

# Community Calendar

## March 18

The Ladies Auxiliary, Branch 80, are sponsoring a Euchre Party at the Midland Legion, Branch 80, on March 18 at 8 p.m. Lunch and prizes. \$1.50 per person.

## March 18

The Canadian Diabetes Association, Midland-Penetang and District Branch will be holding its regular March meeting at Georgian Manor at 8 p.m. Wednesday, March 18. Speaker: Alleyne Attwood, Dietitian on the subject of "Nutrition Month, What's in it for You?" Come and meet old friends and meet new ones and have an enjoyable evening.

## March 19

The Triple F Group will be travelling to Barrie by car for an afternoon of shopping. Meet at the Alliance Church on Yonge St. at 1:00 p.m. and we will pool the cars. Returning home via Elmvalle, we will have supper together at the Cricklewood Restaurant. If you need transportation, call 526-7295.

## March 19

It's Craft and Hobbie Night at the Field Naturalists Monthly Meeting. Member's of the Midland-Penetang Field Naturalists display their talents, come out and see what's in store for your night's entertainment.

Previous meetings have included colour slides, across Canada and Europe, woodworking items, short, interesting stories on wild life, birds and animals. It will be held at the Wye Marsh on Thursday night at 7:30 p.m.

## March 16-20

March Break Children's Programs are being held at the Midland YMCA, March 16-20, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for children between the ages of six and eleven. Parents are asked to bring gym clothes, swimsuit, towel, lunch, snowsuit, mitts, hat and toboggan (if you have one). We provide leadership, 2 snack breaks, and art and craft supplies. The cost for YMCA members is \$6.00 per day and \$9.00 for non-members. Pre-register before program to help us plan supplies. Thank you.

## March 19 and 20

The Salvation Army Thrift Store (corner of Second and Dominion Streets) is having a Bag Sale. Bring a regular-sized garbage bag and fill it full of wearing apparel for only \$7.

## March 23

At 8 p.m. at the Calvary Baptist Church in Midland, Barry Watt of Green Cross Products - speaking on Herbicides and pesticides. Sponsored by Midland Horticultural Society.

## March 24

At 7:30 p.m. at the Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre, the Huronia group will hold a meeting. The program will include slides of the rehabilitation work done on Hog Creek in 1986 under the CFIP Program. All are welcome. \$1 admission to help cover the cost of renting the building. Sponsored by Huronia Chapter Trout Unlimited of Canada.

## April 8

The Midland Horticultural Society trip to Garden Festival and Home Show at Exhibition Park, Toronto from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fare and admission is \$15. For further information contact: 526-2907, 26-6144 or 526-6462.

## April 9

First Presbyterian Church in Penetanguishene is having a Spaghetti Supper on April 9 from 4 to 7 p.m. Tickets are \$4 for adults and \$2 for children under 10. For ticket information call 549-7890 or 549-8563.

## April 25

Flashback to the nifty 50's - featuring The French Connection at the Penetang Legion from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Tickets are \$15 per couple or \$7.50 single. 50's dress optional. Light buffet will be served. For further information call St. Ann's School 549-8900; P. Ladouceur 549-2617; or G. Dubeau 549-2992.

## May 16

The C.W.L. is sponsoring a "Buy or Sell" at Porttarama Flea Market to be held in the basement of Catholic Church in Port McNicoll. Tables are for rent for \$5 plus a small donation. Doors open 8:30 a.m. For further information contact: Josephine Zandbelt 534-1638 or Anita Bell 534-7455.

## May 22

The Ideal Rebekah Lodge 199 will be having a "Salad Plate Supper" at the Midland Oddfellows Hall.

## Monday to Friday

Pre-School Screening clinics for all children entering Junior and Senior Kindergarten this fall. Please call the Simcoe County District Health Unit at 526-9324 for an appointment.

# Arts council ready for business

In just a little under 12 months, the North Simcoe Arts Council, which was once only a dream of many area artists, has become a full fledged reality.

The organization, which has now over 2,000 members (including group memberships), is fully operational at its home in the Budd Watson Gallery in Midland. The very first meeting to discuss the possibility of creating such an organization was held in mid-March last year.

Late last month the four-member staff, who were hired by the art council's board of governors to operate the council were hired and already the office is humming with excitement.

The office is staffed with a director of administrations, an administrative assistant, resource development officer and journalist/publicist.

In an interview last week Director of Administrations Sylvia McNeely said already the office is running smoothly.

"Everyone in the office is really keen. They are so enthusiastic and full of ideas and energy," said McNeely.

McNeely, who hails from the Peterborough area, will manage the day-to-day operations of the organization while supervising the other three members of the staff.

Patricia Muelleur has been hired as the resource development officer. McNeely said Muelleur's job will entail organizing

and carrying out all fundraising for the council. Bill Smith, journalist/publicist, will be responsible for the preparation of material for promoting the arts council in the area and throughout the province.

The tasks of the administrative assistant Shelly Leroux include all the secretarial and reception work involved in the organization.

Interested individuals can find the council in two empty rooms on the second floor of the Budd Watson Gallery they are presently occupying.

"The mandate of the newly formed council is to lobby the federal and provincial governments for money and support of the arts in North Simcoe, to provide mutual support for artists from others in their fields, to help gain recognition for local artists and their work," said McNeely.

One of the first tasks the staff will be undertaking, said McNeely, is to collect and compile a bank of information on all local and national artists affiliated with the organization. The arts council, which was initiated with the help of the North Simcoe LEAD Program last March, was also created in an effort to encourage the local community to participate in the endeavours of the local artists.

The first major project the four member staff is involved in is the organization and promotion of a

special recital by violinist Eugene Kash at the Midland Secondary School on April 5.



Sylvia McNeely



Patricia Mueller



Bill Smith



Shelly Leroux

# Lack of teachers limits programs

The teaching of French as a second language in the public elementary schools isn't being extended in Simcoe County for a good reason, according to a former advocate.

Last month a former Simcoe County Board of Education chairman, Wendy MacKenzie, told parents of Corpus Christi School students that she supported teaching French to students in grades before Grade 4. Then she attended a conference where the subject was discussed.

At that conference the advice given by representatives of other school boards was to not try to expand to more grades the

teaching of French as a second language. There aren't enough qualified teachers, was the reason given.

MacKenzie said that the county's public board is required now to provide elementary school students with 600 hours of French as a second language by Grade 8. French as a second language begins in Grade 4.

After MacKenzie and other trustees returned from the conference, the board decided against the teaching of French as a second language in more grades. The decision was a responsible one, MacKenzie said. Her preference is for quality instruction.

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