Rossport

Monday, April 16 - 7:00 p.m. Evening Prayer Tuesday, April 17 - 7:00 p.m. Evening Prayer Wednesday, April 18 - 7:00 p.m. Evening Prayer and Vigil

Thursday, April 19 - 6:30 p.m. Sedar Supper and Communion

Good Friday, April 20 - 12 noon to 3:00 p.m. (3 services): The Litany; Ante-Communion; Evening Prayer and Compline

Saturday, April 21 - 10 p.m. Easter Vigil with

Communion Sunday, Easter day, April 22 - 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Holy Communion 7:00 p.m. Evening Prayer.

Happy Birthday, Mother Love,

Brenda, Kim, Tina, John

& Mary

times. It has made the past come alive for us and we are left much richer for the knowledge of our heritage.

by Anne Todesco

around Rossport today,

it is difficult to visual-

ize what the unorganiz-

ed township looked like

about 200 years ago

when some of our set-

tlers arrived to make

this village their home-

town. The village was in

evidence a good many

years before that date.

This being Ontario's bi-

centennial year it is only

natural that the interve-

ning years have brought

tremendous change and

growth. We have come a

long way from the small

backwoods settlement

and the strictly rural

atmosphere of the early

1800's and its log cab-

bustled into a com-

merce, industry and

many fine homes and we

are looking forward to

even further expansion

and growth in the years

ahead. However, along

with our eagerness and

desire to build a bright

future, we cannot afford

to ignore or forget our

past, which all its tri-

umphs and adversities,

has helped to mold the

character of the present

The little community

ins.

When one travels

In the past few years several new homes were built either on old family lots by the present generation or on new property by strangers who acquired property here recently. Other buildings have been renovated, one being the old Women's Institute Hall. It has had a face lift by the committee with a new kitchen and running water installed, new walls and insulation indoors and new siding. They have developed it into quite a community recreation centre. Some of the activities that take place are community meetings, Bingos, youth film nights, a games night for adults only,

Keep Fit exercises, etc. The Catholic Church has also been rennovated with new siding, roof and interior decorating. Many property owners have reverted back to heating their homes by burning wood and we now boast street signs. There are plans being made to build a fire hall this year. The hotel has been rennovated and is expected to open for the summer season. There is a promise of the old rink to be rebuilt this year to be ready for the next winter's skating exercises. That is a very pleasant piece of news. The lane back of the churches was re-opened this year. Its a great many years, long before my time here that it was in use. The Nicol Island project is developing and a causeway over the sand bar at the east end of the village is to be completed by the end of June, thus enabling people to drive over to the island.

For all Ontarians the year 1984 will be a memorable time in our history, being Ontario's Bicentennial year. From the Manitoban border to the Quebec province, from the Great Lakes to the Arctic people of Ontario are busy planning their different events to celebrate this historical year with high enthusiasm. The magical islands of our bay are busy sights now with surveying and prospecting for the precious gold. We are looking forward to having some old mine sites opened for development and hope to see our village develop into a larger community. We have the harbour both for anchorage and shipping.

Although schools and books found a growing place in the life of our early settlers, their first concern of course, was the commercial fishing. In the passing years we had over twenty tusg and fish boats operating out of the harbour, then the lamprey eel made inroads on the fish, destroying many trout, whitefish and other species. This resulted in the owners selling their fish boats and equipment, seeking employment elsewhere till retirement time. As a result there is only one tug engaged in this old industry. Many of our hardy old fishermen have passed on, the younger generation

are following other walks of life. It is sad to know that this old industry that was in bible days is missing from our village. We still miss the boats whistles at six in the morning as they left for their fishing grounds and the return whistle, a signal to the fish packer that the boats were returning with their haul of fish.

A bicentennial commitee with Charles Huterli, chairman is busy planning various events for the year. Among them will be a family picnic, serving food as near as possible as in the 1700's. They hope to be able to provide a meal of fish, wild meat, pork and bean, tea biscuits or bannock, sauces and relishes, all topped off with old fashioned blueberry cake. This will be held on the civic holiday weekend at the Rossport Park opposite of Mac's Service Station and store.

Another industry flourishing out of Rossport, is fur trapping. Many of the present villagers trap on lines that their forefathers worked. Beavers have been on the short supply this winter but foxes, wolves, martins etc. are plentiful.

Lumbering was a very popular industry one time here and is back in a small way with the villagers cutting and hauling firewood. Heating a building with wood as fuel is supposed to provide more heat and comfort to a home.

on their property, his friendly chats as he would walk along the street, and his many contributions to the history of the area. Felix had been a commercial fisherman most of his life except a short while spent in lumber camps. He fished from Port Coldwell, Lake Nipigon and out of Rossport until the lamprey eel made enroads on the fish, then he worked on the Trans Canada highway till retirement.

He is a master mind at advice and suggestions for different repairs and boats. Some would think them out of fashion but his suggestions always are sound. His hobby is gardening but he has others such as building picnic tables, chairs, lamps and his work on driftwood is a real work of art. He is never found idle, his hands are always busy and he has enjoyed working at the church long hours and never accepted compensation for the work. Good luck and happy times to Felix in his new home. We all miss you very much. You are part of Rossport Village.

Welcome back to Ned Basher, the owner of the Rossport Inn. He is putting the finishing touches to the building before opening for business. It will be great to have the dining room open again for home cooked meals. We missed this service in our village while the hotel was closed.

Herbert Legault is home from The Mc-Causland Hospital and we are all quite pleased to have you home again, Herbie.



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