



Early Christmas wonder

Peter and Matthew Ryan, along with their mother, Helen Ryan, look at early signs of Christmas in eager anticipation during their visit to the Catholic Women's League Bazaar at St. Martin Church, Sunday, Oct. 21. Photo by Rob Cotton

Entrepreneur markets more than just himself

by Rob Cotton
The News

Byron Nawagesic, a 24 year old Ojibway entrepreneur from Gull Bay, set up his business, Centre of the Sky Marketing, to market more than just his own skills and expertise.

He wanted to market his people and help the image of Native people.

"When I see a small business that is capable of doing much better, especially if it is on a reserve and represents the Native people, I'm disappointed," he said.

As an example, Nawagesic said some small businesses spend more money on a sign than on a building.

"You would be better off to invest in a small building that presented a good image, of yourself, your business and the reserve," he said.

Nawagesic runs a small recreation business on the Gull Bay reserve called The Fun Zone. It includes an 18 hole mini-putt course, a snack shop, an arcade, an outdoor bandstand, two volleyball courts and two horse shoe throwing pits.

He employs three band members and hires three more in the summertime.

The interest shown by other reserves in his success with the Fun Zone prompted Nawagesic to

create Centre of the Sky Marketing and help others set up legitimate small businesses.

Last Thursday evening he presented a free seminar at Pays Plat on setting up and operating small businesses as part of Small Business Week.

"As I drive through Pays Plat, I can't figure out why it isn't developed," he said.

Pays Plat, with the Trans Canada Highway, water and the potential for air transportation is in a very good situation for development, he said.

The seminar was the first of its kind for Pays Plat and was well attended, said Anita Binguis, Pays Plat economic development officer.

Binguis is working with Nawagesic on a five year development plan for the community.

"It has three phases, economic and social stability, long term job creation and small business development," Binguis said.

They are presently working on a proposal for a new facility that includes an all purpose gymnasium.

Mary Long, general manager of Superior North Business Development Centre Inc. said the Pays Plat seminar, was a success along with the other two seminars presented for Small Business Week business in the area.

Remembrance Day poppy campaign begins

This week marks the official beginning of the 1990 Poppy-Remembrance Campaign.

Terrace Bay Legion Branch 223, will be selling poppies beginning Monday, Nov. 5.

Baskets of poppies will be placed in various locations including businesses in the Simcoe Plaza.

The campaign's purpose is to remind Canadians of the sacrifice made by the 114,000 men and women who gave their lives in

the military service of Canada during two world wars and the Korean conflict.

Last year over 14, 500,000 poppies were distributed in Canada. Contributions received during the campaign are used to promote the health and well-being of veterans, ex-service members and their dependents who are in need of assistance.

Funds not used for this purpose may be spent on community assistance programs, such as the

purchase of medical appliances and research, disaster relief and accommodation and care facilities for needy elderly and disabled persons.

In 1989 some \$5.9 million were distributed in accordance with the general bylaws of the Royal Canadian Legion.

Ramon Hnatshyn, Governor General of Canada, will receive the first poppy of this year's campaign a ceremony at the Rideau Veteran's Home in Ottawa.

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