

The Friday Citizen

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Penetanguishene, Ontario

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Hand grenade removed from home

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\$560,000 arena expansion

by Murray Moore

"Penetanguishene has always shown an amazing capacity, for a town this size, for raising money for a worthwhile cause," says Terry Dahmer, the chairman of the arena expansion ad hoc committee.

The town will prove or disprove Dahmer in the next 14 months, during the campaign to raise money to pay for an expensive expansion of the town's arena.

If the fundraising goes well, and all possible grants are obtained, an estimated \$560,000 will be spent to substantially improve the arena, which is today much as it was when it opened in the early 1950s.

If enough money is accumulated, a lounge will be added to the arena on the second floor that will hold groups of up to 225 people. This area would be in addition to the existing lounge, which holds groups of only up to 120 people.

Two phases of expansion have been planned. The first phase is a new entrance and foyer area to the arena, a heated viewing

area, a total of six change rooms approximately double the size of the existing four change rooms, new public washrooms, storage rooms, a larger snack bar, a larger lounge, new stairs to the second floor, and an area for leaving coats in the existing upper lounge. The cost of this phase is \$390,000.

If a further \$170,000 is available, a 2,800 square foot lounge will be built on the second floor next to the existing, smaller lounge. Two washrooms would be added, the coat leaving area, kitchen and bar enlarged, all on the second floor.

All of the money raised will be spent renovating the front of the arena, and adding to the front of the building.

During a press conference on Tuesday, Dahmer and arena, parks and recreation board secretary Brian Murrant said that the cost of running the expanded arena would be minimal, when compared to the present cost. Dahmer said that if the full expansion occurs, the town will at last have a proper community

centre. Functions involving more than 120 people won't have to go out of town. The town will be able to hold a major tournament in the arena, such as recreation hockey league and oldtimers hockey tournaments, not possible now because of lack of space, according to Dahmer.

Groups which use the arena are being asked to raise money for the expansion. User groups contributed about half of the \$6,450 spent to date laying the groundwork for the expansion. The groups which use the arena, such as the ball hockey, recreational hockey, and figure skating groups, contributed features each group felt important to them to the plans, Dahmer said.

Among ideas for raising money in the community are the following:

\$1,000 draw, tickets to be on sale this weekend during the hockey tournament; a dance on May 14, during which the winning ticket for the draw will be drawn; a car draw; a giant garage sale, beer garden, dance event

at the arena; a casino night; a door-to-door canvass; sale of cement blocks in the expanded building, with buyer's names to be publically posted; donations from service clubs; a bucket for donations placed in the arena.

Groups which use the arena will do their own fundraising as well, and local business and industries will be approached.

The consulting architect, Millet Salter of Barrie, has reported that the existing structure and equipment is in very good condition, and that the cost of replacing the existing building would be over \$1 million.

The town's arena used to stand where the Brewer's Retail now stands. It was destroyed by fire in the late 1940s.

The facilities in the present arena today do not compare well with other arenas, even against some in smaller towns, Dahmer remarked.

The plans for the expansion are being put on display in the arena.

Winterama set to go

All systems are "go" for this weekend's 36th annual Penetanguishene Winterama.

There will be something for everyone today, tomorrow and Sunday as Penetanguishene swells to two or three times its size for this popular annual winter carnival.

Winterama is one of the oldest if not oldest winter carnivals of its kind in not only Ontario but in Canada.

Our Winterama Queen will be crowned tonight at ESPSS. A monster parade is planned for tomorrow starting at 11 a.m.

And there will be a host of other special programs and events to keep you going during the next three days.

Organizers are counting on the weatherman to play ball. If he does, this year's Penetanguishene Winterama will be the biggest and best yet.

See the Wednesday, Feb. 16, edition of The Penetanguishene Citizen for the program of events.



Getting meat pies ready for Winterama

Shown here are some of the meat pies made by Omer's Pies which will be consumed today and on the weekend during

Winterama, Jim Desjardins holds a tray while Basil Laurin works at right.

CITIZEN BRIEFLY

ESPSS bed race set for tomorrow

There's to be an ESPSS bed race UP Main Street hill tomorrow commencing at 10:30 a.m. prior to the 11 a.m. Penetanguishene Winterama Parade.

Annual meeting date has been changed

The date of Contact Information Centre's 10th annual meeting has been moved to Feb. 23 and the seminars and dinner have been

cancelled. Administrator Irene Quesnelle said interest was good for the seminars but not in the dinner.

The annual meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 23 in the boardroom of Midland's Centennial Arena.

Penetang man charged here

A 25-year-old 148 Main Street resident, David Dorion, is to appear in court Feb. 28 to face two counts of theft over \$200 and one

count of possession of stolen property. The charges, Police Chief Dennis Player says, stem from two cases of marine out-drives being reported missing from two locations in town last April and October.

Bean supper at Legion from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Penetanguishene Legion will be hosting a Winterama Bean Supper at the Legion today from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Best lumberjack will win chainsaw

Tomorrow's Lumberjack Competition, part of Penetanguishene's Winterama, is for amateur woodsmen, but this year professional prize is being offered.

The Lumberjack of the Day, the competitor with the most points after the six events have been run, will take home a Husky chainsaw, donated by Frank's Welding of Port McNicoll.

The cost of entering any or all events is \$3. Registration closes at 12:30 p.m. tomorrow, with competition to start at 1 p.m., beside the French Centre.

Welcome to Penetanguishene Winterama '83