

You'll be able to cast your vote

Members of the public who attend the annual general meeting for Midland's Contact

Information Centre on Feb. 20, will be welcome to cast a vote on any of the agenda items.

Although each member on the 12 person board of directors is expected to

serve a three year term, elections will be held at the meeting to fill between three and five places left vacant by retirements.

Contact Administrator Sandra Saddy is also expecting some motions to officially incorporate an expanded social service role into Contact's constitution.

A full agenda will be made available one week before the general meeting, at the information centre's office in the Edward's Village Mall.

The meeting is scheduled between 7 and 10 p.m. in the Catholic Family Life Centre on Midland Ave. Refreshments will be served.

More for moose hunters

Minor changes in Ontario's 1985 selective moose harvest program will give residents and non-residents more hunting opportunities this fall.

Other than that, this year's moose hunting—which begins Oct. 5 in most areas of Ontario—is pretty much the same as last year.

Changes worth noting: ●Seasons have been set in regulation so that they need not be changed from year to year. The resident season in the far north, for example, will begin on the third Saturday of September in any year.

●Moose hunting will be allowed in the Algonquin area from the Monday following Oct. 18 to the succeeding Saturday every year, instead of alternate years, because the validation tag system allows wild life managers to predictably control harvest level. This is the first time in more than 20 years that hunting in the area has been allowed two years in a row.

●Wildlife Management Unit 6—an area served by many lodges and outfitters, will be opened to non-resident moose hunting.

●There will also be a new season for archers in Wildlife Management Unit 3 in northwestern Ontario, thereby extending early archery seasons over northern Ontario.

Hunters are reminded that they must purchase a moose hunting licence before they can apply for an adult moose validation tag in the computerized draw.

Application forms for tags are provided with the licences, which will go on sale in late March. To be eligible for the draw, applications must reach the Ministry of Natural Resources' Wildlife Branch in Toronto, or an MNR district office 5 p.m., Wednesday, May 15, 1985.

Hunters who entered, but did not receive a validation tag last year, will given preference to ensure fair tag distribution.

Snowmobilers can be targets for theft

Snowmobile thefts continue to be a serious problem for local residents and the Midland detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police.

Another two

motorized snow vehicles were reported stolen during the past week. A 1979 Arctic Cat was taken over Wednesday evening from the front yard of Robert Patterson in Port McNicoll. Two nights later,

Melvin Smith of Tiny Township lost his 1981 Ski-Doo under similar circumstances.

Both of these thefts are still under investigation by the Midland OPP.

A dozen narcotics related charges

A total of 12 narcotics-related charges were laid in Midland last year, the same number

laid in 1983. Frauds were up last year over '83. According to police records

here, 85 cases of fraud was probed in Midland last year compared to 76 in 1983.

These thieves will take a cheque or cash

A storefront window forced open gave thieves access to the Honey Harbour Boat Club sometime between 10 p.m. Monday Jan. 28

and the early hours of Jan. 29.

Midland OPP report the theft of approximately \$600 in cash

and a cheque valued at approximately \$360.

OPP are continuing to investigate this incident.

Correction

A cutline under a front page picture in Friday's Weekender indicated a train accident had occurred in Midland just before 1 p.m. Wednesday.

The item should have read, just before 1 p.m. Tuesday.

We regret the error and the confusion this mistake may have caused.

Fine-free system at library

by PAUL SANDERSON
Midland Public Library is experiencing enough success with a trial run of its new fine-free system of borrowing, that Chief Librarian Michael Saddy expects the arrangement to become a regular policy.

Since July 1984 the library has charged no fines for overdue books.

While overdue notices are sent, patrons are simply encouraged to return the books no questions asked or pay for replacement.

"Library fines are not a big part of our revenue," explains Saddy, "only about \$400-500 each year."

He believes the traditional library fine system encourages people to believe they are in more and more trouble the longer the book is overdue.

With a book inventory worth almost one million dollars, Saddy insists the most important thing is for the library to get its books back.

Martial arts and auto repair manuals are the books most likely to be missing, he says.

Although the rate of delinquent books has remained about the same since July, Saddy points out how the library is no longer spending 35 cent stamps to collect 15 cent fines.

Most people are unaware that fines of up to \$25 can be levied under the Library Act for unreturned book, and he recalls charges being laid recently by the Collingwood Public Library under the Criminal Code of Canada.

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