

Victoria Beach Herald

Sponsored by the Victoria Beach Club



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JULY 8, 1983

Editor:
ALBERT WOLFE
120 Centre

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FLEA MARKET and SILENT AUCTION at the Clubhouse — Saturday, July 9 at 2 p.m.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE — CLUB DAY REPORT

The Victoria Beach Club was successful in raising over \$9,000.00 in membership fees and donations on the Club Day Blitz this July 2. As usual, canvassers were well received and generous support for the Club was forthcoming. We were especially pleased with this result due to the poor weather and note that many people who always contribute were not at their cottages. With luck, and with your help, we believe that our goal of \$10,000.00 can easily be reached and exceeded.

This year we are fortunate to have several locations for visitors and cottage owners who have been missed in the initial Blitz. For your convenience, you may purchase memberships or make donations at our cottage 124-8th, at Smith's 220-4th, at Clapham's 206-8th, or at Komar's 71 Gibson Drive.

We would like to extend our thanks to all Captains and canvassers who willingly gave up their time to make the 1983 Blitz such a success. Here are the people to be thanked:

Captain — Albert White Canvassers — B Campbell, Elsie Hughes, Hilary Browncombe, Mary West

Captain — Jacque Blanchard Canvassers — Liz Wiltkamp, Pat Dawson, Maureen Glover, Janet Smith, Joan McMorris

Captain — Bath Clapham Canvassers — Bill Browncombe, Mr & Mrs Ingleson

Captain — Lissen Lockwood Canvassers — Fred Warkentin, Susan Dyer, David Stevenson, Gail Isaak, Doreen Langdon, Elaine Archer

Captain — Eleanor Cramp Canvassers — Carol Craig, Lindsay Ingram, Ruth Kroecker, Marg Plaxton

Captain — Sally Knox Canvassers — Ernie Singleton, Dawn Kirkbyson, Mellanie Gow, Atrill Stewart, Irene Heiman

Captain — Ron Storozyk Canvassers — John Lewis, Mr & Mrs R. W. Spear, Larry Cooley, Jacque Storozyk

Captains — Therese & Bill Mitchell. **Canvasser —** Leah Mitchell

Captain — Shirley Ruhr Canvassers — Eleanor Jaeger, Donna Thain, Betty Huget, Rene Desmet

Captain — Bernice Komar Canvassers — Brigit Graba, Shawn Drescher, George Bourget, Maureen Gillies, Jack & Wendy O'Malley, Sandra Low, McAfee

Captain — Hanna Laites

We would also like to add our personal thanks to Bill & Hilary Browncombe who took the time to provide us with a detailed report and all of the material we required to do the job, as well as Laurie Pollard who made sure the printing was finished and delivered in time for the Blitz.

Thanks

BOB & NANCY ADKINS

ADULT DANCES '83

The first of which will be held Saturday, July 16, 1983 at the Clubhouse.

This will be an Indoor Beer Garden entitled **Beerfest '83**. Entertainment for the evening will be **Rock Music**, 50's to present complete with a **Light Show**. Lights for total atmosphere and a music system of over 500 watts of pure uncompromised sound.

You have not seen an evening such as this at Victoria Beach for a quality evening of lively entertainment in years. Beer *only* will be available, Labatt's Blue, Select, Club, and Labatt's Lite.

The evening will be restricted to 100 people for comfort, snacks will be served, and a light lunch available.

DON'T MISS IT!

This is a 1st For Victoria Beach

Tickets are available at the V.B. Grocery so bring your friends and have a bubbly time. Details of Adult Dance number 2 (August 6 '83) coming soon.

BEERFEST '83 at the Clubhouse — Saturday, July 16, at 8 p.m.
ADULT DANCE '83 at the Clubhouse — Saturday, July 16
BEACH EVENTS — July 16, 10:30 a.m.

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MONDAY - FRIDAY	MONDAY - FRIDAY
La. Wing 9:00 P.M. Ar. Victoria Beach 11:25 P.M.	La. Wing 9:00 P.M. Ar. Victoria Beach 11:25 P.M.
SATURDAY	SATURDAY
La. Victoria Beach 1:00 A.M. Ar. Winnipeg 9:00 A.M.	La. Victoria Beach 1:00 A.M. Ar. Winnipeg 9:00 A.M.
La. Victoria Beach 2:15 P.M. Ar. Winnipeg 10:00 P.M.	La. Victoria Beach 2:15 P.M. Ar. Winnipeg 10:00 P.M.
SUNDAYS & HOLIDAYS	SUNDAYS & HOLIDAYS
La. Victoria Beach 5:30 P.M. Ar. Winnipeg 11:45 P.M.	La. Victoria Beach 5:30 P.M. Ar. Winnipeg 11:45 P.M.

IN APPRECIATION

Lloyd and Zel Smith are finally settling into their V B home on 7th. Though they moved into their new cottage in 1964, they had not had much time in it until this year (1983). When the Maintenance Base of Air Canada moved from Winnipeg to Montreal in 1967, Lloyd and Zel moved too, and returned to V B when he retired in 1975. During those years in exile Lloyd always dreamed of managing the golf course in his retirement. And so it happened. Part of the contract was to live in the Club House despite the fact their cottage was close by at Patricia and 7th. Also, at that time the new club house construction was under way. So, in 1976, Lloyd and Zel lived in two halves of a club house, the old and the new with an open ramp between the two. On rainy days the ramp across required an umbrella.

In Lloyd's background is a Diploma in Agriculture, normal to many young men raised on a farm. It was therefore somewhat natural for Lloyd to be interested in grasses, and in the summer of '75, prior to taking over the golf course, Lloyd joined the Greens Superintendents' Association of Manitoba and undertook the study of golf course grasses. He was in 1981, one of 27 members of the Association (of 90) holding a Green certificate.

The first task undertaken by his new management was the development of the greens. Lloyd drove hundreds of miles looking for the proper soil, finally finding it along N-11 highway. He says people must have thought him crazy when he ordered sand from Winnipeg — it was like bringing coals to Newcastle. The sand had to be of a certain kind to aerate the soil, and the soil of a certain kind if winter damage was to be minimized.

Then someone got hit on the forehead as he stepped off the 8th tee. That meant finding a solution to the structural problem because if it were to happen again, at that spot, management, by law, would be held responsible. The solution was to open up the bush to the right and build the 8th tee out of line and sight of the 7th green. Then while examining fairways Lloyd realized the 2nd was not long enough to qualify for a par 4 and he moved the tee back some 30 feet.

Looking back, Lloyd remembers too some of the trials of management. There was his accident when a tractor backed into him badly injuring his knee. There was not only the pain but also much frustration and almost a year of rehabilitation with weights and exercise. And never any pain killers. And of course there were crutches, and the open ramp, and the umbrella on rainy days, but Lloyd laughs as he recounts these events.

There was also the frustration of having boys hired for the summer returning to school before all the work was done.

There was the year of the worm infestation of the greens and the feeling of success when the battle was won. Another incident to be laughed at in retrospect was the purchase of 3 mowers, early in the management take-over, only to find the tractor promised for use arrived in unoperable condition and a mow had been too light in any case. For a period of time a ton large tractor was used to pull the 3 mowers until 2 others were repaired and added to make the load reasonable.

Equipment today is a far cry from that of those days. One can only wonder what management of the course in 1920 had to work with.

Lloyd and Zel remember also some of the moments loaded with humour. For instance the time Paul Josylwycz drove the 9th tee only to have the ball land on the lawn at the road entrance to the clubhouse. Paul was not in the least displeased by the situation and calmly took his 2nd stroke to finish at par. Then there were times Lloyd would return from the fairways to find Zel in the locker room satisfying a golfer and Lloyd would find himself in her place grilling these sandwiches.

Both Lloyd and Zel say the experience was a highlight in their lives. They met so many nice people over the years. They feel so much at home at V B that as a consequence they look forward each spring to their return from winter quarters in Florida. And where do you suppose they housed themselves there — right alongside a golf course.

These two are still keeping an interest in golf at V B. Both were involved with the 60 Plus tournament in 1982 and will have a hand in it somewhere this year.

PRESIDENTS WORDS

I thank you to all the Membership Convoysers who braved the mosquitoes. I thank you to all the people who welcomed them in to sign up for membership or make a donation. I thank you to the family from Hampton Division who came to buy a membership and went away to canvas their neighbours.

On the Board of Directors you have Ron Storzow who was last year's President. He left the Community Club very well organized even though rather broke. As Vice President you have long time resident Roman Wengel who is also Rodney Steimack's uncle. Roman's responsibility this year is to care for club's properties which are the Clubhouse, Recreation Director's Cottage, Library and the Tennis Courts.

We have been fortunate to have a spot of rain to keep the grass green and reduce and fire hazard.

See you at the Flea Market and the Fishing Derby.

JOHN LEWIS

VICTORIA BEACH GOLF COURSE

MEMBERSHIPS	
Seasonal	
Senior Citizens	\$ 35.00
Family 1 (incl 13 or under)	\$100.00
Plus \$1.00 each additional child	\$1.00
Family single adults	\$5.00
Single adults	\$40.00
Junior 13 and under	\$7.50
Monthly	
Senior Citizens	\$9.00
Family 1 (incl 13 or under)	\$1.00
Plus \$1.00 each additional child	\$1.00
Family single adults	\$5.00
Single adults	\$40.00
Junior 13 and under	\$2.00
Two-Weeks	
Senior Citizens	\$12.00
Family 1 (incl 13 or under)	\$1.00
Plus \$1.00 each additional child	\$1.00
Family single adults	\$5.00
Single adults	\$40.00
Junior 13 and under	\$2.00
Green Fees — Week days — 1st 9 holes	\$1.25
2nd 9 holes (same day)	1.75
Week ends & Holidays — 1st 9 holes	2.00
2nd 9 holes (same day)	2.50
Lockers	
General — Lock Box	\$20.00 Monthly
Upper	\$10.00
Lower	\$5.00
Daily	2.00

RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF VICTORIA BEACH

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Mrs. Deleen Donnelly, George Ferguson, Paul Thain, Peter Paulson

Secretary-Treasurer
Mrs. Edith M. Davidson, 304 283 Portage Ave., Winnipeg
Phone 443-1876

Police Officer: Fire Chief and Building Inspector: Robert L. Jenson

Public Works Foreman: Wilfred Anderson

Medical Officers: 1226 Birch Avenue
July — C. Bourque, M.D.
August — R. Lakin, M.D.

Consultation Hours
Monday to Saturday — 10:00 to 12:00 Noon & 6:00 to 8:00 P.M.
Sundays and Holidays — 10:00 to 12:00 Noon only

SPORTS DAY — 83

Saturday, July 23rd at 10:00 a.m. is Sports Day, one of the most popular beach activities of the summer. Here is an opportunity to see the debut of our future athletes; to watch the "over-the-hill" crew attempt to rekindle past glories and to participate in some individual and family activities.

The events include the usual sprints, family relays, three-legged and sack races as well as the popular slow-bike race. It's a morning of great fun for young and old.

Join your neighbors on Saturday at the Sports Ground for this enjoyable and light-hearted event.

ROB HILL.

DOCKNEY BASEBALL TOURNAMENT

The local residents will take on the cottage owners of this area in a "Burlesque Kind of Baseball" on

Wednesday, July 13, 1983 at 7:30 p.m.
At: The Baseball field off Highway 59

But first, the V.B. All Nighters will play the V.B. Barbarians at 6:00 p.m.

Adults are \$3.00. Children (12 yrs. and under) \$1.00. Two door prizes (with advance tickets only)

WANTED

1 Pr. French Doors (unpainted preferred). 331-3rd Ave. or Winnipeg 489-8039.

WANTED

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BEACH EVENTS

Saturday July 16, 1983, 10-30 Alexander Beach

After our initiation by water to Beach Events last year we are willing to try again this year to get it right!

Beach Events are special contests for the younger children, ten and under. Ribbons are awarded for the darkest tan, the most freckles, the loveliest sand castle, the deepest hole, the swim races. Free ice cream for all contestants.

Check the following schedule of events this year so that you can start working on your freckles now and be on time for your age group.

MELANIE GOW

BEACH EVENTS SCHEDULE FOR SATURDAY, JULY 16, 1983

Ice Cream 12:00 or 12:15

TIME	EVENT					
	Special Event	Suntan	Sand A	Castle B	Swim Races	Freckles
10:30		Boys 5 & 6	Boys 4 & 5		Girls 5 & 6	Boys 7 & 8
10:45			Girls 9 & 10	Girls 4 & 5	Boys 9 & 10	Girls 7 & 8
11:00	Boys 4 & 5	Girls 5 & 6	Boys 5 & 6	Under	Boys 7 & 8	Boys 9 & 10
11:15	Under	Girls 7 & 8	Girls 5 & 6	Girls 5 & 6		Girls 9 & 10
11:30	Girls 4 & 5	Boys 4 & 5	Boys 7 & 8	Girls 5 & 6	Girls 9 & 10	Boys 5 & 6
11:45		Boys 9 & 10	Girls 8 & 9	Girls 5 & 6	Boys 5 & 6	Girls 5 & 6
12:00	Girls 4 & 5	Under	Girls 9 & 10	Girls 7 & 8	Boys 5 & 6	Boys 4 & 5
12:15		Boys 7 & 8	Girls 8 & 9	Boys 9 & 10	Girls 7 & 8	Girls 4 & 5
12:30				Boys 9 & 10		Under

ATTENTION

Contrary to information card, Doctors Hours are 10-12 a.m. & 6-8 p.m.

Dr. Chris Burke, his wife Frances and children Aaron & Kristen are in residence (for the month of July)

Please welcome them and observe doctors hours unless for emergencies Manitoba Medical No. is necessary.

When your clothes aren't
beaming to you,
they should be coming to us.

QUINTON'S CLEANERS

COUNCIL CORNER

The intention of this column is to bring you up to date on what your Public Works Department has done and what it intends to do this summer.

Last year crushed gravel was added to all of the roads in the municipality. The specifications for the crushed gravel included the fact that it have 17% clay content. The benefit of this specification has been that the gravel has packed well providing a smooth surface for bicycling and walking. For the sake of those who are interested in this, there was 6,252 cubic yards of gravel crushed at a cost of \$14,254.56 and 4,882 cubic yards spread at a cost of \$8,495.52. The gravel that was left over will be used for patching existing roads as required.

Your Council has decided to condition the main gravelled roads in the municipality at least twice this year with Calcium Chloride. It dust control requires it more applications will be provided.

Attempted mosquito control by means of adulticiding will again be provided this year. We expect to try on Thursday evenings after sunset depending on weather conditions and the discomfort provided by these pests.

We anticipate ditching along the north and south sides of David Rd. The desired effect will be to provide a path for the sun off from Aitch Rd. east along David to the main ditch on Highway 59. This should make a huge difference in the road conditions on David Rd. in the spring. This is the road that the school buses take to access the homes of the children of the municipality.

Again, this year the water was on for most residents by the long weekend in May. Unfortunately for some on Bayview, the frost was still in the ground and water froze in the leader line. There were the usual many leaks again this year but the Public Works crew of Wilfred Anderson and John Thomas assisted this year by Grant Henderson did an excellent job of tracking down the leaks and keeping the system operating in the initial start up stage.

The new water system at Albert Beach has been approved by the Environmental Control Department of the Province of Manitoba. This system, the system serving the remainder of the municipality and the hand pump wells were all tested in June and found to be providing potable water. We will continue to test the water on a regular basis during the summer. If you find a pump handle missing it usually means that the well is dry or needs to be conditioned.

We are pleased to tell you that the Chapel's will again be providing garbage and brush removal this summer. They did

an excellent job last summer and we know that they intend to do even better this summer if that is possible. The garbage removal days have been posted on the bulletin board across from the Parking Lot. The brush was removed during the last two weeks in June and will be removed again in the fall. Perhaps our lovely avenues would look better if we could avoid putting brush out until after Labour Day. You will be assisting the garbage removal if you use a plastic garbage liner in your garbage container and leave it in a visually accessible place on garbage removal days.

No doubt you have observed some changes in the grocery store. Some of the add on portions of the old store have been removed. Inside the store a new more efficient cooler has been added and the appearance of the store has been generally upgraded. This fall we plan to paint the inside of the store.

If you have any suggestions, questions or need assistance with any of the services provided by the Public Works Department, please contact the Public Works Chairman or the Public Works Foreman.

FOR SALE

31 Gibson 3 bedroom, bath room, screened porch, treed lot, hardy location. Contact Dodie Denney, 321 First, Phone 754-8497. Elders, Stevenson, 474-1381.

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REPRODUCED IN PART FROM METRO ONE

The Winnipeg based Western Canada Aviation Museum is the second largest aviation museum in the country. The largest is in Ottawa, but in many areas, the Western Museum rivals it, mainly because many of the most important events of Canadian aviation history happened in the west.

"If you have to pick a place, a lot of people would say that Manitoba is where living in Canada got many of its major starts," says Keith Olson, technical curator for the museum, and a former Transair pilot.

While airplanes flew in Manitoba early in the development of this technology, the first flight was of a Curtiss

biplane in 1910. By 1920, however, airplanes were starting to show their civilian usefulness and the first aerial land surveys of the remote Reindeer Lake and Churchill River districts were conducted in that year, covering a total of 15,000 square miles. The Vickers flying boat was based at Victoria Beach.

The picture below (courtesy of Peter Dube) shows the air base with the ramp on the present Saitboat Clubhouse site and the hangar on the present ball park.

The Federal government (1924) asked for permanent ownership of the land and when refused moved the base to Lac du Bonnet.

A. WOLFE



THE SPIRIT OF THE ROCK

Countless ages ago, long before the coming of man to this continent, a great ice mass formed in the north. As the ice accumulated, its tremendous weight caused it to spread out slowly, but inexorably, inch by inch, year by year, it pushed its way southward, crumbling and crushing great mountain ranges and pushing and tumbling the resultant debris, till a warming trend forced it to give up its load of boulders and rubble. It so happened that Victoria Beach received its fair share of this glacial residue. These rough granite boulders strewn hither and yon over the terrain of our beach gives to the landscape a characteristic distinctiveness of rugged charm and beauty, seldom found any where else in Manitoba. One cannot help but admire the solid beauty of these massive rocks, provided of course one does not have to contend with them on one's own property.

Arriving here 25 years ago, stary-eyed at being able to own a cottage at this beautiful beach, I find I'm entirely backed into our driveway, one dark night. A loud crunch! A lender on my new Pontiac crumpled beyond repair! I eyed that insidious rock with contemptible disdain. It was a nuisance! Not only my new car caught it, but every taxi that took us in at night. Soon our driveway became an anathema to all cab drivers and we would find our weekend chattels and groceries haps-planned high in disarray on the roadway.

I planned the rocks demise. It had to go, but how? I could hire a bulldozer and have it torn out of its snug resting place. I could put a charge of dynamic under it, but would blow it to smithereens, but I decided that wouldn't be in keeping with the serene tranquility of Victoria Beach. Then, one day Eddie Ateah gave me an idea. With that characteristic friendly smile of Eddie's, he suggested, "why don't you bury it?" That was the answer!

So one beautiful June morning when most sensible cottagers were heading for the golf course or the tennis courts, I hunted out my sharpshod shovel and made my way to the offending rock.

At first it was fun. Digging into the fresh moist sand was exhilaration. I made good time. Deeper and deeper down the side of the rock. I dug and higher and higher became the piles of fresh sand. Idle passers-by poured to gaze down on my activities and when I answered their queries with the bland remark that I was burying it, they walked away, shaking their heads "just another academic odd ball". An hour went by, two hours, the hole got deeper, the sand piles higher, but still no sign of the bottom of the rock. I was becoming tired and dispirited. Swarms of mosquitoes had discovered my whereabouts and were making capital of my vulnerability.

I was about to call it quits and admit defeat, when a trickle of sand caused me to look up. There, framed between two piles of sand appeared a bronzed face with piercing brown eyes. It was Alex Munroe from Traverse Bay. "Hi! Alex! have you got a shovel?" I pleaded. "Come and give me a hand - I'm burying a rock." I could see Alex thinking, "what silly stunt is this pale face up to now." However, he was soon down the hole with me and began to get into the spirit of my project. Sand flew in all directions. Down, down, till the rock appeared to loom high above us like the Richardson building. We had come to the bottom of it at last. Alex was becoming frightened and thought we should get a ladder in case we might have to make a hurried escape for fear of it toppling over on us. We tried to push it over into the big hole, but to no avail. We found an old piece of discarded galvanized water pipe behind the Public Works building and with great deal of effort, using it as a lever, the rock began to move slowly, then with a feeble crunching noise, that sounded almost like a muffled moan the great hulk tumbled into its freshly prepared burial place. I shouted with glee and grabbing my shovel, I started to heave

the sand into the hole.

Then I glanced up at Alex. He stood there like a statue, silently contemplating the prostrate rock. "Come on Alex, lets get the hole filled in. It's almost lunch time." Alex stood there as in a daze, as if he were trying to recall some long forgotten custom in the primeval background of his people. Then he quietly asked "Could I have a card or a piece of paper and some scotch tape?" Somewhat perplexed I went into the cottage and brought him the necessary requisites, whereupon he asked me to write his name "Alex Munroe and address Traverse Bay" on the card. I found a small plastic container in which to enclose the card so he went down the hole and attached it to the bottom of the great rock. Then he came up, grabbed his spade and started shovelling sand into the hole with lively dispatch. He caught my questioning look and while he shovelled vigorously he began, "That rock has lain there a long long time. We shouldn't have disturbed it. In the older days we would have buried with it a nice cross or a plug of tobacco." Soon the rock was covered with sand and the hole was filled. As Alex deposited his last shovelfull and tramped it down with his shoe, he quietly remarked, "That rock down there - it will never bother you again. I guarantee it."

BILL WOODROW
4th Avenue

EDITORIAL

July 13 is nomination day with election day on July 29. Perhaps this year all members of council will be returned by acclamation, then again perhaps there will be a contest.

One of the most precious of possessions we people in the democracy have is the freedom to choose our representatives to a governing body. Responsible citizens will take time to reflect upon the occasion. And a good time for consideration is when the family is gathered to eat or to bask.

In a small community like Victoria Beach one may wonder why people run for office at all. Certainly, it won't be for the money, the honorarium is but \$1,500 a year for councillors and another \$250 for the reeve. Of course there is an expense account for such things as use of a car on business. Councillors not only put in many hours at regular meetings, they also expend time and energy looking into issues that must be resolved.

The R.M.V.H. is a problem animal with two heads. A council of five governs beach resorts and permanent residences. The beach resorts are of two kinds, the Kennedy Area and the area outside the Kennedy Area. Common to all is the supply of services - water, roads, fire and police protection, special to the Kennedy Area, of course, is the maintenance of the status quo - the protection of the restrictions on driving and commercial development. To maintain the status quo it is clearly necessary that 3 of the 5 councillors be completely in agreement with the majority of residents of the Kennedy Area.

To help us know the candidate for office and how they think about these issues the Cottagers' Association of the Kennedy Area might consider organizing a "town hall".

(The designation "Kennedy Area" is its own to simplify reference to the "driving restricted area".)



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REACHING FOR THE SKY

By Phil Ould, D.I. Canada Biologist

Too often, we humans think of trees only in terms of our own values. Certainly we are all aware of their beauty, and of how we depend on the products like building materials, newsprint and firewood they provide. But many of us are not aware of a tree's importance to other life forms.

As seasons and years pass, a tree grows through many stages in its life cycle. It takes on ever-increasing importance in the lives of the creatures that live around it.

A seed on fertile ground, having already escaped hungry birds and squirrels, has an important destiny to fulfill as it begins to sprout. At first small and hidden among the flowers, it undergoes a transformation aided by sunlight and warm summer rains. It begins to reach for the sky.

As a sapling its leaves offer forage to a hungry deer. Its bark nourishes a rabbit on a cold winter day. As it reaches higher, a buck may use its slender trunk to rub the velvet from his new antlers in preparation for battle.

Soon the sapling is a small tree. A bull moose, no longer able to reach high enough to browse on tender twigs in the crown, rubs antlers against the widening trunk while a small bird hidden among the upper branches voices a claim over the surrounding land.

Years pass, and the branches of the maturing tree hide a raccoon as it snoozes away the day high above the ground while awaiting the cover of night to forage on the forest floor. Birds build their nests under its sheltered eaves, and a litter of squirrels play acrobat in the maze of intertwining twigs, safe from danger that lurks below.

Keep in the forest, a spreading tree protects delicate creatures from the parching summer sun, drenching spring rains, and the biting winds of winter. Thickening branches camouflage a sleeping owl and halfway up a sturdy trunk a frightened bear cub hides while mother deals with an intruder.

For a family of beavers, the tree provides raw materials to build a lodge and tender twigs to store in the winter food cache. When the tree blossoms, bees gather a sweet harvest of nectar and, by summer's end, fruits and seeds are collected to fatten those who must face the long, cold winter.

In winter, a tree plays an important role, catching snow that will later melt and seep to the roots of all the plants nearby. In spring, its heavy branches slow the melting of snow and reduce the flow of water to swollen rivers as they make their way to sea.

Of immeasurable value in the lives of forest inhabitants while it lives, a tree is just as important when it dies.

Bees' honeycomb the rotting centre of a dead tree, boring tunnels that will later be cleared out by a wood pecker and made into a safe nesting cavity. Many other creatures use hollow trees for nesting and rearing their young, too. Among them are wood ducks, goldeneye ducks, wasps, squirrels and raccoons.

Each in turn, man modifies the cavity to suit its requirements. As a young squirrel looking for a winter den will use an abandoned woodpecker hole, but first must chew the opening large enough to squeeze through. A raccoon, entering a narrow cavity through a large knot-hole, will scratch away soft decaying sides until there is room enough to house herself and her small masked young. A wood duck will search for days to find a cavity just the right size, then line it with down to protect her eggs.

As time takes its toll the trunk crumbles and begins to lean. The decaying wood nurtures moss, lichens and fungi on a remarkable array of form and color. When finally the old bulk comes crashing to the ground, its prone hollow still offers a place for a squirrel to store nuts or a fox to hide. A grouse finds the fallen form a convenient place from which to "drum" its territorial message. Grubs and worms devour

decaying wood and in turn are eaten by other creatures.

As years pass by, the remains of the once high and mighty tree become grown over by moss and fern. A long, narrow mound of earth is the only evidence that a large tree once grew there.

But from the rich, brown soil, a new seed sprouts and the cycle is renewed as the seedling reaches for the sky.

(Published with permission of Ducks Unlimited (Canada))

COURTESY OF PAUL THAIN

A BOIQUET!

Helen Dallas, a soprano well known in Winnipeg's musical circles, celebrated her 85th birthday by sharing her gift of a well-trained voice with a large audience of friends and neighbours in the Winnipeg Art Gallery auditorium on Sunday evening, April 17, 1983. (From the Senior Citizen Today.)

Helen Dallas was a long time summer resident of Victoria Beach and a frequent soloist at the Community Church Service. Congratulations to Helen Maud Dallas.

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BEACH PEOPLE

Visiting at 331-3rd Ave. in June, were Ted's mother Mrs. F. A. (Vivian) Alden and Donna's mother Mrs. R. F. (Agnes) Christensen, as well as two of Donna's aunts, Birdie Shuwan of Hampton, Virginia, and Jerry Bouscheier of Vancouver. This was the second year in a row, except for the mosquitoes, all had a great time!

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