

This project has paid off

by Eileen Hocken
 Something which started many years ago—in March, 1964 to be exact—has paid off dividends, in more ways than one.

A few Port McNicoll residents got together and decided to see if they could do something about getting a covered skating rink and arena for the village.

An account was started in the Port McNicoll Credit Union with Art Bell putting in the first \$10 share and other people like John Hartford, Carl Rother, Bob Patterson, Johnny Comber, Bruce Dockray and a few other generous people contributing through private donations.

The Port McNicoll Arena Committee was formed and officers elected to run it. The co-chairmen were John Hartford and Ernie Quesnelle with Helen Duncan and Isobelle Spencer voted in as officers. Art Bell became the committee's treasurer.

Marion (Marny) Dignard and Betty Dignard helped to raise funds towards the arena by running a 200 Club, 50-50 draws through which the arena fund kept half the proceeds and the other half went as prizes for the winners.

Raymond Belanger and Ernie Quesnelle raised funds through bingo games at Sacred Heart Church in Port McNicoll. Rita Quesnelle raised other moneys through hockey pools.

All those people worked very hard and their efforts paid off so that the Credit Union Account accumulated up to \$1,700.

Over the years, the committee was approached many times to have the money

released for different things going on in the village, but Art Bell refused to release the money unless a building was erected, and only then would the money be handed over to assist in furnishing the place.

At a special meeting on Sunday, Oct. 18, called by Art Bell, Art raised a motion that the money raised over the years of which the Port McNicoll Credit Union paid the biggest bulk, over \$3,000 in dividends since 1964, be handed over to the Port McNicoll Community Centre.

A cheque for \$4,803 was presented to the treasurer of the Port McNicoll Recreation Board, Elsa Kovacs. The money will be used to help furnish the new community hall.

The Simcoe County Historical Association unveiled a plaque to commemorate the wooden Trestle Railway Bridge, near Port McNicoll on Sunday, Oct. 18, at 2:30 p.m.

The plaque can be seen on the north side of Highway 12, immediately west of the fifth line, Tay Township, just east of the road to Port McNicoll.

Following the ceremony, everyone proceeded to Port McNicoll for refreshments in the new Community Centre.

The Chairman for this event was W. Allan Fisher, President of the Simcoe County Historical Association.

Also present for this occasion were John Moreau, reeve of Port McNicoll, Charles Rawson, reeve of Tay Township and Allan McLean, M.P.P. for Simcoe East.

John Fennell, Warden of Simcoe County and Doug Lewis, M.P. for Simcoe North, were out of town and unable to

attend. James Worfolk of the Simcoe County Historical Association was the special speaker and kept the full attention of the 75 people there when he gave a talk on the history of the Hog's Bay Trestle Bridge, the fight to see it become a historical site and its subsequent demolition in 1978 when the battle to save the trestle was lost.

The Historic Sites Committee, with Jay Cody as Chairman, was ultimately responsible for setting this action in motion. The committee worked out the details and saw that the work was carried out.

Plaque
 This included the erection of the plaque which can be seen today.

This is a good time for me to correct an error I made last week in my article on the trestle. It was not the Midland Historical Society who donated the plaque. I regret any inconvenience my error might have caused.

Port McNicoll Library Board met last Wednesday night. Most of their business had to do with ways and means of raising funds for the new library building which the village plans to build in the future.

Nov. 14 is the official opening date for the new Community Centre and the Library Board plans to set up a booth there to sell bricks.

Sometime in January they will book the Community Centre for a Bingo—another fund raising venture. A Glass Turkey Draw will be made on Dec. 19. Tickets will be on sale shortly.

Sometime in February, the Library Board will host a dance—the proceeds to

go towards the new library.

Port McNicoll Group Committee met last Tuesday in the basement of Bonar Presbyterian Church. The Group Committee is pleased to have a new officer join their ranks this year. Pat Armstrong has agreed to become Treasurer.

Registration has been quite good this year. The Port McNicoll Beavers number 20, the Cubs 20, and Scouts 19. There are four active boys in Venturers.

Early Saturday morning, those four members, a leader and their Advisor, Dr. Besley, drove to Sudbury then made a flying trip to Bardney Lake, just this side of Chappleau, Ont.

The youngsters are on a three day fishing tyrip. We hope they had a good time.

Scouts

Thirteen of our Scouts took part in the Jamboree On The Air over the weekend. This is when Scouts all over the world try to make radio contact with Scouts in other countries.

Our Scouts made contact with England, the Netherlands, the Azores, Germany, South Africa, Austria, Luxemburg, Stockholm, Idaho, Indiana, the Maritimes and a few local places. Thanks are extended to Mike Moreau of Midland and Stewart Ward of Victoria Harbour who so kindly let the boys make use of their ham radios for this special scouting event.

Two Cub Leaders from Victoria Harbour attended a Cub meeting in the village last Wednesday. As this is the first year as leaders, the two men wanted to

see how a meeting was run.

They joined in the games and I'm sure, got good first-hand experience on what they are letting themselves in for.

The Cubsd received calendars which they are to try and sell to raise money. Please give your support if they call on you.

At their regular meeting last Wednesday, Port McNicoll Beavers received a visit from Constable Murray Cooper of the Midland O.P.P. detachment.

The talk was on Hallowe'en safety and Constable Cooper kept the boys entertained with his colorful poster

of a Hallowe'en scarecrow complete with Jack-o-lantern head and watch's hat and his safety tips printed on paper pumpkins.

The Beaver Leaders extend their thanks to a super spokesman and congratulate Constable Cooper on the fine job he did. The Beavers really enjoyed having him attend the meeting.

Beavers meet tonight at the new Community Centre on Seventh Avenue.

Apple Day

Apple Day is taking place on Saturday, Oct. 24. The purpose for this is to raise funds for a district, group or section of scouting.

Opera!

It is certainly for everyone

The Canadian Opera Company Ensemble visits Midland, November 13 and 14.

Three community groups are co-operating to make this residency a reality: Midland Rotary Club, Huronia Players and Huronia Performing Arts for Children.

"Little Red Riding Hood" will be presented at Midland Secondary School at 4:30 p.m. on November 13. Tickets are Children \$1.50 and Adults \$2.50.

Dinner and "Opera Highlights" can be enjoyed at the Budd Watson Gallery November 13 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$18. per person and can be purchased at the Gallery.

"The Barber of Seville" in English can be seen at Midland Secondary School on November 14 at 8 p.m. Tickets are adults \$8 and \$5 for students and seniors.

Opera is for everyone! For more information call 526-9723. Tickets can be purchased for the plays at Johnstone's Musicland, Midland or Gignac's Children's Wear, Penetanguishene.

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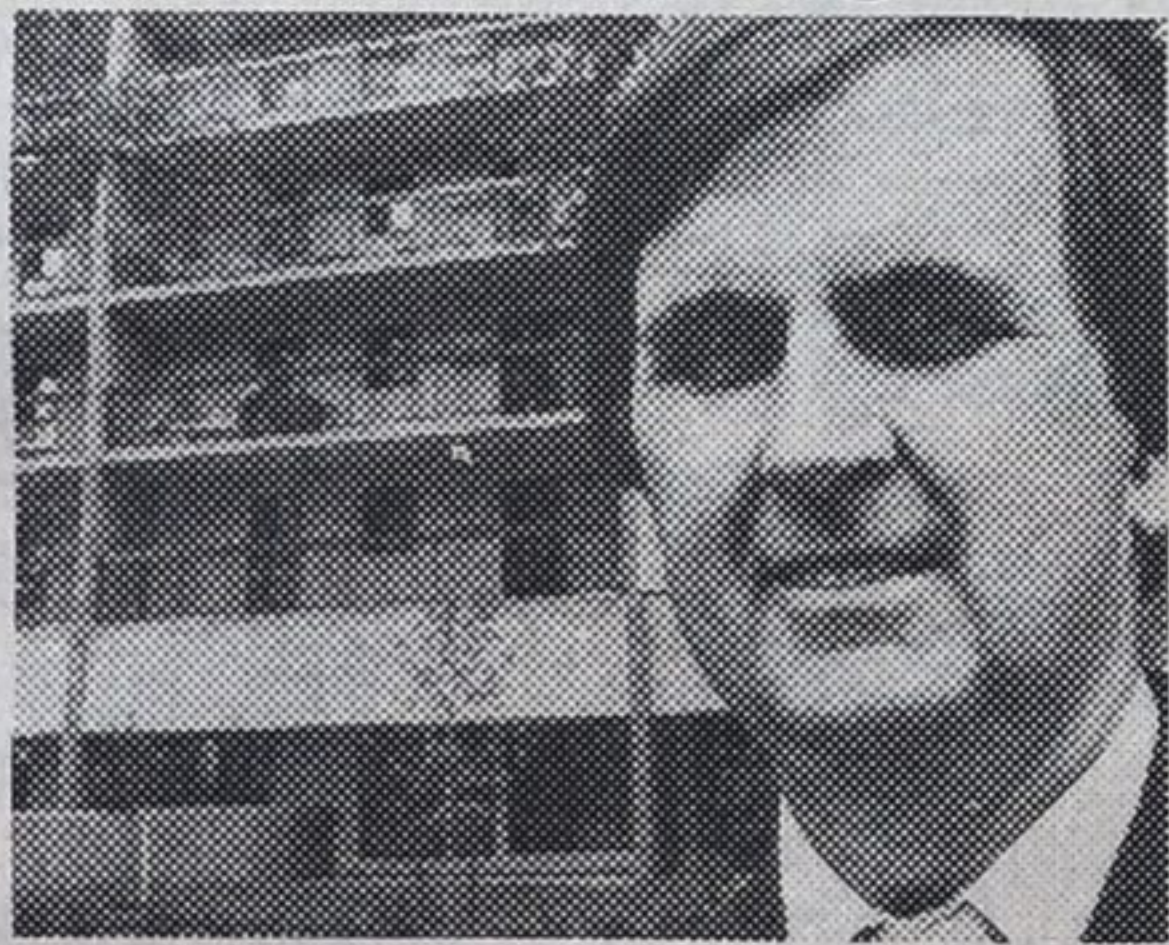
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and the successful construction of McClure Place Elderly Persons' Residence here in Winnipeg wouldn't have been possible without CMHC assistance with their non-profit program."

George Taylor, President, McClure Place Inc., (non-profit corporation) Winnipeg, Manitoba.

"It's not just a building, it's our home. It's easy to get about, especially since I'm disabled."

Art Paget, resident, Eaton Court Senior Citizen Apartments, North Bay.

"The non-profit housing program of CMHC has enabled us to sponsor an overwhelmingly successful project,

Peoples Park Tower, where over 300 senior citizens participate in and contribute to a quality of life they so richly deserve."

Larry Jack, Manager, Atlantic Peoples Housing Ltd, Moncton.

At present, Canada has approximately 2 million people of 65 years of age and over. Twenty years from now that figure will be 3 million or more. That's why CMHC is concerned about the availability of appropriate and sufficient housing. CMHC's participation may start in an advisory role to a community or social group. It can extend all the way to suggesting suitable housing designs and government programs that provide financial assistance. For advice and publications about CMHC housing programs and services consult your local CMHC office.

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