



### Forced off road

A busload of students bound for Midland Secondary School narrowly escaped injury Thursday morning when a car forced their bus off a country road into a ditch. Shown here, the bus balanced precariously on three wheels at the side of the road. The incident took

place on a sideroad between Concessions 3 and 4 of Tay township. Luckily no one was hurt in the incident. Another bus was sent out from Midland, and the students proceeded safely to school.

Staff photo

### Looking for events

## New arena manager a real go-getter

Roller skating may be part of the arena's summer program if Jim MacLaren, the new arena manager gets his way.

Mr. MacLaren is a go-getter. He is already scouring the area trying to find out what can be scheduled into the arena for the summer months, that Midlanders want and need.

In the sporting line he has already thought of floor hockey and lacrosse. In the entertainment line he is considering having local bands come in and play.

Mr. MacLaren started at the new arena on Monday. Since that time he has been getting a feel for the area, meeting people, looking over the soon-to-be-finished facility and forming ideas. Finding him is a difficult chore, not only because he is always on the run, but because his office in the arena isn't finished and he has been shuffled around the town hall and a local factory's office looking for a place to work.

Mr. MacLaren comes to Midland from Port Elgin where he worked in the local arena for 10 years—six years as an assistant arena manager and four years as the manager. He holds a B certificate in refrigeration, which means he passed an exam

after working with compressors for a number of years. He is also a qualified arena manager.

Mr. MacLaren says it was a big decision to make to leave Port Elgin, but he and his wife decided if they did move to a new arena somewhere, they would like it to be Midland.

Both have spent summers in the area that have left a lasting impression.

"I've liked everyone in Midland I've met so far," he says.

Mr. MacLaren describes Midland's new arena as "very impressive." He says from what he can see, it is well laid out for crowd control, it is well heated in the spectator section and there isn't a bad seat in the house for viewing the ice. He adds that it has "the best equipment available."

According to MacLaren the ice surface is larger than Midland's old arena, making the seating area smaller. However, he feels that the 1,100 seats, will be sufficient.

Mr. MacLaren has already met with the contractors and he believes the arena will be finished by the latest publicized completion date—March 16. He says the seating is finished, the fill for the floor is almost

completed and soon the floor can be poured. He says after the arena opens small things will still have to be done, but at least it will be operational by March.

The Monster Draw is

the first scheduled event for the opening of the arena. After that, MacLaren hopes that an ice surface will be put in for a short while to give starved Midland skaters a chance to whirl around

some ice for a week or so. After that, planning for the summer will have to go ahead.

Mr. MacLaren sees operating Midland's arena as a fresh new challenge.

"I did all I could in the arena I was in," he says.

He denies however, that he was lured by a new arena sporting some of the newest and best facilities around.



Jim MacLaren

## PCs waiting for election call

Simcoe North Progressive Conservatives won't be nominating a candidate for the next federal election until one has been called, it was decided at a meeting in Coldwater.

PC Association President Allen Wrigley said after the meeting that the nomination would be made after the election is called by the Liberal government to avoid

engaging in speculation regarding a date.

Association members cited the state of the economy unemployment and the political climate in Ottawa at the present time as reasons for belief

that a federal election will not be held in the near future.

Simcoe North is presently represented in Ottawa by PC Dr. P.B. Rynard.

## Community Calendar

### Saturday, February 4

—The Midland Bay Sailing Club is presenting its annual evening of sailing movies in the Loft Dining Room of the Commodore Hotel, Penetanguishene beginning at 8:00 p.m. Members and others with an interest in sailing who may be interested in membership are welcome to attend. Information on membership will be available. For additional information call Dr. George Boucher, 526-4649, membership chairman.

### Saturday, February 4

—A Valentine Dance at the Wyebridge Community Centre, from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. to the music of the Varitone IV. You may get tickets by calling 361-1032 or 361-1477.

### February 6

—The Midland District Camera Club will meet at the Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre on Monday, February 6, 1978 at 8:00 p.m. Members are reminded to bring slides they wish to enter in the Architecture, Rural Scenes and Travel competition categories. A slide clinic will be held for those members who wish to present slides for that purpose.

### Monday, February 6

—C.B.O. General Meeting is being held at 8 p.m. at the Surf in Balm Beach.

### Tuesday, February 7

—Annual Pancake Supper, St. Mark's Anglican Church Parish House, corner Third and Easy Streets, from 5 to 7 p.m. Pancakes, sausages, desserts, beverages. Admission at the door.

### Thursday, February 9

—The Midland And District Historical Society will meet at 8:00 p.m. in the Library. Mary Haskill will speak on "Georgian Bay Lumbering". All welcome.

### Friday, February 10

—The Teen Club is having a Valentine Dance at the Surf in Balm Beach from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. All teenagers 12 years and up are welcome.

### Friday, February 10

—Annual Valentine and Birthday Tea will be held in St. John's United Church Hall, Victoria Harbour, from 2:30 until 5:00 p.m. Everyone welcome.

### Saturday, February 11

—Valentine's Dance will be held at the Royal Canadian Legion, Midland on Saturday, February 11 from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary, Branch 80. Music by the Nocturns of Barrie. Lunch and Spot Prizes. Proceeds are toward equipment for the Huronia District Hospital. For tickets and information, call any Auxil. member or phone Lila McPeake, 526-6787.

### Saturday, February 11

—The French Nursery Schools are holding a St. Valentine's Dance at the Lafontaine Parish Hall at 8:30 p.m. Music by Apollo Four. Lunch will be served. Tickets are available at the Centre d'Activites Francaises, Main Street, Penetanguishene, 549-8594.

### Sunday, February 12

—Huronia Barbershoppers Variety Fun Night, Cafe Style, at the Athenian Hall, 8 p.m. Contact any barbershopper for advance tickets, please.

### Monday, February 13

—The Big Sisters Association of Huronia will be holding a general meeting at St. Paul's United Church, at 8 p.m. Guest speakers will be Ross Spearn and David Brooks of The Community Services Team. Refreshments will be served. Everyone welcome.

### Tuesday, February 14

—Valentine Tea and Bake Sale will be held in the Legion Hall, Waubaushe, from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary.

### Saturday, February 18

—A Rummage Sale will be held on Saturday, February 18 at 12:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall of All-Saints Anglican Church, Peel Street, Penetanguishene, Parish Hall. Contributions welcome. Contact Mrs. Rogers, 549-7276, Mrs. Gropp, 549-2412 or Miss Mary King, 533-2320.

### Thursday, February 23

—The annual meeting of the Huronia Association for the Mentally Retarded will be held in the Athenian Hall at 6:00 p.m. Dinner and a speaker to follow. Tickets are available from ARC Industries 526-3796.

### Notice

—An invitation is extended to one and all to attend an evening of discussion and information on the Bahai Faith, at the home of Mrs. Isabel Leroux, 130 Poyntz St., Penetanguishene, at 8 p.m. and every first Friday of the month. Everyone is welcome. Phone 549-2249 for further information.

—Organizers are invited to publicize their upcoming events free of charge in the Times Community Calendar. Please call the Community Calendar editor at 526-2283 or drop your message into the Midland Times office, 525 Bay Street.

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