

Other editions: [Mobile](#) | [News Feeds](#) | [E-Newsletters](#) | [Twitter](#)

Find it: [Jobs](#) | [Cars](#) | [Real Estate](#) | [Apartments](#) | [Deals](#) | [Dating](#) | [Classifieds](#)

thetimesherald.com

SEARCH PORT HURON

All Local News Archives Calendar More >>



SPONSORED BY:



HOME NEWS SPORTS ENTERTAINMENT MULTIMEDIA OBITUARIES VOICES & VIEWS LIFESTYLE MAGAZINES SHOPPING WEATHER CUSTOMER SERVICE

Local News Your Town's News Community Kiosk Nation & World Community Data Road Watch Data Connection Archive Gas Prices

Comment, Blog & Share Photos
[Log in](#) | [Become a member](#) | [Search people](#)

POWERED BY YOU AND THE **TIMES HERALD**

McMorran marks 50 years

About 100 people gather to celebrate facility's milestone

BY **JESSE DUNSMORE**
TIMES HERALD
• JANUARY 29, 2010



[Purchase this Photo](#)

MEET AND GREET: The McMorran anniversary celebration was in the Under-the-Ice Lounge at McMorran Place. From left to right, Patti Samar, McMorran Civic Center Authority board member, Randy Fernandez, McMorran manager, Steve Miller, mayor pro tem, and Dave Goetze, Icehawks vice president and business manager gather. (Photos by RALPH W. POLOVIC, For the Times Herald)



CELEBRATION: Jody Parmann created the 50th anniversary logo. The McMorran anniversary celebration was in the Under-the-Ice Lounge at McMorran Place. About 100 people gathered to celebrate the facility's milestone with a social mixer and program.

[Comments\(17\)](#) [Recommend\(1\)](#) [Print this page](#) [E-mail this article](#) [Share](#) [Type Size A A A](#)

The Under-the-Ice Lounge was filled to standing room-only Thursday evening with people celebrating the 50th anniversary of the opening of McMorran Place.

About 100 people packed the lounge, which is in the basement of McMorran Place in Downtown Port Huron.

After party-goers enjoyed 50-cent drafts and food from Chef Shell's Catering, Icehawks Vice President and Business Manager Dave Goetze shared his favorite childhood memory of McMorran.

Goetze said he played hockey at the facility as a child.

"I scored on myself," he said. His father bought him hot chocolate to cheer him up.

Goetze invited others to write their favorite memories on a form on the event programs and turn it in for the chance to win a prize.

Other speakers were McMorran Place General Manager Randy Fernandez, Port Huron Mayor Pro Tem Steven Miller, and Patti Samar of the McMorran Civic Center Authority.

Lynn Hines, who retired as McMorran's administrative director after 41 years last year, said she thought the facility had given young people something to do, regardless of whether they were from Port Huron.

She met someone in Atlanta in 2005 at the All-America City Awards -- one of which was awarded to Port Huron that year -- who told her he had played in the Silver Stick tournament at McMorran as a child.

"I don't know if the McMorrans, the Murphys and the Mackenzies knew how many youth they've touched," she said.

Related Stories

- [Harrison hat trick helps Big Reds down Vikings](#)
- [Icehawks fall out of first place](#)
- [Bantam A Flags win 2](#)
- [PeeWee AA Flags seek first win](#)

Related Topics

- [Sports - Ice Hockey, Winter Sports](#)

She and Manager of Ticket and Business Operations Keri Hirschman won Spirit of McMorran Awards for employee service.

Gregg LaPlae, 48, of Fort Gratiot said he usually comes to McMorran for the hockey games but enjoys theater events too.

"I think it's huge. It draws people in from outside," said LaPlae, an Icehawks season ticketholder, of the facility.

Mark De La Harpe of Marine City said his two daughters have been in The Nutcracker, performed at McMorran, for several years.

"As a person who lives 30 minutes away, it's nice to have a place like this to come to," he said.

"The reason we've been successful is from the many user groups (at McMorran)," Fernandez said. "... The goal is to keep it open so someone will be back -- it won't be me -- in 50 years to do this again."

- **Contact Jesse Dunsmore at (810) 989-6276 or jdunsmore@gannett.com.**

In Your Voice | [READ REACTIONS TO THIS STORY](#)

Newest first



johnfromjeddo wrote:
Replying to POHOguy:

.....Federal building is kept up with federal money, not City funds like this place.

Yes, I understand that its a federal property. I also understand that federal money is used for its upkeep. That's my point exactly. The Federal Building is being kept up and is sound in its structure. That was made possible for this 134 year old building due to the fact it was properly maintained. Regardless of where the money came from, the people who were in charge of this historic building did their duty to maintain it.

1/30/2010 12:50:30

[Recommend](#) [New Post](#) [Reply to this Post](#) [Report Abuse](#)



POHOguy wrote:
Replying to johnfromjeddo:

Replying to Justincase23:

Hey John, guess you should be happy you live in Jeddo and don't have to foot the tax bill eh!!It's 50 years old, so of course it needs maintenance, don't have to be a rocket scientist to figure that one out.

First of all, my screen name says "from Jeddo". However, I live right here in WPHM, and I am a citizen and a voter like the rest of the folks here.

Also, I can understand that McMorran is 50 years old, but you really can't defend it poor condition based on its age. There are houses in PH that are 125 years old and have been maintained well, and don't have the structural issue McMorran has.

The Federal Building was built in 1876, (134 years old) and is still in sound condition. Its the 2nd oldest operating Federal Building in the US.

Contextual linking provided by Topix



More News Headlines

- Vigil keeps Prhaze's memory (6)
- Suspects lead police on chase, ending in woods (3)
- Buckles to think about plea deal (8)
- For family, Jenae is final piece to puzzle (4)

IN BRIEF

Latest Headlines

- Lady Icehawks fall to reigning state champs
- Death notices
- Major headliners expected for Bayfest's rock weekend (1)
- March of Dimes looking for prisoners
- Woman injured in Marlette Township accident

ADS BY PULSE 360

[Get Listed Here](#)

Detroit Refinance at 4.25% FIXED!

No hidden fees! (4.4% APR) Get 4 FREE Quotes! No SSN reqd.
www.LendGo.com

Cheapest Detroit Home Insurance?

Enter Your Zip and get Your Cheapest Home Insurance rates in minutes.
HomeownersInsuranceInformation.net

Free Life Insurance Quotes in Detroit

Peace of Mind is a Wonderful Thing for You and Your Family. Start Now!
www.TermFinder.com

The Times Herald Text Alerts

Get breaking local news as it happens! Enter your phone number:

[Continue](#)

Message & Data Rates May Apply. For more information text HELP to 4INFO (44636). Contact your carrier for more details. Powered by 4INFO.



You can receive weather, stock, sports alerts and more. **SIGN UP FOR MORE ALERTS »**

Federal building is kept up with federal money, not City funds like this place.

1/29/2010 9:47:55 PM

Recommend New Post Reply to this Post Report Abuse



okyeahsure w rote:

Replying to itsworking:

It was open to the public? It would've been nice if somebody (Times Herald) shared this with the public. I bet they charged for the food to keep downtown's homeless population from getting a handout.

(Coughing) Good Old Boys. (Coughing)

Excuse me.

ARE YOU KIDDING ME!!!! You commented on the original article that was posted the morning of the event, in the upper right hand corner it lists the itinerary if you plan to attend.....to refresh your memory you said.....

"We've come a long way.

When this place opened, they had Louis Armstrong perform there. Now, 50 years later, we have 50 cent beer and the privilege of listening to Randy Fernandez talk.

I love how they can't even get the mayor for a speech.

1/28/2010 7:51:35 AM"

http://www.thetimesherald.com/article/20100128/NEWS01/1280312/McMorran-set-to-ring-in-50th-anniversary?plckFindCommentKey=CommentKey:2b0e68b5-803d-4094-a813-52086cfe89ab

1/29/2010 8:44:18 PM

Recommend(1) New Post Reply to this Post Report Abuse



itsworking w rote:

It was open to the public? It would've been nice if somebody (Times Herald) shared this with the public. I bet they charged for the food to keep downtown's homeless population from getting a handout.

(Coughing) Good Old Boys. (Coughing)

Excuse me.

1/29/2010 7:13:13 PM

Recommend New Post Reply to this Post Report Abuse



johnfromjeddo w rote:

Also, the very first house that I ever bought was built in 1929, and when I bought it in 1988 it was 59 years old. Today that house is still standing and is being lived in. It is now 81 years old, and is owner occupied. Its maintained well and doesn't have the problems that McMorran has, even though its 31 years older.

Its about proper regular maintenance, and not deferred maintainance. Sooner of later every building will need some type of work, but asking for millions of dollars to repair problems show a huge amount of neglect.

1/29/2010 4:52:26 PM

Recommend New Post Reply to this Post Report Abuse

1 2 3 4 >> Last

FULL PAGE VIEW See more comments per page and quote other replies

You must be logged in to leave a comment. Login | Register

Most Recommended Articles

- Vigil keeps Prhaze's memory (9)
Hayes: Kreiner feels 'railroaded' by Redskins (12)
Embattled Obama vows to fight on (6)
Three arrested after break-in, police chase (4)
I-94 accident Thursday caused by sleeping driver (4)

Most Commented Articles

- Judge grants Galvans time (169)
Pair to face more charges (122)
Group plans vigil for Prhaze (48)
Fort Gratiot fires employee for trip on township time (44)
Embattled Obama vows to fight on (36)

1000 characters left

Submit

Partners: [Jobs: CareerBuilder.com](#) [Cars: Cars.com](#) [Apartments: Apartments.com](#) [Shopping: ShopLocal.com](#) [Homes: Homefinder.com](#) [Dating: eHarmony](#)

[Home](#) | [News](#) | [Sports](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Multimedia](#) | [Obituaries](#) | [Voices & Views](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [Magazines](#) | [Shopping](#) | [Weather](#) | [Customer Service](#) | [Site Map](#)

[Terms of Service](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [About Us](#) | [Subscribe](#)

Copyright ©2010

Use of this site signifies your agreement to the [Terms of Service](#) and [Privacy Policy](#) , updated March 2009.