

to us - Community Counts



a North Norfolk-MacGregor Foundation

NEWSLETTER

Summer

2000

~~~~~ **Communities in Bloom a Reality** ~~~~~

MacGregor is entered in the Provincial Communities in Bloom competition. The project recognizes the efforts and involvement of all. Judging takes place on July 31st and focuses on general appearance and improved visual impact of the village in terms of landscaping, tidiness, floral arrangement and turf areas. Participation and environmental awareness are other important factors.

Your challenge is to adopt a pot or plot which you will look after. *Let's make MacGregor the best bloomin' village in Manitoba.*

It's full steam ahead for Austin's greening program. May 18th was the first "round" of tree planting, with completion the following week. When all are planted there will be approximately 300 new green additions to Austin and surrounding area. About half of these are potted spruce trees from Whitemud Watershed Millennium tree project, ordered by local residents and the elementary school.



*Planting some of the Austin trees at the Sports Grounds.
Thanks to Henry Friesen for donating his machine and time.*

Hangers are in the process of being made for 24 hanging flower baskets that will adorn the downtown area of Austin. Also to brighten up the main business area, the Austin Elementary School Art students will be producing new banners with the millennium theme!

Maintenance man, Don Hotel, created an excellent watering system that will give flowers and trees a gentle shower. Cathy Christofferson has volunteered to look after the watering for the summer. The flower baskets were purchased by the Austin Town Council from Sprucedale Industries. John Wieler created the hangers.

A big "bouquet" to all those involved.

BEAUTIFICATION PROJECTS ARE CHANGING THE LANDSCAPE

*Congratulations to Austin and
MacGregor for their efforts in greening
and beautifying their communities.*

SPRING CLEAN-UP

Communities in Bloom has sparked extra interest in general community clean-up. Homeowners are responding to requests for cleaning up their properties and trimming their trees. New sidewalks are replacing old. Old buildings are disappearing. The CPR has agreed to the removal of the former coal shed which through the years has become an eyesore.

With everyone on board we can become the best bloomin' village in Manitoba.

**YOUR GIFT IS AN EXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION TO OUR COMMUNITY
AND YOUR DESIRE TO SUPPORT THE NEEDS OF FUTURE GENERATIONS.**

Welcome to the New Millennium



Austin's Christmas Parade float put together by the Austin Millennium Committee.

Austin Millennium Committee's first completed Millennium celebration was deemed a resounding success. Approximately 2,000 enjoyed activities that began at 2:00 p.m. with hayrides. Skating, a curling turkey shoot, face painting and a bonfire were held at the Austin Community Centre. At the Leisure Centre a packed house enjoyed musical entertainment.

The countdown to midnight was held at the skating rink with the hockey clock supplying the count. A strobe Millennium ball slowly dropped from the rafter reaching the ice at midnight.

Pastor Gordon Brown gave a prayer for the town and community as it enters the next century.

The MacGregor Chamber of Commerce sponsored a similar event at the Normac Centre bringing in the Millennium with enthusiasm.

Face painting, games of chance, skating races, food, fun were all highlights of this special evening. The night ended with a blaze of colours as the firemen provided an awesome fireworks display.

Who are they?

How refreshing it is to hear remarks that used to start off with, "They should" or "Why don't they" or "They'll have to" change into "We can" or "I could". It illustrates a wonderful attitudinal change that shows we're in this together and we are making a difference. The landscape is changing. Together a community grows and can get better and better. Thanks for caring.



Foundation dollars helped the MacGregor and District Lions establish their new R.V. park. People coming home for family reunions are among the many who are pleased with the facility. Now if there was only a bathroom!

Grants Given

Grants given by Norfolk MacGregor Foundation:

- ✓ Annual Leadership Awards at MES & AES
- ✓ Austin Historic Mural
- ✓ MacGregor Lions Rock Garden
- ✓ Kyle Parks - Youth Forum
- ✓ Heritage Park - lighting
- ✓ Inter Ridge Recreation Sidney Summer Play Program
- ✓ Kids Sport - MacGregor
- ✓ Arizona Hall Cairn Beautification
- ✓ Austin Minor Ball - safety fence
- ✓ MacGregor Lions Campground
- ✓ MacGregor Get Together Club
- ✓ Healthy North Norfolk - MacGregor Committee
- ✓ Southend Band Auxilliary

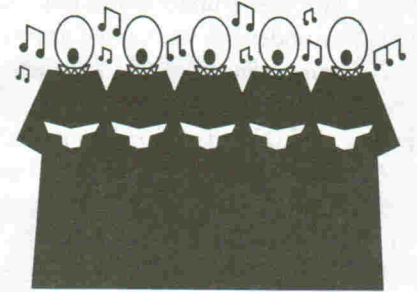
Now that the endowment fund is growing, there will be more dollars to be granted back to worthy community ventures. As of June 1st approximately \$3,000.00 remains to be granted this year. Application forms are available from Arlene Jarema, 466-2838.

Austin & Area Millennium Senior Choir

The Austin & Area Millennium Senior Choir had a very successful and rewarding winter.

Approximately 22 people practiced and performed from October to March. Performances were held at Gladstone and MacGregor Nursing homes, Sprucedale Christmas supper and fund raising Variety Night, March 31st. The choir sponsored the Variety Night to raise funds for a newer piano at the Austin Community Hall. The goal was reached!!

A windup was held in April with appreciation going out to Bev Wolfe (choir director) and Connie Bryce (pianist). Plans are to re-assemble again in the fall.



Cathy Painter of Austin working on Austin Historic Mural.

Grant Approved!

A fifty percent funding Manitoba Heritage Grant was approved for the Austin Millennium Committee application for their mural. Some other funding has been received from the North Norfolk - MacGregor Foundation. The 15' x 5' canvas mural will be hung in the Austin Community Hall for unveiling July 1st.

Local resident and artist Cathy Painter designed and painted this huge undertaking. With the help from husband Murray, two 7 1/2' x 5' frames were made into canvases. The mural depicts Austin and area from the beginnings in the 1880's to its future.

Two months of creating will finally be revealed to the public at a special ceremony July 1st at at 2:00 p.m. at the Community Hall. Refreshments will follow. Please plan to attend.

The Little Train That Could

The following piece was written as an application for a grant from the Alastair Gamble Memorial Award. The competition was open in two categories of foundation - those with assets over 3 million and those with assets under 3 million. We knew that we were a long, long way under but we applied anyway!

To borrow a line from the Vinyl Cafe "We may not be big, but we are small", do we qualify to fit the category - assets under \$3 million? Does \$2,917,367.00 under \$3 million count?

Assuming it does, and knowing that we are one of many fledgling foundations, we are anxious to tell our story. It is the story of The Little Engine That Could. We are a small engine. Try as we might we couldn't grow big enough to qualify for any of the matching grants that we watched the big engines around us gather. Changing our identity from little village foundation to rural municipality plus little village foundation didn't help. We were too small. How disappointed we felt! How empty our talk.

Without that extra power that told people that their \$1,000 would be transformed magically into \$1,500, we came close to giving up. Recognizing our plight, TAP moved in to the rescue. "Don't give up," they said. "We'll help you make a plan." With their encouragement we made a plan. We'd invite our passengers to become members of a club - The Millennium Club. \$1,000 and more made you a founder, \$100 to \$999 - friend. Destination - \$100,000 by 2000. Now that's a long haul for a little engine on a three year journey, especially with what seemed like a big obstacle on the track - getting the story out to potential passengers.

Public meetings and annual celebrations brought out the passengers who'd already purchased their tickets. We were still a small engine. Coincidentally, our Millennium initiative was born. It was like a pusher engine! With Millennium funding support we could go further. We had published one foundation newsletter - "To Us - Community Counts" - filled with stories and pictures. Now we could publish a second filled with millennium happenings and pictures. People started to notice our little engine.

Having a tough time getting coverage of our trip in the local newspaper (published outside the community), we resorted to purchasing space for updates of events. Christmas cards signed by all our directors were sent to all of our passengers. A Christmas greeting in the newspaper reminded people that the trip was going well.

Our newest initiative is picking up youth. They got interested in us through a tree planting millennium project where they climbed aboard. They continued their journey in the development of an International Year of Older Persons park. We're starting a Youth Millennium Club - \$2,000 by 2000. Think of the potential! When we're dropping grants, youth initiative projects are looked on with favor. Think of the directions they'll take us.

Our journey is just beginning. With endowment assets of \$82,633 we have to raise only \$14,000 more by December 31, 2000. Take heart little engines. Don't give up. If you listen in the distance you may hear a little engine saying "I think I can, I think I can, I think I can."

From January 1, 1998 (endowment assets \$27,200) to January 1, 2000 (endowment assets \$82,633) we have tripled our endowment assets. The foundation has taken a leadership role gathering the steam (money) from generous donors along the trip. The directors have done this publicity and example. The foundation has assumed a strong leadership role in the directing of millennium projects throughout the district. Projects under the leadership of the foundation include: a greening of the village through a supportive grant, development of a park to honor seniors and pioneers, establishment of a permanent Christmas tree in the centre of town, assisting in grant writing and application for washrooms for the trailer park and campgrounds and visitors to Centennial Park, help with the construction and enhancement of the park, rock gardens, a Millennium reunion (several in fact), etc, etc. The foundation has enjoyed working with the Austin Millennium Committee in applying for grants, in town beautification in the mural and Canada Day celebrations. The foundation is becoming known as station to purchase a ticket on the Millennium Run. Donors have been generous to the point where we now have a new category of donor - a Builders' Club for donations in excess of \$4,000. The grants of the foundation have been used to assist all age categories in providing the means to make the community a better place in which to live.

So our little engine continues to move along the track to what is now perceived as a temporary location - \$100,000 by 2000. Once that goal is realized, a new destination will be determined.

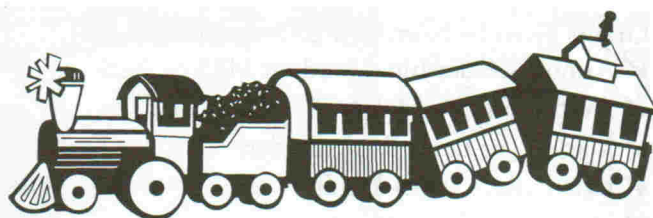
Our mission - "to preserve and advance the quality of life in the community."

North Norfolk-MacGregor Foundation didn't get the grant, but we did get a honorable mention. Once more, on our own, we'll charge forward to our destination - first stop. If you would like to come aboard we have space for another builder or two, a few more founders and many more friends and supporters. That's it for this trip - the one that ends December 31, 2000.

Can we count on you?

Just for clarification, in response to the question, "Can I change my ticket?"

Yes! Founders, friends and supporters can move from supporter to friend, from friend to founder, from founder to builder. The money you have contributed already is the down payment on the next category. Some of you have begun the trade in. Thanks for that!



Heritage Park A Bloom

What began as the I.Y.O.P. Park has been renamed as Heritage Park. Since the park has been created in honor of seniors and pioneers, Heritage Park seems to be a fitting name (and easier to remember than I.Y.O.P.!).

A plaque will acknowledge the International Year of Older Persons grants from the Senior Directorate which provided the seed money for the park and the MCC store for its co-operation in providing access to water for the park.

A brilliant array of tulips in the park heralded the coming of spring. Fall planted shrubs are leafing out and showing promise of what's to come. Some perennials have been planted and annuals were planted on June 1st. Donations of plants and shrubs are welcome.

Beautiful cedar benches have been installed. MacGregor Metals completed the metal work and Bill Wiebe provided the carpentry skills.

The benches will have engraved brass plates to recognize the generosity of community groups and individuals who made their purchases possible. To date, funds have been promised for six benches - two of them in memory.

The addition of lamps and waste containers will enhance the park area. By homecoming time, all should be in place and, in the meantime, many of us will have enjoyed the benches and the scenery. Ice-cream anyone?



Heritage Park in progress. The cement had dried, the extra legs removed, the park is now ready for sitting!!

NEWS FLASH!!

LESS THAN \$10,000 TO GO!

With the generous donation of \$2,000 from the History Book Committee, NNMF endowment fund reached \$90,300. The gift, added to their previous \$3,000 donation, was presented at the Annual Celebration on June 8th which moved them from Founder to Builder. A wonderful donation from a committed group!

NEWS FLASH!!

WE'VE GIVEN OUR BIGGEST GRANT EVER!!

A \$1,000 grant was given to the Southend Collegiate Band for Tympani - special drums. The Foundation's mandate is to work with community based organizations serving youth, seniors, health, arts and culture, education, recreation and the environment. Our band fits most of these categories



North Norfolk-MacGregor Donations and Grants

"BUILDERS CLUB"

Donations of \$5,000 or more

Carl McGregor - 1997, 1998, 1999
History Book Committee - 1999, 2000

"FOUNDERS CLUB"

Donations of \$1,000 - \$4,999 or more

Bob & Donna McKelvy - 1997
Doug & Dorothy Lamb - 1997
Glen & Tena Sawatzky - 1997, 1998
(and Sawatzky Enterprises)
Henry & Gertrude Sawatzky - 1997
Ed & Helena Penner - 1997, 1998
Joyce Clark - 1997
Danny & Louise Rintoul - 1997
Vivian McGregor - 1998
Albert & Joyce Jaeger - 1998
MacGregor Lions Club - 1998
Don & Isobelle Wright - 1998
Alda Crithlow - 1998
Pine Creek Farms
- John & Shelly Letkeman - 1998
Christianson & Christianson - 1998
MacGregor Cemetery Committee - 1998
(MacGregor Cemetery Fund set-up)
Carl & Gladys Bergquist - 1998, 1999
R.M. of North Norfolk - 1998
Munro Farm Supply Ltd. - 1998
Roy & Annie Leckie - 1998
Bob & Florence Sims - 1999
North Norfolk-MacGregor
Village of MacGregor - 1999
Austin & Area Lions - 1998, 1999
Elsie Sims - 1999
Hope Collier - 1999
Keith & Kathy Lloyd - 1999
Arthur Butterfield - 1999
Margaret & the Late Vernon McKelvy - 1999
Olive & the Late Robery Edgar - 1999
Eadie Henderson - 1999
MacGregor & District Kinsmen - 1999, 2000
Robert & Lorraine Chant - 2000
Jack Clark - 2000

IN MEMORY (Founders)

In Memory of Nelson & Jessie Smith
- donor anonymous - 1998
In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. W.J. Turner, Mr. & Mrs. J. Willott
and Mr. & Mrs. D.B. Turner
- from David Turner - 1998, 1999
In Memory of Peter & Lilian Pearson -
donor anonymous - 1998
In Memory of George Ardagh
- from Inez Ardagh - 1999

"FRIENDS OF THE FOUNDATION"

Donations of \$100 to \$999

Audrey Hay - 1997, 1998, 1999
George & Florence Snaith - 1997, 1999
George & Ethel Lintott - 1997, 1998
Ron & Charlene Sawatzky - 1997
Grace Scora
- pledge to be Founder - 1997, 1998, 1999
Lucille Cox - 1998
Arlene Jarema - 1998, 1999
Portage Co-op - 1998
Omega Funeral Home - 1998
Galloway, Lapchuk, Nicoll - 1998
Ben & Marjorie Lapchuk - 1998
Audrey Smith - In Memory of Lawrence Smith - 1998
J & J Consumers Ltd. - 1998
Ronald & Mary Kalberg - In Memory of 6 friends who
served the community well - 1998, 1999
King T. Enta -
In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Thos. Carrothers - 1998
Darwin & Arlene Crabbe - 1998, 1999
Jake Hoepfner (M.P.) & Marie Hoepfner - 1998
Portage Delta Broadcasting (CFRY) - 1998
W.J. Saunders - 1998
Clarke's Funeral Services - 1998
Ted Hay - 1998
Bruce Hay (Ontario) - 1998
Portage la Prairie Mutual Insurance - 1998
Edith Peck - 1998
Miriam Nichol - 1999
Stan Lintott - 1999
Brent & Shelley Zander - in lieu of thank-yous - 1999
MacGregor Collegiate Graduating Class of 1998 - 1999
Florence Hay - 1999
Mildred Cairns - 1999

MacGregor Foundation Inc.

Events to June 10, 2000



Shirley Lowe - In Memory of Sid Hay - 1999
 Harold Livingstone - 1999
 Walter Livingstone - 1999
 Winnifred Gorden -
 In Memory of Martha McKelvey Scott - 1999
 Ralph & Margaret Jonasson - 1999
 Ken & Marjorie Hay
 - In Memory of Russell & Martha Hay - 1999
 Lillian Gilbert - 1999
 Eleanor Leckie - 1999
 Mabel Butterfield - 1999, 2000
 Denver & Anne Collins - 2000
 J.P. Wiebe Ltd. - 2000
 MacGregor & District
 Chamber of Commerce - 2000
 Jay & Millie Buschman - 2000
 MacGregor Fastball Club - 2000

IN MEMORY

In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Thos. Carrothers
 In Memory of Lawrence Smith
 In Memory of Mrs. Herma Kelly
 In Memory of George and Janet Hay

IN MEMORY (Friends of the Foundation)

In Memory of Mrs. Herma Kelly
 In Memory of Ethel Lintott
 In Memory of Sid Hay
 In Memory of Joe & Mae Nelson
 In Memory of Fern Catt
 In Memory of Martha McKelvey Scott
 In Memory of Russell & Martha Hay
 In Memory of Sheryl Beasley
 In Memory of John P. & Margaret Wiebe
 In Memory of Harvey Gilbert
 In Memory of Phyllis Pennell - birthday girls

SPECIAL SUPPORTERS

Austin Credit Union - sponsorship of brochures
 Province of Manitoba - Rural Development Grant
 for start up and operating expenses

IN MEMORY AND SUPPORTERS

\$99 or less

In Memory of Marion Frank - from Mary Larson
 In Memory of Marge Butterfield
 In Memory of Haley Stewart
 In Memory of Albert Evenson
 In Memory of Bruce Hay
 In Memory of Merlin Tait
 Kathleen Kalberg - donation in lieu of thank-yous
 Lily Early
 Marguerite Willis
 Hazel Boaz
 Jolene McKelvy - donation in lieu of thank-yous
 Doug & Brenda Hodgins
 K. Koski

Friends, Founders and Builders

December 31, 2000 will mark the end of the Founders portion of North Norfolk-MacGregor Foundation's three year campaign. A permanent record of the names of the Memorials, the Friends, the Founders and the Builders who helped us reach the \$100,000 goal will be created. The Board of Directors has decided to have names of contributors who pioneered the endeavor etched on two marble plaques. Funding for the plaques is provided by the REDI grant from the province. Reaching the goal will be a milestone in the life of our community. It will provide the base for the continued growth of the endowment fund and assurance of yearly grant dollars back to community.

As the Millennium Club is ended and the funding portion completed, new categories of givers will be created to recognize future donors to the foundation.

Sidney Cairn Dedication & School Reunion

Interest is building for this summer's dedication at the former Sidney School, now used as the Sidney Community Centre.

Plans are finalized for the July 15th dedication. The day will proceed, rain or shine. If rain does threaten, the hall or newly cemented rink will host all the activities.

If anyone has any memorabilia or photos from the Sidney School please contact Sandra Rempel (Edmondson), 466-2775, if you are willing to share your article for the day.

Agenda:

- 1:00 p.m. - registration begins
- 2:30 p.m. - fiddle entertainment
- 3:00 p.m. - Cairn Dedication
- 4:00 p.m. - Magician - family entertainment
- 5:00 p.m. - fiddle entertainment
- 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. - Pork-on-a-Bun with all the trimmings
- 8:30 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. - Social with live band "Southwinds" (in the curling rink)

There will be lots of time for renewing old friendships and reliving school memories. Face painting and a fish pond will keep the younger children amused.

Camping will be available on the Community Centre grounds. For serviced sites or cabin rentals Shady Oaks Campground is only 1 mile east of Sidney.

For your comfort, please bring lawn chairs.

July 1st Sports Day & Homecoming

It won't be long! Austin's big day July 1st Sports Day will become one of the biggest weekends.

Friday's kickoff event will be an evening parade at 8:00 p.m. ending at the Sports Grounds. Cecil Jones is looking for entries, businesses, families, costumed participants and decorated bikes. Please phone Cecil as soon as possible to enter. After the parade there will be visiting at the tent on the Sports Ground and a wiener roast.

Saturday will start off with the Austin Lions Pancake Breakfast and the 115th Austin Sports Day. From 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. face painting, bubble magic and parachute games will be available at the tent for the children.

A special dedication will be held in the Austin Community Hall at 2:00 p.m. The 5' x 15' Austin Historic Mural will be unveiled and all are welcome. Refreshments will be served.

A roast pork and beef supper will be served near the Sports Ground tent beginning at 6:00 p.m. Back to the Community Hall for a social at 9:00 p.m., with the Band "After Eight". At dusk - fireworks!

Sunday will begin with an interdenominational Church Service in the tent from 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. followed by a Gospel Festival at noon. The festival will continue throughout the afternoon.

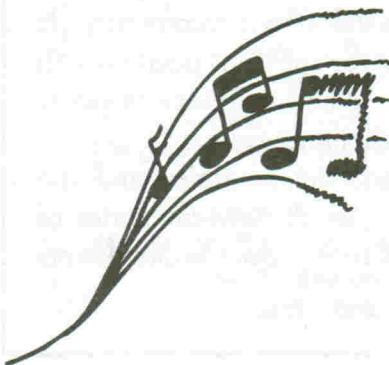
If there are enough entries, a day two of Sports Day will be held. As well the Family Field Baseball will begin at 1:00 p.m. Three teams have already entered. Please enter if interested as a limit may be imposed. Contact Cathy Christofferson or Bev Makinson with your entries.

A SPECIAL INVITATION IS EXTENDED TO ALL SENIORS AND FORMER RESIDENTS OF AUSTIN AND AREA TO THE UNVEILING OF THE HISTORIC AUSTIN MURAL, SATURDAY, JULY 1ST AT 2:00 P.M. AT THE AUSTIN COMMUNITY HALL.

Sing Out!

If you like to sing, plan to be a part of the MacGregor Millennium Reunion Choir. The choir, under the direction of Roberta Stone, will lead the music at the community church service which will be held at M.C.I. at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, July 9th.

Three practices will be held. The first and second on Thursday, June 22nd and Thursday, June 29th, at 7:30 p.m. in the MacGregor United Church. The final practice, when homecoming singers will add their voices, will take place at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, July 9th, at M.C.I. just prior to the service. Please tell your family and friends who are coming home that we need their voices and we need yours too!



Lavenham Cairn Dedication & Homecoming

Final letters have been sent and according to secretary Janice Kelly close to 200 households have indicated they would be attending!

The weekend of July 28th, 29th & 30th will begin with registration Friday evening and Saturday. The Cairn Dedication will be held at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, followed by a supper and a social evening.

Sunday will dawn with a pancake breakfast followed by church service. Memorabilia will be on display throughout the weekend.

Overheard from recent visitors to our community
 "Can you imagine how beautiful those trees will be in ten years?"
To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow.

What Is Happening On The MacGregor and District School Reunion Front?

Gathering names, changes of names and change of addresses is a daunting task. The committee has sent out more than three hundred brochures to the people who registered at the '92 reunion and to those names given by families. Many people have picked up brochures to send to their families and friends. Thanks for that. This helped turn an impossible task in to a possible one!

More brochures are available at the Municipal Office, the Bank of Montreal, the Credit Union and M.C.I. for you to send to people whom you know who have not received any information. People don't need a form to register. Simply send names to Reunion Committee, Box 160, MacGregor, MB, R0H 0R0.

We're counting on you to help in inviting people home and to the July 7th, 8th and 9th celebrations. And, of course, people coming home are expecting to see you so make sure you register soon. Numbers make meal planing and even planing easier.

It's going to be a wonderful celebration. Don't miss it!

Bravo to those who have taken it upon themselves to make sure their old classmates from school have been alerted! Those country school reunions, different class reunions and decade parties will ignite a wealth of memories.

Those memories will be fueled by your contribution. Your pictures (mounted and dated), old uniforms, school jackets, clothing, shoes, yearbooks, programs, etc. will be great reminders of days past. Displays will be set up at both schools. If you'd like to help set up displays for your district or your class, we need you. Just contact Darwin 685-2047.

FRIDAY EVENTS - AT THE ARENA

- Registration
- Nostalgia Night Social, \$10.00, featuring former student groups including Travellers, Strange Brew, Final Hour, Celtic Entertainers, Back to the 50's, and music man Ryan Simpson. Do you want to be part of this evening's entertainment? If so, contact Darwin.

SUNDAY EVENTS

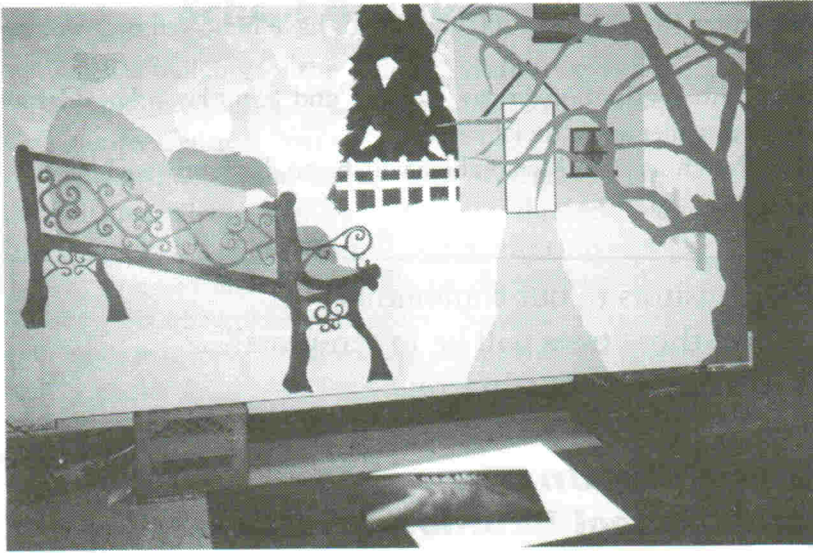
- Choir Practice - 9:00 a.m. - Calling all Singers - M.C.I.
- Community Church Service - 10:30 a.m. - M.C.I.
- Recreational Volleyball - 12:30 p.m. - Slow Pitch, etc.

SATURDAY EVENTS

- Breakfast at Normac (Kinsmen), \$3.00
- Children's Activities - Inter Ridge Rec.
- Golf Tournament - 9:00 a.m. - Best Ball
- Official Program - 1:30 p.m. - M.C.I.
- Back Yard Gatherings - 2:30 - 5:00 p.m. by country school, decades, clubs, staff, etc. Please bring your lawn chairs.
- Supper - 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. - Normac Centre, \$10.00 for adults, \$5.00 for children under 12
- Social - 9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. Featuring Rocking to the Core, \$10.00

**WEEKEND PACKAGE - \$30.00 FOR ADULTS (excluding breakfast)
CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES FREE**

"Reflections" - the Creation of a Mural



In January of this year, the Senior 4 Art class researched the art form of murals. They viewed the works of famous muralist like Pablo Picasso, Diego Rivera and Canada's own Alex Janvier. They discovered that there are several possible motives for choosing this art form. One such motive is to make a social comment, another may be to beautify a particular location. These two reasons are reflected in the mural the Senior 4 students and teacher created. Technical assistance for the mural was given by Manitoba artist Stephen Jackson and teacher Heather Martin-Rempel.

The mural is entitled Reflections, it consists of four rectangular panels. A senior couple dominate the scene as they survey the past. The seasons of nature are also used as a metaphor for the seasons of life. Birth is symbolized in the new life of a spring scene in a barnyard. Childhood is reflected in the dreamy and playful time of summer. Adulthood is characterized by the business section of a generic and timeless small town in fall. The senior years are symbolized by peaceful home scene in winter. To tie each scene together and balance the couple, a four-seasoned apple tree sprawls from the center of the mural.

It is the hope of all who were involved in the project that viewers will enjoy the images chosen and that they will personally identify with the symbolism of "Reflections."

Memorial Bench

The MacGregor Collegiate Institute Class of 2000 will place park benches among the newly planted trees on the grounds at M.C.I. The benches will be dedicated to the memory of all those students who passed away before reaching graduation. The students/staff will be able to rest and reflect in peaceful surroundings once the benches are installed.



Centennial Park Bridge

Shop students at M.C.I. have constructed a bridge to mark the walking entrance to Centennial Park. With funds provided by the village, students under the guidance of W. Kowalsky, designed, built and carried the bridge to the new location at the park. Thanks to the students for adding to the attractiveness of the entrance.



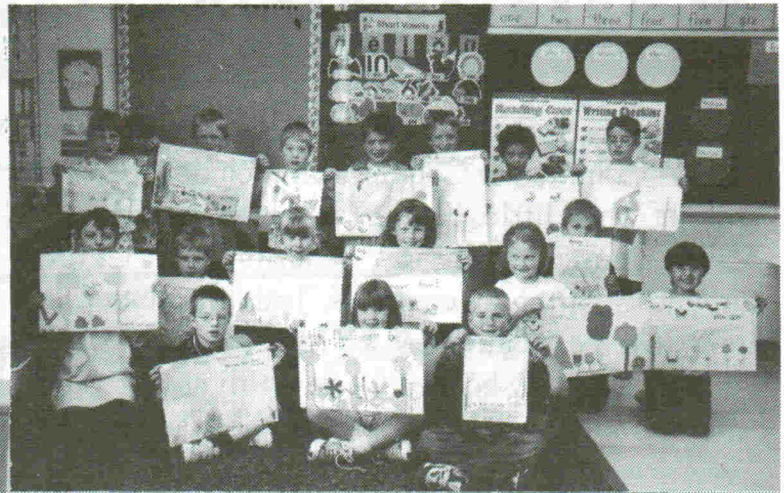
Rock garden in the making.

Artists At Work

MacGregor Elementary School students are doing their part to help make MacGregor into the best "bloomin" village in Manitoba. Watch for the posters and placemats they have designed to remind us of the benefits in going green, tidying up yards and public properties, planting something extra or adding one more rose.



Grade IV



Grade I

The students took part in a poster contest with prize being a plant of course, or shrubs, for the school.

WELL DONE!



MacGregor
Collegiate
Mustang

Youth Philanthropy is Alive and Well

Students at MacGregor Collegiate have taken on a challenge. By working and earning \$20.00 to give to the Foundation, students will become members of Club 2000. The goal for M.C.I. is \$2,000.00 by end of 2000. It is a worthy undertaking.

These dollars will grow and give back to youth projects in the community year after year. The names of the students who contribute to this "first" will be recorded in a permanent way as Club 2000 members. These students will be leaving a legacy and serve as an inspiration to others in years to come. 4.5% of the principal sum will come back each year for community betterment and any extra interest adds to the original gift.

Giving has its own rewards. All of us have benefited from generosity of others. The park, the tennis courts, the community centre and the golf course are here for our pleasure because people gave their time, talent and dollars to put them in place.

Last year many students generously gave their time, effort and muscle in tree planting. This year they are adding a new dimension to their giving. How can you help? Do you have windows to wash, yards to clean, cars to wash, painting, sidewalk edging to be done, weeding or any other job? Call the school at 685-2047 to be matched with a student who would like to earn \$20.00 for the project. There is one other option. You could buy a bird house. Some students are designing and painting custom bird houses which they are offering in limited numbers.

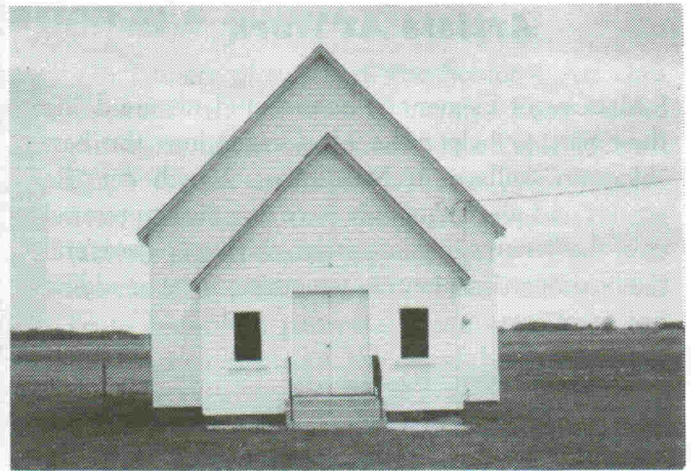
And what will the students gain? They will be able to look back at being the first youth in the Foundation Movement. They will learn that money can work when it is saved. They will be helping to guarantee that the future for young people will remain bright. They will form connections with seniors. And maybe, one might like to become a member of the board of directors!

If the students are successful with their project, they might like to offer a challenge to an individual, a business or local council to match their effort. Who knows what their \$20.00 might reap for the community! **Bravo, M.C.I.!**

Watch for the Transformation

Do you recognize this building? Our next issue of "to us - Community Counts" will include a new picture of this little country church. Rossendale's Millennium project is "Beautify the Church Grounds." Shrubs, perennials, bedding plants and trees will be planted as a "Millennium Planting Party" tentatively booked for June 9th at 6:30 pm.

The children will be partners in the planting.



TO GET MORE OUT OF LIFE, GIVE MORE OF YOURSELF.

Bouquets to:

- the gardeners who so willingly gave their time and talent to planting, weeding and cultivating
- our "tiller" man
- the "waterers"
- the MCC board for their co-operation
- M.C.I. for their mural in the park
- the Lions for their rock garden efforts
- Shawn and Beth Harkness who donated the Christmas tree and the Kinsmen who moved and decorated it
- the 4-H for tending the Community Centre planting
- to those who have donated plants or money towards their purchase
- to the Seniors' Directorate for seed money for Heritage Park
- to Manitoba Hydro for their generous grants for trees
- to those who provided money for benches
- to the C of C who provided the entry fee to get us into the Communities in Bloom competition
- to rural people who have come in to help with their town's effort
- to the Village Council and staff for their support all the way and their supply of hanging baskets for Hampton Street
- the businesses and friends who purchased pots of flowers

Wonderful Response to "Plant a Tree for Y2K"

More than 1000 spruce trees have found homes in yards and community sites in North Norfolk - MacGregor thanks to Whitemud Watershed Conservation District project. Financial partners in the project were the federal government and Manitoba Hydro.

The trees were planted as living symbols of the new millennium adding beauty to the area.

"Building for Our Future"