



Off to join the search

A helicopter piloted by Norm Kerr of Ontario Provincial Police Headquarters in Toronto, was called into assist in finding four missing persons who had apparently set out

for Christian Island on Saturday morning. The helicopter sighted the survivors at 9:20 a.m. on Tuesday - on the northwest tip of Beckwith Island. Staff photo

They're in satisfactory condition

Missing snowmobilers located

Four Toronto area people are safe and in satisfactory condition today after a recreational outing turned into nightmare last weekend.

Don Nichol 45, and his 13 year-old son both of Dawes Road, Scarborough, and Gordon Plummer 40, and his 9 year-old daughter Tonga of Painswick Street in Willowdale were rescued by a search party of Ontario Provincial Police and about 25 civilians at 9:20 a.m. Tuesday morning.

The four left their car at Cedar Point at approximately 6:30 a.m. and embarked on two snowmobiles for their cottages on Christian Island. They never reached the island.

The four were found in a dug-out hole on the northwest tip of Beckwith Island suffering from windburns and exposure. The investigative party reported that a fire was kept going at the site and that the stranded four were "extremely happy and overjoyed" when the OPP helicopter and the snowmobile contingent arrived at the scene, an OPP spokesman said.

Both of the snowmobiles of the stranded party were found some distance from the scene of the rescue. One had been stuck in the snow on the ice, while the other was snowbound on Beckwith Island.

CB club helps out

The OPP was appreciative of the help that they received from local snowmobile and citizens' band club representatives.

"They certainly helped out when they were needed," an OPP spokesman said.

The Toronto area people were luckier than they might realize. According to the OPP, their wandering led them to the very tip of Beckwith.

"If they would have missed that land, they may have wandered aimlessly for hours on end," the police spokesman said.

The four were brought to Huronia District Hospital at 9:45 a.m. for observation. Young Tonga Plummer was transferred to the Sick Children's Hospital in Toronto shortly after arriving at the Huronia hospital. She was reportedly suffering from exposure.

Both Mr. Nichol and his son Kenneth were

listed as being in satisfactory condition and were not expected to be admitted.

Mr. Plummer also was expected to be released after observation on Tuesday afternoon.

The four apparently could not hear the

OPP helicopter as it was landing due to 30 mile per hour winds. Pilot Norm Kerr of Toronto and Constables Peter Scandian and Bob Knudsen of Midland's detachment touched down to a surprised welcoming committee of grateful winter visitors.

That was some storm!

"I've never shovelled so much snow in all my life!"

That's how Midland resident Ray Staunton reacted to the storm which battered the Penetanguishene-Midland area over the weekend, causing highways to be closed and hazardous driving warnings to be issued.

He said he'd been living in the area since 1946, and he'd never seen anything like it. He added he had heard it was the worst storm to hit the area in the last hundred years.

The aviation weather service in Muskoka said the winds hit speeds of up to 35 miles per hour all weekend, and the mercury dipped to a low of minus 19 degrees celsius on Saturday, while a total of 33 centimeters of snow fell.

The Ontario Provincial Police closed Highway 27 between Midland and Barrie for most of the weekend, and Highway 12 was closed for a while on Sunday. County Road 6 was not officially closed, but an OPP spokesman said it was virtually impassable for most of the weekend.

The Gray Coach buses which normally

travel between Barrie and Penetanguishene through Elmvalle were not running for part of the weekend, and on Monday they made the trip only by taking Highway 400 up to Highway 12, and then coming back to Midland via Victoria Harbour.

The OPP and the bus companies weren't the only ones who had their hands full as the Ontario Motor League answered over 100 calls for help in the Tiny Tay Peninsula area, mostly from motorists who were stuck in the snow.

Former Citizen editor to help out

Pen-Glen gears up for funding campaign

Pen-Glen Corporation has firmed up its date with the Township of Tiny; two Pen-Glen members, Ray Baker and Mary Rogers, will make a presentation on the project to Tiny Township Council on February 24.

They will make a similar presentation to the Penetanguishene Town Council on February 28.

Penetanguishene Town Council agreed last year to lend financial support, up to a maximum of \$15,000, to the project, but that expenditure will have to be approved again this year, by the new council. Tiny has never been approached about the educational-cultural complex, because it was not until a Toronto doctor, William But, donated land in Tiny Township to the project, that the Pen-Glen organizers considered building outside Penetanguishene. But now, Tiny will have to approve the project, rezone the land, and issue the necessary building permit, before building can begin.

The Pen-Glen group has already cleared its first hurdle with the Township of Tiny, as the Tiny Committee of Adjustment gave its approval for the separation of the 13 acres of

land from the rest of Dr. But's property in the area between Penetanguishene and Lafontaine along the Lafontaine Road. Committee of Adjustment secretary Fern Maurice said the Committee arrived at its decision on January 25.

Meanwhile, another Pen-Glen member, Rejeanne Guay-Galbraith, made a presentation on January 20 to Wintario, to request a Feasibility Study Grant for the project. The group is expecting some kind of word on the status of that request within the next couple of weeks.

Baker said this week the campaign to raise funds for the project is still in the planning

stages, but the group will have some help in that department from someone familiar to most residents to Penetanguishene, former Citizen editor Jim Park. Park, who left the area last year to assume a position as publisher of Lakehead Living, a Markle Community Newspaper in Thunder Bay, has left that job, and will be returning to the Penetanguishene area for a short period of time to help out on the Pen-Glen Ways and Means Committee. Baker referred to Park, who was one of the originators of the Pen-Glen concept, as "one of our idea men."

Baker said the fund raising campaign would start "as soon as possible."

It's Clergy Appreciation Week

The Meals on Wheels program in the Penetanguishene-Midland area will be the beneficiary of Clergy Week, being sponsored this week by the Civitan Club.

In past years, the Civitans have put on a dinner for the members of the clergy in the area, but this year, according to Civitan Michael Tinney, the club decided to

forego the dinner, and put the money normally spent on it towards Meals on Wheels.

Clergy Week, which runs from January 30 to February 5, is put on internationally by the Civitans, and is intended to recognize the contribution made by clergy members to their community.

Plans are being finalized

Winterama is two weeks away

Penetanguishene's annual Winterama is just over two weeks away, and it's shaping up to be a good one.

The Chamber of Commerce is still in the process of finalizing the plans for the festival, but so far a number of events have been confirmed.

On Thursday, February 17, a trailer will be parked at the town dock, where registration will be held for the snowmobile and motorcycle races which will be run on the Saturday and Sunday of Winterama.

On Friday, February 18, the opening day of the festivities, the Little NHL will begin an Atom tournament at the Penetanguishene arena. The first game will begin at 4:30 Friday afternoon, and games will be played throughout the weekend.

Friday night the Winterama Queen contest will be held at the Pen Theatre. The evening will begin with a movie at 7:30, and the

contest will start at about 9:00. The chairperson of the contest is Mary Dubeau, and she is being assisted by Shirley Jolie and Theresa Marchand. The master of ceremonies for the event will be CKMP's Doug Johnston, and judges names are being kept secret until the contest begins.

So far, 11 girls have entered the contest. The girls, and their sponsors, are Nancy Parker, the Dairy Queen; Karen Yule, the Dock Lunch; Cindy Lockhart, Georgian Bay Real Estate; Germaine Quesnelle, Charlebois Real Estate; Shelley Smith, Penetang Billiards; Denyse Meredith, TKM Credit; Janet Limoges, Bryant's Jewellers; Nancy Robinson, Brule Hotel; Debbie Piitz, Fiesta Hairstyling; Michelle Quesnelle, Bank of Nova Scotia, and Jennifer Gilbert, the Penetanguishene Museum. Last year's winner, Giselle Robitaille, will be on hand to crown the winner.

The contest will be followed by a torchlight parade at 10:00 p.m.

Saturday's events will include curling at the Curling Club, a parade at 1:00 p.m., a mutt show, broomball at the town dock, and a free children's matinee at the Pen Theatre. Saturday night, there will be dances at the Knights of Columbus Hall, the Curling Club, and the Legion Hall.

Featured on both Saturday and Sunday will be snowmobile and motorcycle races on the bay, ice fishing, ice sculpturing, and helicopter rides.

On Sunday, visitors will be invited to attend services at all the local churches, and the Commodore Hotel will be putting on a "Hangover Breakfast" at 10:00 a.m.

Sunday at noon there will be Indian dances on Main Street, and at 5:00 p.m., prizes and trophies for the various events will be presented by the Winterama Queen.

The Historic Naval and Military Establishments will be open to visitors on Saturday and Sunday, and cross country ski races will be held on both days from the dock to the Establishments.

Chamber of Commerce general manager Lou Shaw said a number of companies and groups have offered to participate in the Winterama, and he said so far he has received no refusals from organizations he has approached.

Area board to hire students

The Tiny-Tay Planning Board has applied for a Young Canada Works grant to hire up to five local students to do background research for the area board's pilot project on urban growth in the peninsula area.

According to planning coordinator Mike Ufford, the students would not work on actual policy preparations but would be doing field surveys in urban growth areas, land uses in the Tiny-Tay areas, topography studies and environmental studies.

"They would be doing the basic leg work, the background work needed for our official plan," Ufford explained. The TTPB is currently working on an official plan for the area but Ufford admits his workload would be substantially eased by the hiring of summer students to assist in compiling information.

The area board's proposal calls for the hiring of one university student now studying planning or the environment to be team leader and four other students who can be drawn from any educational background. All five would be hired for a three month period if the TTPB's proposal is accepted by authorities responsible for Young Canada Works.

Belanger retires

The parish priest at St. Croix Church in Lafontaine is retiring.

Father Alphonse Belanger performed his last Sunday mass on January 30, and he will be winding up his parish duties this Saturday.

Father Belanger is retiring to Victoria Harbour.

Juveniles are off to Silver Stick

The Penetanguishene Juvenile Hockey team will be on its way to the international Silver Stick Tournament in Sarnia this Friday morning.

The team, which will be playing in the "A" division of the tournament, plays its first game against Milton at 8:00 a.m. Saturday. Other teams entered in the division are from Wallaceburg, Ingersoll, Listowel, Burlington, Leamington, Kincardine, Weston and Bowmanville.

For well-wishers who want to see the team off, and wish them luck, they will be leaving from in front of the Arena at 10:00 Friday morning.



Head over heels

Alison Markham, the teacher in charge of the fund raising campaign, did not do too well in the race, as she took a slight tumble while she

was engaged in an all-out battle for last place. It all turned out okay though, as only her dignity was hurt in the fall.

County Health Officer resigns but just can't seem to leave

Although Dr. Nancy Armbrust, Simcoe County's Medical Officer of Health, submitted her resignation some months ago she is still very much on the job, and it appears that she will continue in that position for some time to come.

"Because of some uncertainty in the Public Health field, there was nobody available to take over," she said in a recent telephone interview. "However, Dr. Peter Watson of

Barrie is presently taking a Public Health course at the University of Toronto. In June, he will be joining the Simcoe County Health Unit."

Dr. Armbrust says that there is actually a need for two people to carry the heavy work load, and that she will be continuing to work with Dr. Watson. She has been with the Simcoe County Health Unit since 1963, and has been Director since 1968.

Claim 'natural rights' violated

Lembo threatens more legal action

Tom Lembo has announced that his company Lemaire Air Services, may take further legal action against the Huronia Airport Commission in addition to the suit for damages filed against the commission last December.

Lemaire has informed E.F. Simmons, solicitor for the airport commission, that it feels the manner in which Lemaire was ousted from operations at the airport violates "natural rights" provided for in the Statutory Powers Procedures Act.

According to Lembo and his solicitors, the commission was obligated to hold a public hearing in which the evidence against Lemaire would be presented, in which an impartial party would be responsible for a decision on the quality of services provided by Lemaire at the airport, and in which Lembo or Lemaire could be represented by counsel and allowed to cross-examine witnesses.

"Failing an adequate response (from the airport commission), we will take one of two actions," Lembo said on Monday. "We will either appeal to the Supreme Court or proceed and obtain an injunction to restrain Garrison Airport Services from continuing to operate the Huronia Airport."

Lembo emphasized that either of these actions would be in addition to the suit for damages now pending in divisional court.

Lemaire's contract to operate the Huronia Airport was terminated by the commission in early July, 1976 for "breach of contract." Commissioners and airport users were reported to be dissatisfied with the quality of services and operations being offered by Lemaire.

Town gets two cheques

The Citizen reported last week that the town had received a cheque for \$8,049.80 from Wintario to help pay for the lights in McGuire Park.

The town in fact received a cheque for that amount from the Ministry of Culture and Recreation in the form of a Community Centres grant. This grant will cover 25 per cent of the total cost of the lights.

Wintario will soon be forwarding another cheque, for \$7,992.48, an amount equivalent to the amount raised from the general public during the Light Fund campaign.

They're off and running

They're off, and it's all for a good cause, as the teachers of Corpus Christi School in Penetanguishene took part in a Snowshoe race Friday afternoon to help raise money

for a trip to Ottawa some of the students will be making in the spring. Vice-principal Doug Bailey won the race, and grade seven teacher Barry Sargent was second. The students in

the school put money on those teachers they wanted to see in the race, and the money will be used for the Ottawa trip, scheduled for the end of May. Staff photo

