40 years of cancer treatment celebrated

The Ontario Cancer Treatment and Research Foundation is celebrating their 40th anniversary. The Foundation administers cancer treatment and research across the province through seven regional clinics including the Thunder Bay Clinic which is celebrating its 35th anniversary year as well. As part of its celebration plans, the Thunder Bay Clinic is

hosting an Open House which is scheduled to take place on Sunday, September 25, from 1-5 p.m. Attending the festivities will be Mr. Michael Meighen, Q.C., Chairman of the Board of the OCT & RF; Dr. J.W. Meakin, Executive-Director of the OCT & RF; and Mr. R.D. Gray, the Secretary-Treasurer of the OCT & RF.

Until 1946, cancer patients throughout Northern Ontario had to travel south for diagnosis and treatment of their disease. Sometimes, these patients had to spend up to 24 hours riding trains to arrive at one of the hospitals in the south capable of dealing with their cancers. In December of 1946, this began to change when the Foundation opened the Ontario Cancer

Foundation Thunder Bay Clinic, as a diagnostic and follow-up clinic and a registry for all cancer in the immediate vicinity of Port Arthur and Fort William.

The new clinic was responsible for the largest area in the province, extending from Hornepayne in the east to Red Lake, Pickle Crow and Central Patricia in the north, to the Manitoba boundary with Rainy River, Kenora and Fort Francis as well as the new towns of Marathon, Terrace Bay and Red Rock.

The new clinic with sub-clinics in each of the "twin" cities still could not handle certain types of cancers and those patients were transferred, under a new arrangement, to the Toronto General Hospital. The Foundation provided

transportation to patients who could not afford it.

In 1947, the Foundation rented space in the new wing of the Port Arthur General Hospital to contain its diagnostic and follow-up clinic and a new radio-therapy centre for the Lakehead. This new treatment centre went into operation in April 1948. In its first two years of operation, the Thunder Bay Clinic registered 564 cases of cancer from its catchment area of 120,000 people. Of these, the clinic provided advice, diagnoses and treatment for 352 patients.

In 1952, the Foundation's Advisory Medical Board recommended that each of the clinics be provided with cobalt-60 therapy units. This Canadian-develop-

ed device for producing radiation energy, soon became the basic instrument for radiotherapy of cancer throughout the world. Senator Norman M. Paterson offered to buy one of these "cobalt bombs" for the Thunder Bay Clinic. At that time, one of these devices cost about \$47,000. Encouraged by this donation, the Foundation set out to install similar units in its clinics in Hamilton, Kingston, Ottawa and Windsor, Early in 1954, the Thunder Bay Clinic moved into a new wing of the General Hospital in Port Arthur, which had special facilities for the

In 1972, after a long wait, a new hostel "Amethyst House" was opened. This hostel, which was built near the

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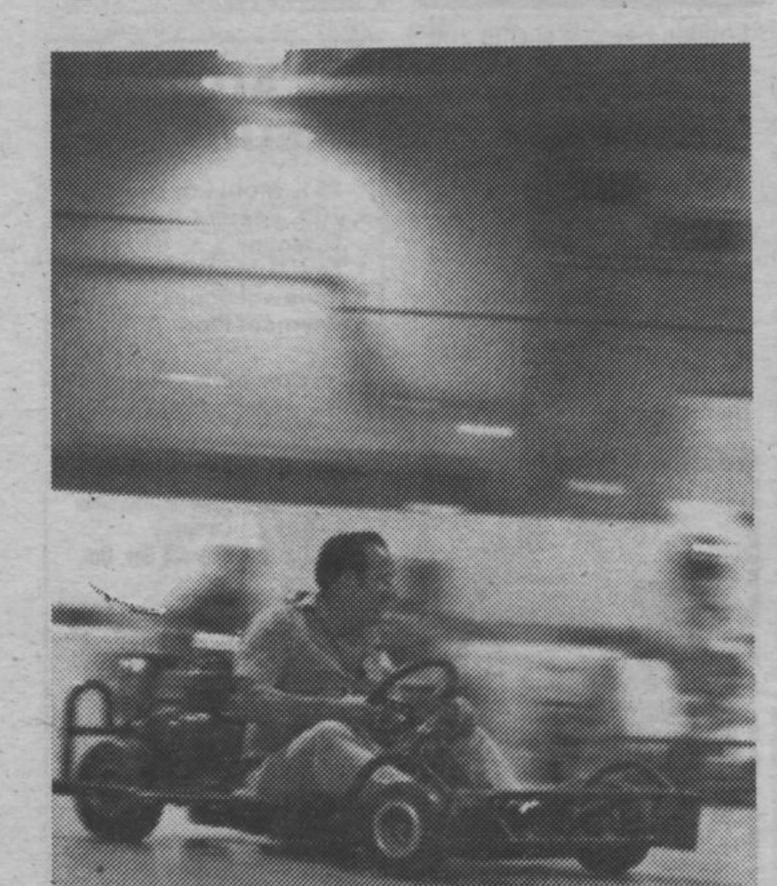
cobalt-60 therapy unit.

Port Arthur General Hospital, offered living accommodation to all patients, who live more than 25 miles from Thunder Bay to or those who require nursing care.

In 1977, a new clinic building was completed for the Thunder Bay Clinic at the Port Arthur General Hospital.

Despite its growth, the Thunder Bay Clinic, like the other regional treatment centres, has had dramatic increases in patient load and has experienced the shortages which accompany increased demands.

Nevertheless, the Thunder Bay Clinic has been able to offer, consistently, a level of service to cancer patients equal to that in the south, except in certain highly specialized area.



Go-Karts a success!

The Kinsmen Club of Terrace Bay once again sponsored the Go-Kart rentals at the Terrace Bay Arena. This popular event was well attended on August 16th and 17th, and proceeds will go towards community events.

Letters:

Airforce reunion in Dunnville

Dear Editor:

There are no doubt, readers of your newspaper who would be interested in knowing of the forthcoming 38th Annual Reunion of No. 6 Service Flying Training School, R.C.A.F., Dunnville Ontario, and I would apprecite it if you would provide a news item in a coming issue of your newspaper.

NOTICE:

For the past 37 years Royal Canadian Air Force personnel who were stationed at No. 6 S.F.T.S. during the war, have gathered in Dunnville to celebrate their station reunion. This year marks their 38th Get-Together, which will take place on September 16th, 17th, and 18th.

The event begins with a reception Friday evening, hosted by Mayor Frank Marshall. A golf tournament will be held Saturday morning and in the afternoon a demonstration of Ultra-Light aircraft, a parachute drop, a parade, memorial service and Flyast of wartime Harvard Aircraft is scheduled, followed by the Annual banquet in the evening. Group Captain A.J.

Bauer, C.D., National President of the Royal Canadian Air Force Assoc., will take the salute and inspect the band and Air Cadets of No. 150 White Tiger Squadron, Royal Canadian Air Cadets of Hamilton, Ontario.

The weekend closes Sunday morning with an outdoor "Flapper and Banger" breakfast at the Riverview Motel.

All wartime personnel are invited to attend. If not on the mailing list, please contact: Frank Scholfield, Adjutant-General, P.O. Box 187, Dunnville, Ont. N1A 2X5. Or phone (416) 774-7595 (business) or (416) 774-5480 (res.)

The publicity we have received in the past has resulted in the attendance of several 'first timers' each year and has made it possible for us to hold this rather unique reunion annually since the war ended in 1945. Your co-operation will again be appreciated and will help to make our reunion another great success.

Yours very truly,

Frank Scholfield,
Adjutant-General



Fudson's Bay Company