

Hanechata: A 17th Century Adventure

Paddling a tranquil river, fire-starting with flint and striker, plant identification and the preparation of natural foods—all are part of Hanechata, the heritage excursion sponsored by Midland's Friends of Sainte-Marie.

Hanechata guides Bernard Dionne, Jennifer Legault, Angela Wesser and Daniel Lethbridge have designed the one-day (or two-day and one-night) excursions to recreate the day-to-day existence of the French and Huron in 17th century Huronia.

Participants leave the 20th century behind and paddle into another time.

Discussions and costumed drama reveal the history and culture of Huronia in 1648, in the time of Sainte-Marie among the Hurons.

Hands-on activities demonstrate the necessity of cooperation between European and Native friends.

An added dimension emphasises the concern for the environment, a concept which was fundamental to native Huron philosophy.

Hanechata was in-

spired by Destination: Sainte-Marie, a 1982 recreation of the 1,252 kilometer (800 mile) canoe journey between Quebec and Sainte-Marie.

The 21-foot Hanechata canoes are veterans of D.S.M. and are accurately Algonquin in style.

No canoeing skills are required for Hanechata participants.

Last year, for some who took part in the adventure, Hanechata was their first experience in a canoe.

Elementary paddling skills are taught by

Hanechata staff as the canoes are taken into the Wye Marsh area and down the Wye River toward Georgian Bay.

There is time for identification of plants and birds along the way.

Later in the day, food preparation begins. Rice, sagamite, corn bread and beans are the usual fare, just as they were for 17th century travellers in Huronia.

Cooking is done over a fire which is started without matches.

Later, Hanechata takes time-travellers along historic bush trails where they

become acquainted with some local flora and fauna.

There is also time set aside for 17th century French songs and traditional Huron games.

Participants in the longer day-and-a-half trip sleep overnight in shelters made of overturned canoes, cedar boughs and other natural materials.

Before bed, there is time for the telling of legends and myths around the campfire.

This is Hanechata's second year.

Available spaces were

booked quickly last year, and would-be participants are urged to make reservations early this year.

Day trips run from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and depart from Sainte-Marie Park, rain or shine.

The cost is \$15. per adult, \$5. per child or \$32. for a family of two adults and one child.

For family groups there is a \$2. charge for each additional child.

The two-day overnight trips cost \$30. per adult, and \$10. per child, with \$60. as the family rate and an additional

\$4. for each additional child.

Except for life-jackets and sleeping bags, all equipment and food is supplied by Hanechata staff.

The program begins on July 6 and runs until the end of the summer.

No children under five years are accepted into the program.

Reservations may be made by telephone at Sainte-Marie among the Hurons, 526-7838.

Bookings must be made at least two days before the desired date of participation.

Aerial spraying planes stay on the ground

by MARK BOURRIE

Foes of aerial spraying in Tiny Township haven't had any reason to complain about this year's spraying -- the planes have remained on the ground.

Fred Brox, manager of Hostess Farms, which is the major user of aerial pesticides and fungicides in the township, says it's not citizen protest but weather that has kept the planes from the fields.

Brox said yesterday, weather conditions this year have been ideal for potatoes, with no long, dry stretches that foster insect growth or long, wet spells that encourage fungus.

"There hasn't been any aerial spraying this year. It depends on weather conditions. If there is excessive wet weather, it makes it harder for ground machinery," said Brox.

He said, the amount of land used for potato growing has dropped in Tiny Township this year. Part of the reason

is crop rotation, but Brox said leasable land is not as available this year.

"It could go up next year. It depends if land is available," said Brox.

Meanwhile, a study into mutations in Tiny Township is continuing.

A spokesman for the federal ministry of health, which recently conducted a cancer study in the area, said the new study will determine the number of birth defects in Tiny Township.

He said the ministry had begun the study after it received written requests from Professor Joseph Cummins, a University of Western Ontario geneticist who has campaigned against spraying and the Pauze landfill site.

The cancer study, released in early June, showed a high level of lymphatic cancer and ovarian cancer in the township.

The results of the genetic survey are expected later this month.

It will examine all

aspects of birth defects and diseases associated with gene damage.

The Ontario government is also beginning a provincial bank of information on cancer deaths. Ontario is the only province that does not have a centralized statistical library on cancer fatalities, making cancer studies of individual areas of the province more difficult.

124,000 copies of new phone book on their way soon

Lighted candles, the universal symbol of a birthday, dominate the front and back covers of the 1984 Barrie-Orillia-Collingwood-Midland phone book, in honor of Ontario's Bicentennial, being celebrated this year.

The logo on the front cover says "Celebrating Together, 1784 Ontario 1984".

"More than 124,000 copies of the phone book will be delivered starting July 26," says Norma McCall, Bell Canada's manager for the area.

On the emergency calls page, there are two new listings, one for the Collingwood Distress Centre and the

other, toll free, for Marine and Air Search and Rescue.

There's other new information in the introductory pages: the new address and business hours are given for the Barrie Phone centre; 411 is the number for directory assistance when calling from Christian Island and Honey Harbour; and, there is up-dated information on directory assistance charges and the NSF cheque charge.

Bell is continuing its policy of delivering one directory to each household. Anyone who does not receive a copy by the end of August should call the local Bell business office.

'Die in' staged by Green Party at Balm Beach upbeat event

by MARK BOURRIE

BALM BEACH Tourists here were treated to a spectacle not often described in tourism brochures -- a "die in" by the fledgling North Simcoe Green Party to protest the Pauze dump.

Lead by Steve Kaasgaard, the 25-year-old Brampton cottager who was arrested last Monday for chaining himself to the gate of the Pauze dump, a handful

of new Green Party members mingled with beach residents near the Balm Beach arcades, then pretended to die from drinking water seeping from the controversial dump.

"A lot of the people at the beach didn't know about the problems at the dump. That's really something, considering the amount of publicity that it's been getting recently," said Kaasgaard.

Kaasgaard will ap-

pear in Penetanguishene Provincial Court Aug. 9 to face a mischief charge laid against him after he chained himself to the gate of the dump and blocked traffic there for about half an hour.

Although he has already spent a day and a half in jail protesting the recent landfill settlement, Kaasgaard says he will continue to protest the site, but because he is on bail he

says he will use only legal forms of protest.

Kaasgaard says he and his group will begin a letter writing campaign to newspapers to try to increase awareness of the controversial landfill site.

The Saturday beach protest was conducted without trouble in front of a sympathetic beach audience, Kaasgaard said. He said he pointed out springs flowing to the bay and explained to tourists the problems of

the Pauze dumpsite.

"There are springs and streams that empty right into the bay at Balm Beach. People should know that the government says they may be contaminated in a few years and there's nothing being done to stop the pollution from reaching the bay," he said.

Kaasgaard says he will decide soon whether to have his name on the ballot in the Sept. 4 federal election to continue his protest against the Pauze site.

GREAT MOMENTS IN ONTARIO

Musket fire and battle cries will ring out over Prescott when Fort Wellington is the site of the largest Revolutionary War pageant in North America this summer. Although an annual event, this year's pageant has been enlarged in honor of Ontario's Bicentennial celebrations. At least 1,200 soldiers are expected to participate in the Brigade of American Revolution encampment which begins Friday, July 13 at the Fort and continues to July 22.

Prescott is a charming community of 5,000 located on the shores of the St. Lawrence River, 18 km east of Brockville.

Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II and his Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh will visit Prescott from 2:30 to 4 p.m. on July 17 and will attend a special military pageant held in

their honor at Fort Wellington.

Soldiers from 30 to 40 regimental associations will begin arriving on the 13th and start setting up camp at the Fort. Living in tents and cooking over open campfires, the men will recreate the lives of 18th century soldiers. Sentries will be assigned to patrol the camp and men will be called regularly to inspection. Drum and fife bands will liven the performances.

Spectators can join the fun too, by learning a "gavotte", a popular dance of the period.

By July 16, troops of U.S., British, Loyalist, Hessian (German mercenaries hired by the British) and Indian allies will all be assembled.

What follows will be a very exciting spectator event. A major battle will be staged in three sections over the weekend of July 21 and

22. To the onlooker, events seem to progress in slow motion as carefully drilled soldiers line up to fire volleys of musket fire in well rehearsed unison while the artillery fire off cannons wheeled in on field carriages.

To nurse the wounded

and give succor to the dying, soldiers' wives would often have been on hand and the same is true during these modern mock battles. "The wives" will be participating in the encampment by demonstrating such skills as campfire


cooking and weaving. This Revolutionary War battle has special significance in Prescott. First settled in 1784 by Major Edward Jessup and his men, these United Empire Loyalist troops from the Albany, N.Y. area were granted land along the north

shore of the St. Lawrence River in return for the services to King George III.

For more information about the military pageant, contact the superintendent, Fort



Wellington, Prescott, Ontario, K0E 1T0, (613) 925-2396.



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