



Island construction

Christian Island will have a new combination recreation centre and administration office soon. The high two-storey building is

one of the first buildings on the island visitors pass when they disembark from the ferry Indian Maiden. Minister of Citizenship

and Culture Lily Munro was given a tour of the building when she visited the island last Friday.

Library plans ramp, elevator for disabled

The Midland Public Library does have plans to make itself more accessible to the disabled, according to chief librarian Mike Saddy.

In fact, it has had plans to put a ramp at the doors and an elevator inside the building to serve those who are physically challenged for quite a while, said Saddy. But a simple lack of money is causing the delay, he said.

Since the library opened at its new location at King and Elizabeth Streets, it has come under criticism from some of the disabled community because there is no ramp for wheelchair-bound patrons to use to enter the building.

The steps at the front doors can be too much of a hurdle for some to cross.

But if it were up to Saddy, he says he'd have a ramp and elevator built tomorrow. "It is a simple matter of money," he said.

He said when the library did have money to spend on renovations, it had two choices: make the building physically sound or make it accessible to the physical-

ly handicapped. "It just didn't make any sense to have accessibility to a building that was going to fall down," he said.

The condition of the library building was so bad that the mortar was crumbling away, said Saddy. All the money available went into fixing that, he said.

This autumn the library is planning a fundraising drive in which it hopes to gather enough cash to pay for the planned renovations. One of the problems the library has is that it can not just put up a simple ramp; since the building is designated as an historical site, any addition or renovation must retain the character of the original building.

"I would hope all those people who are complaining about the problem will complain to their elected representatives," said Saddy, because they will listen to the people. Saddy also asked that anyone who wants to help the library raise the money will sign up as a volunteer.

King St. trucks use back door

Delivery trucks which stop on King Street are to be targeted by the Business Improvement Association.

The BIA says it will devise a plan at its next meeting to advise all merchants on King Street to refuse deliveries at the front door.

In a letter to the Town of Midland, the BIA asked for the Town's help in setting up a program to deal with the problem.

At a public safety committee meeting last Thursday, it was decided that the Town would give verbal support to the BIA's quest.

However, there is no need for any kind of joint program, the committee decided.

"All they need to do is say, 'We won't take deliveries at the front door,'" said Town clerk Fred Flood.

Church service is interfaith

This Sunday the Church in the Pines will hold an interfaith service conducted jointly by Dr. C.H. Dickinson (retired) of the United Church and Emmett McKenna, S.J. from the Martyrs' Shrine.

Dr. Dickinson has had a long and distinguished career in the United

Church and is a long time resident of Cawaja Beach.

Father McKenna is presently a member of the staff of the Martyrs' Shrine in Midland.

Father McKenna will celebrate the Eucharist for members of the Catholic Faith, while Dr. Dickinson will serve Communion for the Protestant members.

Man charged in pop bottle robbery

A Midland man appeared in court in Barrie last week in connection with an attempted robbery at a convenience store on Vindin Street July 17.

At about 10:30 p.m., according to the police, a man entered the Mike's Mart store on Vindin Street. He picked up two bottles of pop and threatened the cashier with one of

them.

However, police say, some patrons of the store scared the man away. Police were called, and a man was arrested shortly after.

No money was taken from the store.

Police have charged 22-year-old Anthony Baker with attempted robbery and possession of a weapon.

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