures; how



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to sharpen photos; and how to use hundreds of other applications.

Programs such as photo editing are being taught for free at the library, which will continue to offer different programs in the new year.

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Thanks to North Air Taxi, those who would like a great nutritious meal will be picked up from Safeway in Fort Frances and transported to Leaves and Fishes Soup Kitchen, Monday to Wednesday.

The stop is in front of the main entrance and rides will leave at 11:45 a.m. and return shortly after the meal is finished.

The transportation is free, along with the meal.

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The Rainy River District School Board is pleased to announce the appointment of Michael Lewis as board chairman and Dianne McCormack as vice-chairwoman. The board's inaugural meeting was held Dec. 7.

Board staff are looking forward to working with the new trustees to continue the focus on student achievement and success for all students.

"On behalf of the staff and students of the Rainy River District School Board, I'd like to congratulate Michael Lewis and Dianne McCormack on their appointments to the positions of chair and vice-chair, and to welcome and congratulate all of our trustees on their appointment to the board," said Heather Campbell, director of education.

"We greatly appreciate the hard work and dedication required by all trustees — your commitment is the key to developing a strong education system."

Ronald Wolf's column appears every other Tuesday.

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