



Enchanting dancer

The enchantment of the Middle East came to the Athenian Hall for a short while on Saturday night, as local belly dancers performed their exotic movements for a group of about 200 people gathered to watch a belly dancing school graduation. Marie Charlebois, pictured here, was one of four graduates to perform for the audience.

Staff photo

Belly dancing graduation held

The ancient and graceful art of Turkish belly-dancing is taught locally by Shirley Brown. Last Saturday night, Shirley's graduating students invited friends and relatives to join them at Midland's Athenian Hall for their graduation ceremonies.

Ms. Brown has been a devotee of the dance form for more than five years. "I took lessons in Toronto," she says, "and when we moved up here, I decided to give them."

How well she teaches

was amply demonstrated at the Saturday night gathering when graduating students Marie Charlebois, Rosemary Houston, Debbie Elliott, and Imi Melnyk entertained the more than 100 guests with a demonstration of their art.

Also graduating were Diana Mannapso and Jeannette Pilon. Ms. Brown also performed for the special guests.

The Apollo Four provided music for social

dancing, but the belly-dancers performed to recorded traditional Middle Eastern melodies. Part of the fun of the dance lies in the designing and making of

exotic jewelled costumes, based on patterns provided by Shirley Brown.

"It is also," says Shirley Brown, "a wonderful way to keep

fit." Graduating students are now eligible to go on to advanced classes.

Beginners classes will start again after Christmas.

YMCA news

With the festive season just around the corner, this is the time to register your youngster in one or more of the Christmas programs available at the Midland YMCA.

The annual Jolly Party is planned once again for Saturday, December 17 from 1:00 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. Huck Finn's Jolly Party will begin with a feature presentation entitled "Huck Finn's Adventure" followed by a swim, supper, caroling, gifts and Santa. Don't miss this year's Jolly Party and remember to register early. There is limited registration.

Other Christmas programs include a cartoon morning, a penny carnival, games, relays and much more.

A caroling group is being organized to visit

local homes and hospitals in our area. Both adults and youths are welcome to our practice sessions held Thursday, December 1 and December 8 at 7:00 p.m., and December 15 which is the night for our first visitation.

Anyone is welcome, so please join us at the Midland YMCA this Thursday evening to make it a family affair.

The Y will be holding a Bazaar and Bake Sale on Saturday December 10 at 9:00 a.m. Donations are needed and if you are interested in donating one of your handicrafts it would be greatly appreciated.

The YMCA asks that your items be in by Friday, December 9.

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Ogilvie irked by 'money'

At a meeting of Midland Town Council on Monday night, Deputy Reeve Bill Ogilvie once again objected to council calling 1978 Midland's centennial and he called the centennial coins a 'funny money' operation.

The Reeve was commenting on the Mayor's proclamation which names the centennial coin the centennial dollar and says that the centennial committee agrees to redeem the coins at the face value of a dollar on or before December 31, 1978.

Ogilvie said, "the town shouldn't get into guaranteeing the redemption of this coin." He told council to seriously look into the legalities of the coins and what the Criminal Code of Canada has to say in regards to printing them up. He said, "I don't want to see us end up with an indictable offence."

He asked if the coin was a publicity stunt in election year and said if it was, the Mayor should consider putting his picture on it.

Before anyone could answer, Ogilvie once again began to complain about the town naming 1978 as Centennial year. He pointed out that the first council did not sit until January 1, 1979 and therefore centennial year should be 1979.

Mayor Lynn told Ogilvie that the question of centennial year was like a marriage. He asked, was it legal when the ceremony takes place or when it was consummated?

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