

Midland auto extrication team among North America's Top 10

by PAUL SANDERSON

March 20 is still two days away, but five Town of Midland firemen got their first taste of Spring about 10 days ago in Tennessee, enroute to the Third Annual International Auto Extrication Competition and Learning Symposium, in Orlando, Florida.

Twenty eight North American teams, from as far away as Texas, were judged on speed and technique

as they released live "volunteer victims" from simulated one and two car accidents.

Upon arriving home Sunday, Midland's team of five firefighters (Gary Desoreaux, Mike Gagnon, Dave Hamelin, Jamie Rodgers, and Joe Gagnon) were pleased to report a finish among the top ten teams.

The defending champion team from the City of York (Ontario) retained

their title with the best time and technique on two simulated accidents, in the parking lot of Orlando's Sheraton Resort Hotel.

A team from Maryland's Montgomery Township finished second, while another Ontario squad, from Mississauga Fire Department, were judged third.

The team witnessed new techniques used by American firemen, says Midland's Mike Gagnon, who reports

the U.S. teams claimed to prefer many methods employed by the Canadian extricators.

The Town of Midland team will begin sharing their new expertise among local fire departments soon, with a video presentation of the competition. With the arrival of good weather, they plan to also schedule some "hands on" demonstrations, using actual vehicles.

Open forum March 18

Physicians and sexual counsellors Beryl and Noam Chernick will present a public information and discussion session March 18 on "Growing Up Sexual" at Midland's Highland Inn from 7 p.m.-9 p.m.

Based in London, the Chernicks form a cotherapy team for people with marital and sexual dysfunction. Noam is also an obstetrician-gynecologist specializing in sex-related problems.

The Chernicks are Fellows of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy and charter members of the Board of Examiners in Sexual Therapy and Counselling in Ontario.

They are being brought to the area by the Volunteer Association of the Penetanguishene Mental Health Centre. The day after the public forum, they are presenting a one-day workshop to health care and other professionals from Simcoe County and Muskoka, also at the Highland.

The public forum Tuesday evening is designed to be an informal discussion open to parents, teenagers, teachers and others interested in listening to and talking with the couple.

Tickets for the evening are \$5 per person, and are available at the Contact Centre on King Street in Midland.

Popular plant expert returns

Members of the public are invited to enjoy a coffee or tea while viewing the House Plant Show, March 24 between 7 p.m. and 8 p.m., in Midland's Calvary Baptist Church.

Bert Card of Thornhill, by popular demand, will return to speak, at 8 p.m.

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Coldwater Bridge Club

by

M. (PETER) SHAW

The Open Pairs Duplicate held on Monday evening, March 3, at the Coldwater Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion was a "Handicap" game, an attempt to equalize the chances of winning by issuing a "handicap bonus points" to less experienced players according to a formula approved by the ACBL.

After the handicap points were added the standings were: Jim Hughes, George Kingsborough tied with Georgie Waterson, Dorothy Pheasant, with 84 points; Dot Harris, Rea Kingsborough 83; Joyce Hall, Stan Frankland 77; Helen Vaughan, Jean McLeod 72; Angela and Sid Gibson 69.5; Thelma Caruso, Kathy Brimer 68.5; Friedel and Peter Shaw 76.5; Mary and Les Bell 66.5; Lettie Murray, Laura Hamilton 58.5.

The afternoon "Novice" Pairs, for couples all of whom are either unranked or have less than 20 Master points, was a very close race by Friedel Shaw, Lloyd Attridge with 64 percent; and a close second were Sid Griffith.

Neil D'aoust 62 percent; followed by Dave Parker, Bob Emo 56; Frances Barrett, Stan Frankland, 49; Mary Polkinghorne, Marg Smith 36; Iris Bolyea, Marg Devitt, 33. Prizes, donated by the Coldwater Home Hardware, were given out to Frances Barrett, Dac Harris, and George Kingsborough for previous wins.

Wild bird helpers needed

Children's Wildlife Club meets in the Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre between 10 a.m. and 12 a.m. on March 22. "Wild bird helpers" age six and older are needed. The cost to non-members is 75 cents.

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any sort of work available, but ideally, they would like to find employment related to their field of study. This would help ease the transition from school to work, and help eliminate the "no experience/no job" bias that they may face when seeking full time employment. Hiring students makes good business sense. For every type of job you can offer, there's a student more than willing to work.



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