



## **Montgomery Place – A Sense of Place** **Seventy Years on the** **Southwestern Edge of** **Saskatoon Saskatchewan** **1946-2016**



Montgomery Place in 1946.

*Saskatoon Public Library Local History Room ph-92-235-3*

...to have a good command of the army, you need to understand human nature. In humans lies a huge emotional energy ...that warms the heart and stirs the imagination...”

Second World War Field  
Marshall Bernard L.  
Montgomery.

In 1946 a veterans community began on Saskatoon’s southwest edge called Montgomery Place – a namesake of this British leader.

## Early Years

- 1871-1879** Dominion Land Survey of Western Canada.
- 1876** The land that would become Montgomery Place was brought under Treaty 6.
- 1882** John Lake and members of the Temperance Colonization Society arrived in the area. A year later a townsite was surveyed.
- 1880s** Grace and Joseph Fletcher homesteaded the NE, NW and SW quarter-sections of Section 24-Township 36-Range 6-W3rd – present-day Montgomery Place.
- 1901** Saskatoon was incorporated as a village.
- 1903** Saskatoon was incorporated as a town.
- 1906** Saskatoon was incorporated as a city.
- 1910-1912** Saskatoon boomed. Land speculators, fuelled by optimism, created 25,000 lots outside the boundaries of Saskatoon. On the land that is Montgomery Place today, a subdivision of 2158 lots was surveyed and named River Heights. Some lots sold for as much as \$350 before the economic bubble burst in 1913-1915. Afterwards, many subdivisions reverted to the Rural Municipality of Cory.



Homestead of Grace and Joseph Fletcher, c. 1885 .  
*Saskatoon Public Library Local History Room ph-2002-61-1*



Thought to be the Grace and Joseph Fletcher family with neighbours, c. 1885 .  
*Saskatoon Public Library Local History Room ph-2002-61-2*

## 1913 – Construction began on the Dominion Elevator west on 11<sup>th</sup> Street.

- 1913** At the west end of Highways 7 and 14 West (now 11<sup>th</sup> Street West), east of the rail crossing, the Marshall Building was built. Inside its walls, Marshall farm equipment was assembled. Later Derby cars were assembled there.

## 1914 – The First World War began.

**1914** While construction began in 1913, the Canadian Government Elevator on Highway 14 West (now 11<sup>th</sup> Street West), it was not completed until 1914. Eighty-four reinforced concrete bins were built to hold three million bushels of grain.

**1914** A westside section of the river near the present-day Riversdale Swimming Pool was designated a municipal bathing beach.



Canadian Government Elevator.  
*MPCA Archives*

## 1925 – The Saskatoon Sanatorium opened at the end of Avenue K South.

**1920s** The present-day 11<sup>th</sup> Street West was built in the early 1920s as the original route of Highways 7 and 14 west of Saskatoon.

**1925** **15 July** – Riversdale Swimming Pool, the first municipal swimming pool in Saskatoon, opened.

**1925** **31 December** – Saskatoon opened an incinerator for garbage on Avenue A near the riverbank.



Riversdale Swimming Pool.  
*MPCA Archives*

## 1930 – The control of natural resources transferred from Ottawa to the province.

**1930** An addition of 56 concrete bins was added to the Canadian Government Elevator.

## 1932 – The Broadway Bridge opened in Saskatoon.

**1932** Hi-Way Refineries, a locally-owned company, opened on 11<sup>th</sup> Street West. The facility could refine 300 barrels of crude oil each day.

## **1936 – The PFRA – Prairie Farm Rehabilitation**

**Administration – distributed crested wheatgrass seed to farmers whose land was ravaged by drought.**

**1936** *Mah Hon Gardens* began as a small vegetable farm on the Low Road to Pike Lake, Range Road 3061 (later known as Valley Road). The family-owned operation started with Mah Hon and Mah Bun who relocated from Pine Falls, Manitoba. In 1986 the business, in the third generation of the family, was renamed *Floral Acres Greenhouses*.



Crested wheat grass.  
*Leslee Newman photo*

## **1940 – The weir across the South Saskatchewan River was completed.**

**1940** **June** - Fred Mendel established Intercontinental Packers in the former Marshall Building on Highway 14 West (today's 11<sup>th</sup> Street West). Home of "Olympic Fine Meats," the plant had contracts to provide canned meat and bacon to Allied soldiers, sailors and airmen.



Fred Mendel is the shortest man in the centre of this photo, c. 1945. *Betty Earle photo*

## **1942 – In Canada, the rationing of gasoline and butter began, followed quickly with sugar, coffee and meat.**

**1942** The Veterans' Land Act (VLA) was passed in Ottawa. It provided for the settlement of veterans of the Second World War on small acreage plots close to cities in Canada. Grants



and loans through the VLA would offer veterans who qualified the chance to settle as small agricultural holders. Part 1 of the Act stated that a qualified veteran could receive up to \$6,000 to assist settlement on a minimum ½ acre lot. The veteran had to make a down payment of 10% and pay back two-thirds of the loan over the next 25 years. Another grant was available for up to \$1,200 for purchase of equipment. Many Montgomery Place families bought their first kitchen appliances with the grant. The highest monthly payment allowed was \$28.47 plus taxes.

**1944 – Saskatchewan elected its first social democratic government into power. The CCF – Cooperative Commonwealth Federation – was led by Premier Tommy Douglas.**

**1944**      **Summer** - The Regional Office of Soldier Settlement and Veterans' Land Act, Department of Veterans Affairs, Canada opened in Saskatoon with J. P. Nottingham named Regional Supervisor.

**1944**      The search began around Saskatoon for a suitable spot for a Small Holding Development. A Committee of the Saskatoon Rehabilitation Council included: Alderman W.B. Caswell, Chair; Mr. Ritchie, President of the Legion; Mr. Anderson, Saskatoon City Clerk and Secretary of the Committee; Mr. R. McGregor, principal of the Technical Collegiate; Mr. C.R. Lennon, Welfare Officer of the Department of Veterans' Affairs; Mr. Holland, Reeve of the Rural Municipality of Cory; Mr. J.M. Vacey, District Superintendent, Veterans' Land Act for Saskatoon; and Mr. J.P. Nottingham, Regional Supervisor, Veterans' Land Act for Saskatoon.

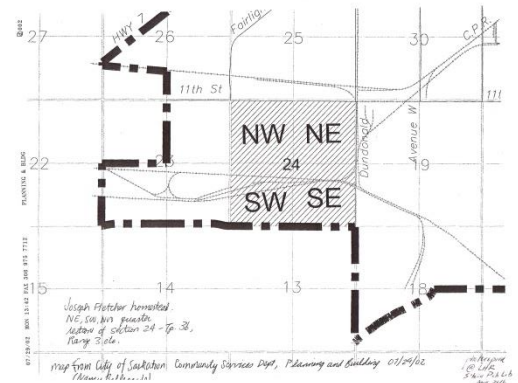


Intercontinental Packers in the foreground with Montgomery Place in the background, bordered on the right by Highways 7-14 West (present-day 11<sup>th</sup> Street West), c.1950.  
*Saskatoon Public Library Local History Room b-5152-b*

The Committee was looking for land as close as possible to sewer and water for the Small Holdings project. After several inspections, a large parcel of 230 acres owned by the RM of Cory, consisting of Plan G40, 41, 42, 156 and 250 was deemed the best option. The property was ½ mile west of the City limits on the south side of Highway 14. It was inspected by Mr. Wieber, Construction Engineer and Mr. Underwood, Consulting Engineer, and members of the Regional Advisory Committee. They concluded that the soil was good for gardening, the land was a good elevation, well-drained and suitable for the installation of sewer and water.

The VLA wasn't the first to assess this land for settlement. Amazingly, the land had been purchased and subdivided into 2,158 lots during Saskatoon's frenzied boom of 1909-1913, in a subdivision dubbed River Heights. Some 43 lots were excluded from the 1944 purchase because they were still held privately, often by Eastern Canadians. Many of the privately-owned lots gave the VLA grief in the years that followed.

Montgomery Place was established under Section 9 of the Veterans' Land Act. It was named after Field Marshall Bernard Law Montgomery (1887-1976), a British officer in the Second World War.



East of the Canadian Government Elevator, a crop was harvested on the Dunn farm, c. 1940.  
MPCA Archives

## 1945 – The Second World War ended in September. Saskatchewan's first commercial oil well began.

**1945 July** – Two hundred and thirty acres were purchased from the R.M. of Cory. The plot was initially sub-divided into one-acre lots, then again into 324 ½-acre lots. The parcel was purchased in five installments. Plans were drawn for a model suburban community, with provision for a business area, parks, playgrounds, schools and churches.

**1945 September** – The VLA began construction of 25 homes in Montgomery Place, limited to four floor plans. All had full basements. The house plans included two bungalow styles and two storey-and-a-half styles, ranging from 600 to 800 square feet. Sewer and water services provided by the City of Saskatoon were paid by the federal government. Paved roads and sidewalks were not.

## 1946 – Construction of the first homes in Montgomery Place began.

**1946 21 January** – Sewer and water mains were taken over by the City of Saskatoon for future maintenance under an Agreement on this date.

**1946 August and September** - Twenty-five veterans and their families moved into Montgomery Place homes built by VLA contractors. Three more homes were built by individuals that year.

The first family to move to the new VLA settlement of Montgomery Place was Gilbert and Freda **Moonie**. The next three were Thomas and Esther **Mainland**, Arthur and Margaret **Gent**, Robert and Lena **Cooper**. remaining 21 families to move into homes built by VLA (in alphabetical order) were: 1.



Gilbert and Freda Moonie moved into the home on June 1, 1946. *Don Moonie photo*

Sydney **Barker**, 2. Robert **Bird**, 3. Robert and Elizabeth **Brown**, 4. Phil and Frethe **Cardiff**, 5. Alfred (Captain) and Maisie **Carter**, 6. David (Taffy) and Clara **Davies**, 7. Gilbert and Claire **Eamer**, 8. Gordon and Maud **Edwards**, 9. Hugh and Mary **Fabian**, 10. Royce and Audrey **Fulcher**, 11. Tom **Hall**, 12. Jim **Hunter**, 13. Lloyd and Anne **Kyle**, 14. Ron **Matcham**, 15. Pat **Moloney**, 16. Russell and Dorothy **Montgomery**, 17. Carl and Reta **Sedgwick**, 18. Edwin and Eileen **Smith**, 19. Andrew (Trig) and Marge **Tregaskis**, 20. Percy and Pat **Waterer**, 21. Harry and Dorothy **Wiggins**. In 1946 three additional families moved into homes that they had built themselves: Harry **Bailey**, Leo and Eunice **Kemp**, Forbes **Stevenson**.

**1946**      **Fall** – Sewer and water lines were finally hooked up. Until then, each home had an outhouse. Water was hauled from Intercontinental Packers by Bob Cooper.

**1946**      **Winter** – Three more homes were completed for a total of 28 families in Montgomery Place.

## **1947 – Saskatchewan became the first province to provide universal hospital insurance.**

**1947**      The Montgomery Place Ratepayers' Association formed, meeting monthly in the cafeteria of Intercontinental Packers.

**1947**      **March** - In a brief to the federal Legislative Committee of Veterans Affairs dated 25 March 1947, Montgomery Place veterans living in the first 26 homes built in Montgomery Place (25 families who had moved in in the summer and fall of 1946, another family in the spring of 1947) complained of poor materials and shoddy workmanship in the construction of their homes leading to drafts, frozen plumbing



Montgomery Place, 1946.  
Saskatoon Public Library  
Local History Room ph-92-235-3



Home of Hugh and Mary Fabian  
at 1207 Lancaster Boulevard,  
1946. Ric Fabian photo



Carl and Reta Sedgwick home at  
1103 Lancaster Boulevard, c.  
1947 Carole Sedgwick photo



and exorbitant fuel bills. Plasterboard walls were cracking, walls were sweating and frosting with subsequent paint deterioration, windows leaked when it rained, doors were warping and shrinking. Some had trouble with the concrete foundations and floors. Tongue and groove fir floors were warping and separating. Others experienced electrical deficiencies. No eaves-troughing was installed. Nails were pulling out of the cedar grained asbestos shingles, leaving shingles loose and dropping.

The authors of the brief went on to say “It is our opinion that the selectors of this property could not have found a less desirable place for a residential section within the confines or vicinity of Saskatoon. We would point out to your committee that railroads run on three sides of the project, and that to the immediate east of this project are stock yards, two abattoirs and a meat packing plant.”

The writers continued with “We point out to your committee that we have not as yet been able to make arrangements for disposal of garbage. There is no postal service and transportation is limited. School facilities are lacking. The telephone service is highly inadequate, being party lines with nine telephones on a line.”

**1947**

**December** – Montgomery Place residents write to say that in Montgomery Place no new homes were built in 1947; total housing remained at 28.

**1948** – Saskatoon’s first trackless trolley bus began service.



Looking west from Lancaster Blvd., 1946 Ed and Eileen Smith home at left on Currie Avenue. To the right - corner of Caen Street and Currie Avenue - home of Robert and Elizabeth Brown.

*Ric Fabian photo*



Backyard of Moonie home at 3149 11<sup>th</sup> Street West, 1948 – Mainland home in background.

*Don Moonie photo*

- 1948 February** – One hundred and twenty-five Montgomery Place lots went up for sale at prices ranging from \$69.91 to \$695.22.
- 1948 February** – Montgomery Place Ratepayers' Association petitioned Ottawa for home mail delivery.
- 1948 February** - Montgomery Place Ratepayers' Association petitioned the City of Saskatoon and the Rural Municipality of Cory for bus service.
- 1948 23 April** – G. Davies, a veteran of two world wars and a Montgomery Place resident, agreed to pick up Montgomery mail at the Saskatoon Post Office and deliver it to the 28 homes in Montgomery Place. He would also pick up Montgomery mail and deliver it to the Post Office. For this, he earned \$350/year. He was replaced sometime before 1950 by A.C. Suffredine.
- 1948 April** - Montgomery Place Ratepayers' Association petitioned the Minister of Highways and the Highway Traffic Board for a reduction of speed on Highway 14 West between the Pork Packers and the Government Elevator. At the time, 11<sup>th</sup> Street was Highway 14.
- 1948 1 June** – The Highway Traffic Board approved “a maximum speed limit of 25 miles per hour for motor vehicles on the section of No. 14 highway extending from the western limit of the City of Saskatoon to the northeast corner of section 24, township 36, range 6, west of the 3<sup>rd</sup> meridian, a distance of one and a half miles.”
- 1948 25 October** – Montgomery Ratepayers invited John Diefenbaker to visit Montgomery Place to



Home of Hugh and Mary Fabian at 1207 Lancaster Boulevard , c.1948. *Ric Fabian photo*



Backyard garden at Moonie home at 3149 11<sup>th</sup> Street West. *Don Moonie photo*



Looking north from Moonie home at 3149 11<sup>th</sup> Street West, 1948. *Don Moonie photo*

listen to the concerns of veterans residing there.

- 1948**      **23 October** – In a letter from the Postmaster, H.F. Hardy, Montgomery Place residents were advised that there would be daily mail service to the community.
- 1948**      **28 November** – Total cash on hand of the Montgomery Place Ratepayers' Association was \$23.93.

**1949 – Hi-Way Greenhouse established on 11<sup>th</sup> Street West at Avenue T.**

- 1949**      **24 January** – Montgomery Place residents paid 3¢ to mail a letter weighing one ounce, adding one cent for each additional ounce.
- 1949**      **January** – Again the Ratepayers' Association petitioned the City of Saskatoon for "city bus service twice daily except Sundays."
- 1949**      **7 March** - The Montgomery Place Ratepayers' Association raised the yearly family fee to \$2. Many families paid in installments of 25¢/month.
- 1949**      **26 March** – The Montgomery Place Ratepayers' Association reported to residents that it had been able to "bring many services to our community. Among these services are the forming of a school district which permits our children to attend city schools and provides transportation; several street signs have been installed; we now have postal service to our door; disposal of the winter accumulation of ashes and garbage has been contracted for and is due to start by May 1<sup>st</sup>, the cost per family will be \$1.50. The latest project which is



Moonie home on 11<sup>th</sup> Street West, 1948. Laundry dries on the line in the background.  
*Don Moonie photo*

nearing completion is the extension of city bus service to our community.”

- 1949**      **30 April** – The MP Ratepayers Association was notified by the City of Saskatoon that “effective Monday, May 2, 1949, except Sunday, a bus at 8:30 a.m. from Montgomery Place and 5:15 p.m. from the City, would be operated to Montgomery Place in accordance with your Association’s request.”
- 1949**      The Hi-Way Refineries on 11<sup>th</sup> Street West was expanded, adding a thermal cracking unit that allowed refining capacity to boost from 300 to 3000 barrel per day.
- 1949**      **23 September** – The MP Ratepayers’ Association applied to the Regional Supervisor of the Soldiers Settlement and Veterans’ Lands Act “for hay rights on all the vacant land in the Montgomery Place Small Holdings Project for the 1950 season.” At the time, the land west of the holding (NW¼ 24-36-6-W3<sup>rd</sup>) was hayed, with the hay being sold to the McGavin’s Bread Company for its delivery horses. The resulting funds went to the Ratepayers’ account.
- 1949**      Tree planting was a topic of concern this year and in the decades to come.

## **1950 – The Korean War began. About 1000 people from Saskatchewan served.**

- 1950**      **7 May** – A motion was passed at the Montgomery Place Ratepayers’ Association meeting that “It be recommended to the Veterans Land Act to throw open to non-Veterans the opportunity to build homes in Montgomery Place, building requirements and specifications to conform with VLA



Chickens in the pen behind Don Moonie, 1950 – 3149 11<sup>th</sup> Street. Montgomery Place offered veterans and their families the opportunity to be self-sufficient with large garden and orchard space and room to raise rabbits, chickens, ducks or geese.  
*Don Moonie photo*



requirements.” The Montgomery Place Ratepayers’ Association passed the resolution “to open up the project to civilian settlement” fearing that Montgomery Place was not attracting new veteran families.

**1950**

**17 June** – The Montgomery Place Ratepayers’ Association organized a Field Day to beautify the neighbourhood, improve the roads, walks and playgrounds, and enjoy a picnic lunch with friends and neighbours. The R.M. of Cory and the Saskatoon Horticultural Society offered support, along with trees and plants.

**1950**

**21 November** – In a letter to the Minister of Public Works in Regina, The MP Ratepayers’ Association wrote “to thank you and your Department for the installation of private telephone lines.” But “...we are gravely concerned with the charges to be made for our telephones and the effects on the home with a modest income. ...it is to be \$4.80 per month for a wall phone...” We ask that you “allow a party line to remain for those who want it. I believe the number is ten.”

**1950**

**11 December** - Saskatchewan Government Telephones replied “We do not feel that we can offer individual line service to Montgomery Place for less than \$4.80 per month. After all, this is a standard rate. However, we recognize that the increase from \$3.00 per month to \$4.80 per month is substantial in spite of the fact that a much improved service is being offered. To help overcome the difficulty, we are prepared to offer two-party residence service to the people of Montgomery Place for \$3.50 per month.”



Trees and gardens grew quickly in the Moonie yard at 3149 11<sup>th</sup> Street, 1950. *Don Moonie photo*

**1951- The nursery west of Montgomery Place on 11<sup>th</sup> Street West established by Andy Littleton was sold and became Lakeshore Nursery.**

**1951**      **16 March** – In a letter from the Ratepayers to the Regional Division of Veterans Land Act, Montgomery Place residents asked for haying rights west of the established small holdings. Any profit from haying was to be spent on community improvements. “I have been instructed by the members of the Montgomery Ratepayers Association to apply, through you, for the full haying rights on the property belonging to the VLA for 1951. For which privilege we will take care of weed and pest control, and pay any tax levied against any of the said property by the Municipality of Cory.

In asking for the full haying right, I would like to point out, the monies we raise on any of our endeavours is spent on improving Montgomery Place as a whole. Projects already in the committee stage with some projects well in hand at time of writing, are, regarding of roads, extra culverts, filling in low spots which are under water in spring, and re-gravelling as far as funds permit, seeding boulevards to grass, and planting shrubbery.”

**1951**      **10 April** – The reply came from the Soldier Settlement and Veterans’ Land Act: “With reference to your letter of March 16 whereby the Montgomery Place Ratepayers Association apply for the full haying rights on the above-noted property for 1951, this was submitted to our District Office Committee for their consideration and they have decided that they do **not** feel inclined to grant your request.

However, they are quite willing to carry on in the same manner as it was agreed to for the last



Don Moonie birthday party at  
3149 11<sup>th</sup> Street West, 1951.  
*Don Moonie photo*

two years, namely that the Ratepayers Association have the full and free use of that portion of Montgomery Place acreage situated on the NE¼ 24-36-6 W 3<sup>rd</sup> with the exception of that portion that will be sold to veterans for construction of houses. The lessees agree that they will cut and stack the hay on the above-mentioned land in a good husbandlike manner, leaving the fields clean and satisfactory to the lessor, and they will also agree to take care of any taxes levied by the Municipality and also agree to take care of any weed or pest situation which may arise.”

**1951**      **12 April** – A second letter from Soldier Settlement and Veterans’ Land Act reaffirmed that regarding the haying lease “the same terms as last year, namely one-third share of the crop to accrue to the Director.”

**1951**      **16 May** – The District post Office Inspector wrote to the MP Ratepayers’ Association to say that the mail delivery contract of the past 2½ years was not in accordance with policy and that the contract with Mr. A.C. Suffredine would be terminated on 31 May 1951. M.J. Coldwell brought the matter before the House of Commons, whereupon Mr. Rinfret, Postmaster General, proposed a compromise. He proposed to establish a sub-post office to which mail would be delivered from Saskatoon and where MP residents could call for their mail as was common in small towns and villages.

**1951**      **Summer** – Five new homes were built by individuals, under the supervision of the Veterans’ Land Act construction department.

**1951**      **17 July** – Saskatoon’s new sewage treatment plant was destroyed by an explosion. The



At the corner of Lancaster Boulevard and Caen Street, a mailbox was erected and mail delivery to Montgomery Place was solidified, c. 1951. Sedgwick and Stevenson homes in the background.

*Saskatoon Public Library Local History Room lh-3006.*



Building the Ken and Charlotte Brand home on Lancaster Boulevard, c. 1951. Edwards, Sedgwick and Carter homes in the background.

*Saskatoon Public Library Local History Room ph-92-236.*

cause was traced back to an oil leak at Hi-Way Refinery on 11<sup>th</sup> Street West.

- 1951**      **1 September** – The DVA hospital in Saskatoon was closed. Patients were transferred to Regina.
- 1951**      **Fall** – The hay crop (13,600 lbs.) from NE¼ 24-36-6 W 3<sup>rd</sup> was sold to McGavin Bakeries Ltd. at \$12 per ton adding \$81.60 to the MP Ratepayers' coffers. The Association reported \$250 on improvements: \$200 for cinders for the roads and \$50 for maintenance of streets and boulevards.

**1952- Saskatoon celebrated the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its founding by Temperance Colonists in 1882.**

- 1952**      **22 March** - Ratepayers met in the Intercontinental Packers cafeteria to discuss the pros and cons of forming a village to gain full control of municipal government. With instructions to proceed to investigate, the Association wrote to the provincial Department of Municipal Affairs regarding Montgomery Place being established as an Organized Hamlet.
- 1952**      **Summer** – Sixteen new homes were built by individuals, under the supervision of the Veterans' Land Act construction department. Forty-eight homeowners were listed in the records of the Montgomery Place Ratepayers' Association in 1952.
- 1952**      The Ratepayers' Association began negotiations to bring natural gas to Montgomery Place. The Association lobbied the R.M. of Cory for streetlights and garbage disposal.



Western Stockyards in the foreground, Intercontinental Packers on the south side of the street, Montgomery Place in the upper right background, c. 1954.  
*MPCA Archives*



**1952** The Montgomery Place Ratepayers' Association developed plans and began fundraising for a Community Centre that would include a hall and a curling rink. Plans faltered when the community was incorporated into Saskatoon. It was a City responsibility to develop neighbourhood recreation facilities.

**1952** Light and power to the homes were provided by the Saskatchewan Power Corporation, as were a few streetlights. Rates were slightly lower than in Saskatoon - 6¢ per KWH for the first 60 KWH, thereafter 1½ ¢ per KWH. Water was provided by the City of Saskatoon at the same rate paid by city residents. Fuel oil was delivered by city firms at city rates. There was a daily delivery of milk and bread delivery three times a week. Mail and the Star Phoenix were delivered to homes daily. Garbage disposal was contracted weekly in the summer and semi-monthly in the winter. Bus service went to Intercontinental Packers, with four daily busses into Montgomery Place to the corner of 11<sup>th</sup> Street and Lancaster Boulevard.

**1952** The Montgomery Place School District formed within the Saskatoon (West) School Unit No. 42. Thomas Mainland chaired the school board. Trustees were G.L. Moonie and G. Eamer. Kindergarten students went to King George School on the bus and returned home via taxi. Public school students also went to King George, with free bus transportation both ways.

**1952** A ball diamond was built by Montgomery Place residents in the central area that was allocated as park and playground space. Consideration was given to a curling rink, tennis courts and other sports facilities.



Vivian, Sheila and Mel Sedgwick at 1103 Lancaster Boulevard, c. 1952. Alfred (Captain) Carter home at 1104 Lancaster Blvd in the background. *Carole Sedgwick photo*



King George School, 2012.  
*Saskatoon Public Schools*

**1952**      **7 November** – In a letter to the R.M. of Cory, Montgomery Ratepayers' Secretary, C. Irwin, informed the R.M. regarding street lights in the community that "I have been informed by the Power Commission that the cost of installing same would be in the neighbourhood of \$1,500.00, of which the Power Commission would pay \$1,000.00, leaving a balance of \$500.00. ... We suggest that the municipality should finance this construction and recover the investment over a ten-year period by taxation." The R.M. "agreed to advance the ratepayers of your hamlet the \$500.00 for the installation of street lighting to be amortized over a period of five years, with interest at five per cent ... starting for the year 1953."



Carl and Reta Sedgwick family  
on Lancaster Boulevard, c.  
1952.      *Carole Sedgwick photo*

**1952**      **November** – Of the original 70 serviced Montgomery Place lots, only 11 remained unspoken for. Saskatoon was experiencing a post-war boom, and the influx of rural folks and other newcomers strained the available housing market.

**1952**      **December** –The Ratepayers' Association sought bids for the disposal of garbage.

## **1953 – The Korean War ended in June. El Rancho arrived in Saskatoon.**

**1953**      **6 January** – The City of Saskatoon reaffirmed that the Montgomery Place "enquiry as to whether the City would agree to pick up garbage from Montgomery Place ... has been decided that we will **not** be able to do this."

**1953**      **21 January** – Robert Cooper was awarded the garbage contract for \$750.00 per year. At the time the City charged \$2 per load for use of the incinerator. Homeowners provided their own

garbage cans. Garbage was required to be wrapped and bundled before deposit in the cans. Weight of each garbage can was not to exceed 75 pounds. Ashes could not be mixed with garbage, but were to be piled in the back lane.

**1953**      **22 March** – MP Ratepayers unanimously approved a motion for the formation of the village of Montgomery Place by January 1954.

**1953**      **25 March** – Responding to a call for ideas from the Legion for a memorial to Second World War dead, the Montgomery Place Ratepayers' Association suggested that "the memorial might take the form of a Park in the Veterans Settlement of Montgomery Place."

**1953**      The first store just west of the intersection of Dundonald Avenue and Highway 14 (11<sup>th</sup> Street West) was opened by William Schule. William and his wife Frances made their home above the store.

**1953**      Saskatoon City Commissioner H.W. Balfour announced an innovative and ahead-of-its-time idea for a sport and cultural complex in Saskatoon's southwest - south of 11<sup>th</sup> Street and west of Avenue P. Referred to as a recreation centre, the concept included parks, picnic grounds, playgrounds, rinks, ball and football fields, a golf course, and an expansive new Western Development Museum.

**1953**      Discussions continued around seeking hamlet or village status for Montgomery Place. The provincial Department of Municipal Affairs stated it would not approve the formation of an Organized Hamlet adjacent to an Urban Municipality.

**1953**      **30 July** – A brief was sent to the Saskatoon City Council from the Montgomery Place



Sedgwick children, Lancaster Boulevard, c. 1953  
*Carole Sedgwick photo*

Ratepayers' Association stating: "In view of the circumstances outlined herein, the **ratepayers of Montgomery Place oppose incorporation within the City of Saskatoon** for the following reasons:

1. The residents are convinced they will not enjoy any substantial improvements in service from the City.
2. It is felt that problems relating to Zoning and City planning can be solved by the formation of a District Planning Board with representatives on the Board of the City and the Rural Municipality of Cory.
3. It is believed that it is absolutely essential for the protection of the investment made by the present residents and for the final and complete development of this project that Montgomery Place remains a low taxation area. Otherwise, the original objectives in the planning for Veterans rehabilitation will not be attained.

Incorporation within the City of Saskatoon, with the apparent result of a considerable tax increase and no compensating increase in services, is of prime concern to the residents of Montgomery Place. Nevertheless it is not their wish to shirk their responsibilities in any way or to be placed in a position where they must ask for special favours. The residents of Montgomery Place ask only that they be allowed to find their own system of municipal government which will be the most economical, the most efficient and which will contribute in the end to the full and final development in Montgomery Place, an objective which will be of considerable value to both themselves and their friends and neighbours, the people of Saskatoon."



Don Moonie at home on 11<sup>th</sup>  
Street West, 1953.  
*Don Moonie photo*



**1953**

**10 August** – A letter to the Saskatoon City Clerk outlined members of a Special Committee of the MP Ratepayers' Association regarding extending City limits to enclose Montgomery Place. Members were: Rnold Smith, Chair; Mrs. B.E. Betts, Secretary; G.D. Eamer; Harry Bailey; Robert Brown; P.R. Ferguson; L.A. Toole.



**1953**

**12 August** – An article in the Saskatoon Star Phoenix reported that “The best organized and best developed of Saskatoon’s fringe areas has taken the lead in negotiating with the city on the matter of incorporation. The ratepayers of Montgomery Place have approached their problem in the manner that is most likely to produce satisfactory results for all concerned. It is to be hoped that other fringe areas will follow this good example and name their own committees for talks with city officials. At first Montgomery Place residents wanted separate village status and were opposed to the city’s incorporation plan. But now that the city has promised to consider special tax arrangements and other concessions, Montgomery Place is willing to stall its own plans in order to take another look at the city’s idea. ...If a satisfactory agreement for incorporation into the city is arrived at, the plan for separate village status will probably be withdrawn.”

Moonie birthday party, 3149  
11<sup>th</sup> Street West, 1953. *Don Moonie photo*

**1953**

Fourteen of the veterans living in Montgomery Place received disability pensions.



**1953**

**29 November** – A special meeting of all MP ratepayers was held in the cafeteria of Intercontinental Packers “for the purpose of hearing the report of the Committee with respect to amalgamating with the City of Saskatoon, and to vote on the Committee’s proposal. Please note in this connection that the City Assessor is now, at the request of your

Montgomery Place c. 1953 –  
The community extends only as far as Crerar Drive. There are no homes in the 3300 or 3400 blocks of Caen Street or 11<sup>th</sup> Street. The farm home on the north side of the 3200 block of 11<sup>th</sup> Street is visible.  
*MPCA Archives*

committee, assessing all property in Montgomery Place. The purpose of this is to make available at the meeting full details with respect to each property owner's taxes in the event of amalgamation with the City. It will be appreciated if you will afford the Assessor your full co-operation."

**1953**      **6 December** – Another special meeting in the Intercon cafeteria was called "to consider the report of the Special Committee on amalgamation with the City of Saskatoon. The Committee will present a definite proposal which has been approved by both themselves and the Special Committee of the Council of the City of Saskatoon, and ask the ratepayers to vote on it. The vote will be by secret ballot."

**1953**      **8 December** – In a letter to the City Commissioner, the MP Ratepayers Association stated: "The Committee of the Montgomery Place Ratepayers Association is authorized by a majority vote of the ratepayers to state that the ratepayers **will not object to inclusion of Montgomery Place within the City of Saskatoon if, and only if, the following conditions are observed.**

**1.** That the City will enter into a Tax Limitation Agreement ...extending for a period of 25 years from the first day of January, 1954.

**2.** That such Tax Limitation Agreement will provide that the mill rate in regard to taxes applicable to each and every small holding occupied by a veteran established now, or in the future under the provisions of the Veterans' Land Act on Montgomery Place, shall in each and every year during the currency of the said Agreement be 20% less than the general current City mill rate.

3. That under no circumstances shall the said mill rate so applicable to each small holding exceed in any year during the currency of the said Agreement 51 mills.

4. That the taxes in respect to each said small holding shall be equalized through tax remissions so that each unit of land, not taking into consideration improvements thereon, shall bear exactly the same taxes, notwithstanding that the size of the various units may vary in area.

5. That the said Tax Limitation Agreement shall apply to all taxes whatsoever levied by the City ... .

6. That such Tax Limitation Agreement will, insofar as appropriate, contain the same provisions as other Tax Limitation Agreements entered into by The Director, The Veterans' Land Act with other Municipalities within the Province of Saskatchewan.

7. That all services now available for the residents of Montgomery Place shall continue to be available and shall not be of a lower standard than already in effect.

8. That the area of land lying immediately north of Montgomery Place shall not be used for heavy industrial purpose and if used for light industrial or retail business, allowance shall be made for a boulevard of not less than 100 feet in width contiguous to No. 14 Highway.”

## **1954 – Television came to Saskatchewan - CKCK in Regina and CFQC in Saskatoon.**

**1954**      **15 March** – An agreement was signed between the Director of the Veterans' Land Act and the City of Saskatoon stipulating that



Home of Phil and Olive Genereux, 3117 Ortona Street, 1954. *Daryl Genereux photo*

the mill rate for Montgomery Place residents be 20% less than City taxes for the 25 years of the agreement beginning January 1, 1954. The Tax Limitation Agreement reached with the City of Saskatoon stated that the mill rate for each MP small holding would not exceed 51 mills. The mill rate for the City of Saskatoon at the time was 65 mills. The construction of sewer and water mains and service pipes remained a VLA responsibility, at no cost to the City for the term of the agreement.



Home of George and Doris Thompson, 3101 Ortona Street, 1954. *Barb Thompson Biddle photo*

**1954** Ignace and Helen Maizga took over the store west of the corner of 11<sup>th</sup> Street and Dundonald Avenue.

**1954** **December** – Mrs. Carter resigned as postman effective December 31. Tom Mainland was recommended to fill the position.



Don Moonie and Claire Eamer , 3149 11<sup>th</sup> Street West, 1954. *Don Moonie photo*

**1955 - The Province of Saskatchewan celebrated its Jubilee 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and Montgomery Place was made a part of the City of Saskatoon.**

**1955** **1 January** – Montgomery Place was incorporated into the City of Saskatoon.

**1955** **9 February** – A notice was delivered to Montgomery Place residents from the Montgomery Place Recreation Association, a committee of the MP Ratepayers' Association, outlining a plan for the public areas of the community. The plan was to be debated at a meeting in the Intercon cafeteria on February 13. The plan proposed a Community Building – a one storey building 40 ft x 64 ft, on a basement. It would be built with an attached four-sheet curling rink. The notice reported that \$2000 had already been raised through a TV raffle, community parties and square



dancing. It proposed a levy of \$1 per month for a certain number of years for each household, probably attached to their taxes. Construction funds could be borrowed against this future income.

**1955** Hi-Way Refineries was purchased by the Royalite Oil Company and renamed Royalite Hi-Way Refineries Ltd.

**1955** **September** – Montgomery Place residents objected when Saskatoon developed a new landfill site immediately south and east of Montgomery Place on the banks of the South Saskatchewan River. The incinerator purchased in 1925 and situated at the A.L. Cole power plant site on 19<sup>th</sup> Street proved inadequate for the garbage disposal needs of the growing city. The City had initially sought to place the dump where the current Gordie Howe golf course is located, but residents from King George, Holiday Park and Montgomery Place protested the proximity to their homes and neighbourhoods. The City relented and moved the site a stone's throw away, just south of the CN train bridge.

**1955** **November** – Saskatchewan Power Corporation confirmed that the gas rates in Montgomery Place would be reduced to the level charged in the City of Saskatoon effective January 1, 1956.

## **1956 – Montgomery School opened at the corner of Caen Street and Currie Avenue.**

**1956** Charles and Vera Riddell bought and operated the store at the east end of Montgomery Place.

**1956** The Saskatoon Star-Phoenix announced "Ambitious Plans for Recreation Centre



Home of Rusty and Ethyl Hirsch, 3141 11<sup>th</sup> Street West, 1955. *Ethyl Hirsch photo*



Rusty and Ethyl Hirsch were quick to plant trees in their backyard at 3141- 11<sup>th</sup> Street West, 1955. *Ethyl Hirsch photo*



Ken and Barb Thompson. Background looks west down the 3100 block of Ortona Street, c. 1956. *Barb Thompson Biddle photo*

Prepared” claiming that “Dreams of the time when a great athletic centre would be developed in Saskatoon south of the Western Development Museum on Eleventh Street West are out of the visionary stage and on the drafting boards.” Also referred to as Riverside Holiday Centre or Holiday Park, the City Council “ear-marked 300 acres of city-owned in southwest Saskatoon for a future park and recreation area in which the key showpiece would be the Western Development Museum on Eleventh Street West.” It would extend south of 11<sup>th</sup> Street and from Avenue P to the river. A man-made boating lake was even envisioned.

**1956**

The first pack of Cubs sponsored by the Montgomery Place Recreation Association was formed by Montgomery parent Harry Wiggins, followed by Boy Scouts, Brownies and Girl Guides. Montgomery leaders over the years included Nina Dennison, Grace and John Hyde Sr., Al and Robbie Harder, Vicki Kinash, John Sawatsky, Ron Harvey, Lloyd Strouts, George Humphrey, Tom McAdam and John McInnis.

**1956**

**September** – Montgomery School, a school in the Saskatoon Public School Division, opened at the corner of Caen Street and Currie Avenue. Students were registered in Grades one through eight.

**1957** —**Saskatchewan Progressive Conservative John G. Diefenbaker became Prime Minister of Canada.**

**1957**

**February** - Tree planting was a topic of discussion for the Ratepayers’ Association as it had been for the previous decade. “The city



Barb Thompson and Carol Strouts at the corner of Caen Street and Lancaster Boulevard, c. 1956. *Barb Thompson Biddle photo*



Carole and Teddy Sedgwick, 1103 Lancaster Boulevard, 1956. *Carole Sedgwick photo*



Montgomery School students, 1959. *MPCA Archives*

would supply trees if the MP residents would plant them.” More street lights and street signs were other considerations pursued by the Civic Committee of the Ratepayers’ Association. More frequent bus service was also requested. A petition was forwarded regarding the construction of a paddling pool in Montgomery Park. The \$5,500 price tag was to be funded 50:50 with the Kinsmen Club and MP residents.

**1957 February** – The City reported that it would not consider pouring curbs or sidewalks until the drainage problems were solved.

**1957 19 November** – Minutes of a meeting of the Montgomery Ratepayers’ Association executive, Saskatoon’s City Commissioner and staff from the city Engineering Department revealed that after more than 11 years, problems plaguing Montgomery Place had changed very little. Local improvement issues included drainage ditches and culverts, storm sewer drainage, lack of sidewalks and curbs, and gravelled streets. The challenges were summed up as a rural vs. urban (“citification”) debate. Asphalt sidewalks had been installed along 11<sup>th</sup> Street in light of the high volume of traffic there.

Four “schemes” were presented by the City:

Scheme A – Rural type 20’ pavement, grassed ditches, no sidewalks, no curbs, surface drainage. (Least costly.)

Scheme B – Urban type 36’ pavement, curbs with paving, boulevards, no sidewalks, would require storm sewer construction.

Scheme C – Urban type 36’ pavement, 5’ separate walk and curb, boulevard, would require storm sewer construction.



Norman and Ann Skhlov home at 3108 Ortona Street, c. 1957.  
*Daryl Genereux photo*



Chuck and Mary Will home at 3109 Ortona Street, 1957.  
*Gwen Will photo*



Joe and Joey Kiss home, 3244 Caen Street, c. 1957.  
*Kiss Family photo*



Scheme D – Urban type 36' pavement, 5' combined walk and curb, boulevard, would require storm sewer construction.

**1957**

**8 December** – At the Annual General Meeting of the Montgomery Place Ratepayers' Association held in the auditorium of Montgomery School. Problems were discussed including the poor state of the roads and gravel and the poor bus service. Spring drainage remained a bugbear. Culverts would continue to be steamed each spring. Street signs and lights had been installed. A permanent rink had been established west of the school. The construction of the paddling pool was proceeding as planned.



Looking north from the 3100 block of Ortona Street, c. 1957. Wash on the line, a burning barrel, construction materials – the early years of Montgomery Place. *Daryl Genereus photo*

## **1958 – A mine at Patience Lake near Saskatoon produced Canada's first potash.**

**1958**

**Winter** – The new playgrounds building west of Montgomery School opened. The paddling pool opened in the summer of 1958. By June the Association was asking for the removal of the monkey pole because "children were running all over the roof."



Backyard rink at the home of Bill and Adelaide Yourk, 3310 Caen Street, 1958. *Yourk Family photo*

**1958**

Because of the growth of the community, the Ratepayers' Association formed a parallel body, the Montgomery Place Recreation Association, to deal with activities, parks and sports.

**1958**

Manure piles at the Western Stockyards and Intercontinental Packers were another concern for residents, although many had enjoyed the free manure delivered from Intercon to their gardens.



Montgomery School friends. Caen Street and the Government Elevator on 11<sup>th</sup> Street West in the background, c. 1958. *Barb Thompson Biddle photo*



- 1958** The Montgomery Place Ratepayers' Association continued to petition the City of Saskatoon for paved streets.
- 1958** **June** – A petition was sent to Saskatchewan Government Telephones regarding the high cost of telephone service in Montgomery Place.
- 1958** Hi-Way Refineries added a new office building with new laboratories and workshops. The refinery was not well-regarded by neighbours who complained of noise, foul sour gas smells and chemical reek, and noxious substances flowing into the sewers.
- 1958** **October** – Roadways continued to be a major concern. Could Currie Avenue be widened? When the city graded the roads, could they grade all the roads, not just a select few? Another concern was the state of boulevards. Would the City provide grass seed for residents to sow?
- 1958** 7 December – At a Ratepayers meeting, the possibility was put forward that the Montgomery School auditorium be combined as a community recreation hall. The Association would provide \$3,000.00 toward the cost.
- 1958** 14 December – What can be done about trains blocking the approaches to Montgomery Place? was a question asked by residents. Paving, drainage, bus service and telephone service were also raised as issues.

**1959 – The first church service in Montgomery Place was held in the auditorium of Montgomery School, an extension of St. David's United Church on Avenue L South.**



Leslee Newman, 3303 Caen Street, 1958. Brown and Kiss homes on the corner of Caen and Crerar in the background.  
*Newman Family photo*



Montgomery School class, c. 1958. *Yourk Family photo*



Sunday School in Montgomery School hallway, c. 1960.  
*Church Archives*

**1959**            Montgomery Place held the record in  
Saskatoon for new home starts – 58.

**1959**            **February** – An open letter to Montgomery  
Place residents stated:

“We will be collecting soon for the Ratepayers  
Association. The fee to be a member for one  
year is \$2. This is one organization you have  
which can take your complaints and  
suggestions to the proper authorities and have  
them changed or improved to better living  
conditions at Montgomery Place.

Many of the older residents have done yeoman  
service for this association and the majority of  
residents have always been paid up members.

In the past for instance, did you know that the  
first bus stop was put in by members of the  
Ratepayers? That the mail service was a result  
of Ratepayers?

That street signs and lights were pressed into  
service much sooner than if they had gone  
through normal channels?

That the skating rinks and hockey teams have  
been almost solely subscribed by the  
Association?

That the Ratepayers in conjunction with the  
Recreation Committee are, in part, responsible  
for our playgrounds building and paddling  
pool?

That the 25 year tax agreement upon  
amalgamation with the city was the  
Ratepayers’ work?

That the tree planting and the playground area  
and grass seed for ditches are being inquired  
into by this year’s Association?



Yourk family on the front  
doorstep of 3310 Caen Street,  
1959. *Yourk Family photo*



Community picnic in  
Montgomery Park, 1959.  
*Jackie Short Murray photo*

These are just a few accomplishments. We feel the big issues coming up are the city wide reassessment and our new auditorium.”

**1959      22 February** – Trees, boulevards and curbs were once again discussed by Ratepayers.

**1959      1 March** – The first church service held in Montgomery Place was held in the auditorium of Montgomery School. The congregation was an extension of St. David’s United Church on Avenue L South. A student minister, Don Lawrence, conducted the first service.

**1959      21 April** – A letter was written to the Canadian Nation Railway’s Western Divisional Superintendent regarding safety concerns when the Highway 14 intersection was blocked for long periods. Fire and health safety were top concerns. “It has been brought to the attention of this Association that freight trains crossing No. 14 highway, the main approach to our section of the city, have been blocking traffic for an excessive length of time. In case of emergencies in our district, this could be disastrous.”

In a letter dated 30 April 1959, the CNR Superintendent in Winnipeg replied “The situation complained of will be looked into at once for correction, and I trust you will have no cause for further complaint.”

**1959** Due to a shortage of trees from the City and the fact that grass seed would not be provided because there were no curbs, the boulevard improvement initiative floundered.

**1959** The Ratepayers’ Association and the Recreation Association divided responsibilities. The Recreation Committee of the MP Ratepayers’ Association became a separate Montgomery Place Recreation



Community picnic in  
Montgomery Park, 1959.  
*Jackie Short Murray photo*



Home of Bob and Rose  
Atkinson, Haida Avenue, 1959.  
*Bob Atkinson photo*



Association “to better facilitate the organization and provision of a wide range of recreation activities.”

**1959** A new store location proposed by VLA in the centre of the community, at the point where Ortona Street met Crescent Boulevard was discussed. More details were requested from VLA.

**1959** **Summer** – The promised asphalt sidewalk on 11<sup>th</sup> Street was completed. No progress was made concerning street paving.

**1959** **22 July** – HRH Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Phillip visited Saskatoon, alighting from the train at the intersection of 11<sup>th</sup> Street West near Intercontinental Packers.

**1959** **October** - It was reported that the community’s support for the paddling pool had been paid in full.



Eric Falk digging out at the corner of Crerar Drive and Ortona Street, 1959.  
*Merle Falk photo.*

## **1960 – Mount Royal Collegiate opened at Rusholme Road and Avenue W.**

**1960** Membership in the Montgomery Place Ratepayers’ Association was reduced to \$1/household.

**1960** Once again Montgomery Place held the record in Saskatoon for new home starts – 62. By the end of 1960, Montgomery Place held 305 homes. This year saw the last lot sold in the original conception of the Montgomery Place small holdings settlement for veterans.

**1960** **17 January** – An auto court (trailer park) was proposed for Montgomery Place to be located beside the 11<sup>th</sup> Street store on Montgomery’s eastern perimeter. In a letter to VLA,



Hockey on the backyard rink at the home of Al and Robbie Harder, 3327 11<sup>th</sup> Street West, c. 1960 *Robbie Harder photo*



Ratepayers did not endorse the proposal. A couple of years later, a trailer park established beside the store at Montgomery's western edge which was outside city limits at the time.

**1960** There was a call for rules and regulations for skaters to reduce "horseplay."

**1960** **24 January** – A letter from the CNR Superintendent assured residents that "freight trains blocking traffic for an excessive length of time on No. 14 highway would be corrected." At the time, 11<sup>th</sup> Street was Highway 14.

**1960** The mill rate was reassessed by the City of Saskatoon to 20% lower than the city-wide rate.

**1960** By 1960, Hi-Way Refineries on 11<sup>th</sup> Street West had a refining capacity of 8000 barrels of crude oil per day. The Refinery employed 120 workers, some of whom settled in Montgomery Place.

**1960** **24 June** - Street paving, curbs, speed limits, sidewalks, boulevards, street lighting were all the topics of back-and-forth correspondence with the City of Saskatoon.

A letter from the City Commissioner to the MP Ratepayers claimed "It should be noted that we are carrying out some very interesting experiments with soil cement or soil stabilization. It holds promise of providing an excellent road surface at nominal cost, and it is my view that no decision should be taken respecting roads in Montgomery Place until we see the results of the above experiments."

As for sidewalks and boulevards, the Commissioner wrote "V.L.A. does not accept any responsibility for those boulevards which



Chuck and John Will, 3109 Ortona Street, 1960. The background looks East - showing houses on Dundonald Avenue.  
*Gwen Will photo*



Birthday party for Patsy Williams, 3108 Ortona Street, c. 1960. 3102 Ortona is in the background.  
*Gwen Will photo*

are adjacent to private property – nor are any funds available in the Parks Budget as Montgomery Place has not been placed under Local Improvements for the purpose of sidewalks and boulevards.”

Council rejected the Ratepayers’ plea for a reduced speed limit.

Cost of surfacing roads, sidewalks and curbs was a huge concern for Montgomery residents. The Commissioner quoted in his June 24, 1960 letter “Following are the details of costs of roadways and sidewalks:

1. For a 22’ paved roadway, the assessed cost per foot frontage over a period of 10 years would be 35.5¢.
2. For a 22’ macadamized roadway the assessed cost per foot front for a period of 10 years would be 20¢.
3. For a 22’ gravelled road the assessed cost would be 11¢ per foot for a one year period. It is estimated that two coats of oil would be required in a year. The cost would be 5¢ per front foot for each application of oil.
4. For a 5’ walk only the assessed cost per foot front for a period of 20 years would be 17¢. For an asphalt sidewalk the assessed cost would be approximately 7¢ per foot front for 15 years. For comparison figures, if they were to pay cash for a concrete walk it would be \$2.25 per foot front and for an asphalt sidewalk it would be \$1.11 per foot front.

## 1960

**5 July** – Montgomery Place ratepayers sought and achieved express delivery from the Express Traffic Association of Canada. Prior to that, Montgomery residents had to pick up their



Birthday party for Larry Newman at 3303 Caen Street, 1960. *Newman Family photo*



Montgomery Place hockey team, c. 1960. Montgomery School gym. *Newman Family photo*

parcels at the CNR Express office in Saskatoon.

- 1960**      **July** – Residents in the 3100 and 3200 blocks of 11<sup>th</sup> Street West questioned the local improvement assessment added to their tax bills when 11<sup>th</sup> Street was resurfaced, ditches were re-dug, culverts replaced, driveways asphalted and an asphalt sidewalk made.
- 1960**      **Summer** – Street name signs and traffic signs were installed on Montgomery roads. Street lighting was completed by the Saskatoon Electrical Department.
- 1960**      **September** – VLA wanted to sell a vacant lot at the intersection of Ortona Street and Crescent Boulevard as commercial property. A petition from residents and a motion passed by the Ratepayers Association ended that idea. It was later sold as a residential property.
- 1960**      **30 September** – The Gordie Howe football bowl at Holiday Park opened officially.
- 1960**      **November** - Mount Royal Collegiate opened at the corner of Avenue W and Rusholme Road.
- 1960**      **9 November** – A name was selected for the church to be built in Montgomery Place at the corner of Rockingham Avenue and Merritt Street. Trinity was chosen over the other name suggested - Montgomery. Joe Kiss at 3244 Caen Street explained, “As I entered Caen, France with Canadian forces, everywhere buildings lay in ruin except for a church. The Church of the Trinity remained standing in the midst of the devastation. It seemed symbolic and left a lasting impression.”



Montgomery Place Gymnastics Club, 1960. *Newman Family photo*

## **1961- Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin became the first human in space.**

**1961**

**20 February** – In a letter from the City Commissioner C.L. McLeod to the City Engineer, petitions from the Montgomery Place Ratepayers at a meeting on 15 February were summarized:

### **“A. Lancaster Boulevard**

1. It has been suggested that this street should have a centre boulevard at its easterly end, in order to match up with the westerly end.
2. Drainage and Caen and Ortona intersections.

### **B. Centre Boulevards**

The ratepayers have suggested the desirability of a small and cheap form of curbing, in order to give identity to the centre boulevards on Ortona, Crescent and Lancaster. At the same time, they have criticized the ditch construction which presently separates the road from the centre boulevard.

### **C. Disposal of Surface Water**

This was pointed to as a problem that creates a number of stagnant bodies of water in the ditches, creates a severe problem at the intersection of Dundonald and Caen (Brooks property), and also raises the question, is there, in fact, any lane area to the south which can be used for the ultimate disposal of surface water.

### **D. General Maintenance**

1. We agree that Caen would have further maintenance work done on it in the



Montgomery School Grade 8  
Graduating Class, 1961.

*Don Moonie photo*



Back yard of the Ray and Chris  
Mackie home at 3318 Caen  
Street – Dale Newman and  
Doug Mackie, 1961.

*Newman Family photo*



spring, in order to fully restore it after use as a detour.

2. The ratepayers draw attention to some damage being done to culverts by patrols.

### E. Street Signs

I questioned whether we had completed street sign installations in the western portion of the development. This should be checked, and, if anything further remains, then we should take it in hand early in the spring.

### F. Surface Treatment of Roads

Considerable discussion was devoted to the possibility of a soil cement, or similar treatment, to the roads. Costs are important, and should be prepared by you on the basis of a treatment to the entire area.”

**1961**

**25 April** – The Montgomery Place Ratepayers Association petitioned the City for “the installation of automatic electric crossing signals to be located on the two CNR railway crossings on 11<sup>th</sup> Street west between intercontinental Packers and Empire Meat Company abattoir, and also at 11<sup>th</sup> Street and Dundonald Avenue. As 11<sup>th</sup> Street West is a main artery and with the rapid growth of Montgomery Place and the 11<sup>th</sup> Street business and industrial area in recent years, we feel that in the best interests of safety and for the speedup of traffic, that this request is justified.”

**1961**

**18 June** – Kinsmen Arena opened officially in Holiday Park.



Hallowe'en Party, 1961. L-R:  
Norma Walls, Kay Hanson,  
Mary Will. *Gwen Will photo*



Hallowe'en Party, 1961. Evelyn  
Stennes, Emma Wold, Marg  
Comrie, Kay Bragget,  
*Gwen Will photo*

**1961**      **4 July** – The City applied to the Board of Transport Commissioners for the installation of electric protection at two 11<sup>th</sup> Street railway crossings.

**1961**      Montgomery White Rose service station opened at the corner of Dundonald Avenue and 11<sup>th</sup> Street, just west of the tracks.

**1961**      **September** – The Ratepayers Association sent a letter of complaint to the City of Saskatoon regarding the burning of tires and oil at the landfill and the accompanying noxious smoke blanketing the community.

The City replied that “A large pit has been used for the deposition of oil and tires. Instructions have been issued that the oil and tires shall be set on fire only when the wind directions are from the north, north-east or north-west.”

## **1962 – Medicare was introduced in Saskatchewan.**

**1962**      **18 March** – The Montgomery Place Ratepayers Association held its annual general meeting noting that Montgomery Place held 319 ratepayer families. On the agenda were “taxes, roads, street signs, bus routes, drainage of water, boulevards, weed control and the planting of hedges.”

**1962**      A parcel on the corner of Rockingham Avenue and Merritt Street was transferred to the trustees of Trinity United Church at a cost of \$750.

**1962**      **June** – Some residents complained of the \$9 charge added to their tax notices for road oiling. A letter to the mayor claimed “I have just received my 1962 tax notice and I note



Montgomery Place war brides and friends, c. 1962.  
*Gwen Will photo*

that \$9.00 has been added for oiling. This is a surprise to me since Arnheim Street has never been oiled. Probably, I am lucky, because most streets at Montgomery Place are not in fit condition for oiling. A resident on Caen Street told me that last year, the oiling was done first and graded after. The result was that the portion of the front lawn that is city property, was ruined by oil. I do not mind paying for services that I get, but to pay for something that I don't get is ridiculous. ...I would suggest that you take a drive through Montgomery Place sometime in your spare time and I think you will agree that our roads for the most part are in very poor condition."



Trinity United Church Choir, c.  
1962 *Linda Wilson Flaman photo*

- 1962**      **27 June** – Holiday Park Golf Course opened officially.
- 1962**      British-American Oil Ltd. bought controlling interest in Royalite, operating the refinery on 11<sup>th</sup> Street.
- 1962**      The Montgomery Beauty Shop opened in Riddell's Shop-Rite at the east end of 11<sup>th</sup> Street.
- 1962**      A southerly extension to Montgomery Place was approved which included the 3400 block of Dieppe Street, the full length of Mountbatten Street, Bader Crescent, Lancaster Crescent, lots on Simonds Avenue and the first six properties of Cassino Avenue.

**1963 – Montgomery Place residents embarked on a year-long protest against the proposed move of the CNR station and yards south of the community.**

**1963** Saskatchewan hockey player Gordie Howe enjoyed a record-breaking year.

**1963** **January** – The Montgomery Place Recreation Association sponsored fully or partially the following activities: skating, hockey, softball, baseball, gymnastics, craft classes, Scouts and Cubs, Teen Club. The Association also supported the coming of a library bookmobile. Of the \$5 fee asked of residents, \$4 went to such things as rink maintenance, heating and improvements to the Recreation building, team uniforms and necessities. “This year, if the response is satisfactory, and the volunteer help is available, we expect to be able to provide a new lighted skating rink restricted to skating only. Please note that people who have made recreation activities possible in the past have done so very willingly, spending much time and using their own cars, tools and equipment without any reimbursement.”

**1963** **10 February** - The Montgomery Place Ratepayers Association held its annual general meeting. In addition to routine business, the meeting aired concerns regarding the relocation of the Canadian National Railways immediately south of Montgomery Place. Alderman Don Koyl, Chair of the City Council committee and a representative from the C.N.R. attended to state their case.

**1963** **11 February** – In the Saskatoon Star-Phoenix, an article entitled “Montgomery Opposes CN Station Proposal” outlined Montgomery Place residents’ objections to the move of the CNR west of their community.

The MP Ratepayers’ Association also composed a radio statement stating their case: “We’re family people. We want the best possible place to bring up our children and we

**MONTGOMERY OPPOSES CN STATION PROPOSAL** Feb 11 1963

A resolution opposing the proposed location of a new CNR station near this district was passed unanimously at a meeting of Montgomery Place Ratepayers Association Sunday.

The resolution was passed following addresses by R. A. Parks, and Ald. Don Koyl, chief negotiators for the CNR and city, respectively, which outlined the plan. The two men also answered questions.

Location of the new station would be about one-fifth mile south of the southwest corner of Montgomery Place, a veterans' small - holding development in west Saskatoon.

The association wants the new station moved a half-mile west. Concern was expressed about heavy traffic on the Elevator Road, which would link the new station to the old No. 7-14 highway, and the possibility that heavy trucks would travel through the residential district. “Our children

are not accustomed to heavy traffic and because there are no sidewalks in Montgomery Place trucks would be a definite hazard,” a spokesman said.

It was also disclosed at the meeting that the main line of the CNR would be moved 500 feet south of its present route, in the Montgomery Place area.

R. Beamish was elected president of the association, succeeding Dennis Delpart; C. D. McGillivray was named vice-president and Mrs. J. R. Young secretary-treasurer.



**R. BEAMISH**

The Montgomery Ratepayers Association protested the relocation of railyards south of the community, 1963.  
MPCA newspaper archives

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ERIC KNOWLES Editor NORMAN G. PATTERSON General Manager

**Station Location** Feb 13 1963

The Montgomery Place Ratepayers' Association wants the new CNR station moved a half mile west of the proposed location, one fifth of a mile south of the southwest corner of Montgomery Place.

The residents in this veterans' small holding development in Saskatoon's western fringe are concerned that the increase in traffic, and truck traffic through the residential areas, would intensify hazards to their children. The association also notes that there are no sidewalks in the district.

The association's uneasiness is not a new social phenomenon. When the new CNR Symington Yards were earmarked for location in the new residential district of Windsor Park in Winnipeg, homeowners expressed considerable uneasiness at first. Subsequent events have proved those fears groundless.

One Windsor Park resident said Tuesday, “Actually, Symington is a tourist place. It's fabulously beautiful in design and lighting.”

He also said that if the architecture of a new yard or station is in harmony with the area's structural standard, it enhances property values. In addition, because the Symington Yards constitute a major employment centre, demand for homes in the area is growing. This, too, increases rather than diminishes property values.

Except for rare occasions, switching in the Symington Yards is a relatively quiet operation. Diesel switching is almost as quiet as motor car operations, and not in any way comparable with the outmoded steam engine.

It seems reasonable to expect that the new development here will be similar to the Winnipeg one, that Montgomery Place stands to gain rather than lose from the new station.

\*\*\*

The likelihood of routing trucks through the residential area, or exposing children to undue traffic hazards, is extremely remote. If these latter are the big issues in the ratepayers' eyes, it should not be difficult to obtain reassurances from both the civic and the railway authorities.



feel we've got it in Montgomery Place. Our protests are based on the fear that there'll be an enormous amount of extra noise both from the trains switching and banging all night long and from the constant stream of trucks. ...We're rather fond of our children and we're afraid we'll lose them because our area has no sidewalks. ...We don't mind moving to the wrong side of the tracks voluntarily but we don't particularly want to have a whole railway switching yard move to the wrong side of us."

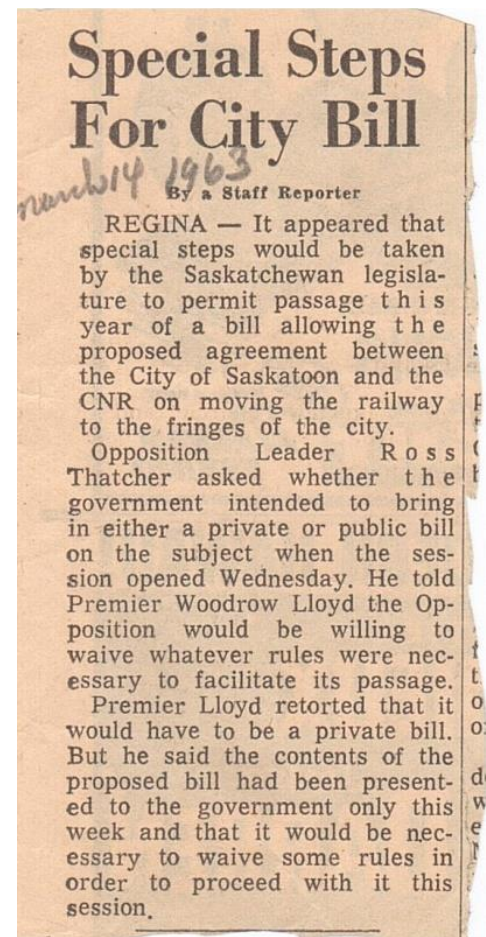
**1963**

**25 February** – In a brief presented to Saskatoon City Council, representatives of the Montgomery Place Ratepayers' Association stated "That we protest the plan to move the CNR station and yards to the Montgomery Place area."

"...Now, in negotiations of this sort there always is the danger that economic factors will take undue precedence over sociological ones – over human values. If that happens, a city then fails to meet its ultimate purpose – that purpose being to create the best possible place of its citizens to live.

We feel that this has happened in the present CNR relocation plan. It has happened from the standpoint of our members. They, by the very fact they moved to a quiet, semi-rural Montgomery Place, showed that the last spot they wanted to live was in the shadow of the railway station, a switching yard and a throughway for the traffic that must serve both.

We are concerned about noise, danger, and the fringe construction that is almost certain to follow. It seems sure that the area west of Montgomery Place will gradually become an industrial zone." (*What remarkable foresight*



The Montgomery Ratepayers Association protested the relocation of railyards south of the community, 1963.  
*MPCA newspaper archives*



1963

**7 March** - The Montgomery Place Ratepayers' Association protested the CNR relocation south of the community. Owners of 264 Montgomery homes, 83% of the community, signed a petition against CNR relocation so close to Montgomery Place.

In an accompanying letter to the City , with regards to a new access road to the CNR, the Montgomery Place Ratepayers Association added, “Furthermore, in accordance with what has been our understanding of the relocation proposals for the C.N.R. Station and Yards, we

The Montgomery Ratepayers Association protested the relocation of railyards south of the community with radio ads and letters, 1963. *MPCA archives*

July 28, 1963

Dear Montgomery Place Residents:

A word about where we seem to stand on the CRR situation:

1. There will be no way through Montgomery Place to the Station.
2. Elevator Road will not be an access street to the station. City Commissioner Mosakill tells us present plans are to close it off at the south end as a dead end street with a cul de sac to turn around on. We also understand Montgomery Place streets will not open out on to it.
3. The new access road to the station will start at 11th street about two blocks west of Elevator Road. It will angle south-eastwards to the station which will be pretty much in line with Elevator Road.
4. Between Elevator Road and the new access road will be a housing sub-division (not VIA)
5. All this or a similar version of it still must pass city council though it's worked its way through various committees. However, we don't think you have to worry about there ever being access through Montgomery Place to the station. Nor do you have to worry about Elevator Road being a station access street. Those things are stopped for sure according to promises we've had.
6. There's an argument on between the city and the highway department about where traffic will go once it hits 11th street. Rather, the arguments is about who pays if the access road continues northwards or north-eastwards once it hits 11th. Apparently there is \$250,000 involved. Possible outcome is that traffic will go down 11th and angle on to Boulevard about 100 feet west of where the two intersect. However, it'll be a while before this is decided.

Sincerely,

RATNAPRATES' RAILWAY COMMITTEE  
Dennis Delpart,  
Charles McGilffray,  
Dick Semish.

request that this access road be carried directly through to 22<sup>nd</sup> Street where it be connected to that street at whatever point of access can be arranged with the Department of Highways. We request that this direct route be built immediately rather than leaving a time which traffic to the station will be forced to use 11<sup>th</sup> Street. In addition we request that Elevator Road be made a service street serving Montgomery Place only. We further request an adequate green-belt, sound-buffering zone between the Elevator Road service street and the Station access road west of it.”

**1963**

**March** – Ignoring pleas from Montgomery Place, Saskatoon City Council ratified an agreement with the CNR for the removal of the railway’s downtown yard facilities to southwest Saskatoon, a stone’s throw south of Montgomery Place.

**1963**

**14 March** – In a Saskatoon Star-Phoenix article called “Special Steps For City Bill,” it was reported from Regina that “It appeared that special steps would be taken by the Saskatchewan legislature to permit passage this year of a bill allowing the proposed agreement between the City of Saskatoon and the CNR on moving the railway to the fringes of the city.”

**1963**

**14 March** – In response to the Montgomery Place petition, the City Commissioner John McAskill said, “In dealing with your second request, that the road be connected directly to 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, ...this is a matter that will have to be resolved with the Provincial Government as 22<sup>nd</sup> Street is a Provincial Highway and they control all access points. ...I can see no problem in providing a green belt or buffer strip between Montgomery Place and the new proposed Elevator Road, and at the same time



Home of Frank and Edith Apps, corner of Crescent Boulevard and Rockingham Avenue, 1963.  
*Edith Apps photo*



Frank Apps planting potatoes with daughter Diane, corner of Crescent Boulevard and Rockingham Avenue, 1963.  
*Edith Apps photo*

will examine the necessity and desirability of a service road.”

- 1963**      **7 April** – Sod was turned for Trinity United Church at Rockingham Avenue and Merritt Street.
- 1963**      **April** – A Saskatoon Library Bookmobile (a trailer outfitted with shelves packed with books) began a weekly visit to Montgomery Place, parked on Caen Street just west of the Recreation Building, providing a service long sought by Montgomery residents.
- 1963**      **6 May** – Disregarding citizen protest, the City of Saskatoon and the Canadian National Railway signed an agreement to remove the railyards from downtown to immediately south of Montgomery Place.
- 1963**      **7 May** – An article in the Saskatoon Star-Phoenix reported that “CNR president Donald Gordon Monday morning donned a pair of work gloves, a work jacket and a hard hat, climbed aboard a huge earth-moving machine and turned the first sod for the new \$6,000,000 CNR terminal project at Chappell junction.”
- 1963**      **May** – Pressure from Montgomery Place residents over increased traffic on Elevator Road heading to the CNR yards resulted in a promise to build a road 500 feet west of Elevator Road. When completed, this new railway station access road would be named Chappell Drive.
- 1963**      **15 May** – A letter from Robert A. Walker, Saskatchewan Attorney General to the MP Ratepayers Association stated: “The Highways Department informs me that they are prepared to allow temporary access to 22<sup>nd</sup> Street at the north end of Elevator Road but this would only



Trinity Church sod-turning was covered by the Star Phoenix, 1963. Church Archives.



Montgomery Indians, Optimist Park, c. 1963.  
Wayne Buckle photo



be on condition that the City is prepared to assume liability for the long range cloverleaf costs that would be incurred by allowing such access.

The Department of Highways does not require the traffic to run down 11<sup>th</sup> Street and then on to Dundonald. It is our view that the use of Dundonald and 11<sup>th</sup> Street as an approach to 22<sup>nd</sup> Street is a most unsatisfactory one and that the preferable route would be to proceed from the Government Elevators diagonally across the section to the intersection of Dundonald and 22<sup>nd</sup> Street but if the City is not prepared to resurvey that section, then the City will have to take the responsibility of a substantial portion of the long range costs of a cloverleaf at the intersection of Government Elevator Road and 22<sup>nd</sup> Street.

I understand the bottleneck is in the City Planning Department. They ... do not wish to review their plans or alter their plans in the light of these new developments. I spoke to the City Planner about it when I was in Saskatoon not long ago and he apparently regarded the traffic that would flow to the new Chappell Station from the downtown area as being trivial or minor consideration in the planning of the roads and arteries of Saskatoon.

If he is correct, then the traffic which will travel on 11<sup>th</sup> Street to and from the Chappell Station will barely be noticeable.” (*Time proved this prediction wrong.*)

- 1963**      **21 May** – City Commissioner J.A. McAskill claimed that the Attorney General Walker was “all wet.”
- 1963**      **27 May** – The Chief Engineer, Department of Highways, West Zone, said that “The existing



Ignoring the wishes of Montgomery Place residents, the City of Saskatoon and the CN Railway agreed to move the railyards from downtown Saskatoon to a stone's throw from the southern edge of Montgomery Place, 1963.  
*MPCA newspaper archives*



long range plan was made before knowledge of the C.N.R. project. The plan does not provide for access to 22<sup>nd</sup> Street from the south. ...It means that the Department of Highways and City Engineers would have to get together to modify existing plans in light of the new problems.”

**1963**

**28 July** – The Montgomery Place Ratepayers’ Association wrote the Montgomery residents summarizing “where we seem to stand on the CNR situation:

1. There will be no way through Montgomery Place to the Station.
2. Elevator Road will not be an access street to the station.
3. The new access road to the station will start at 11<sup>th</sup> Street about two blocks west of Elevator Road.
4. Between Elevator Road and the new access road will be a housing sub-division (not VLA).
5. All this or a similar version of it must pass city council though it’s worked its way through various committees.
6. There’s an argument on between the city and the highways department about where traffic will go once it hits 11<sup>th</sup> Street.”

**1963**

**21 August** – A Star-Phoenix article called “100 Lot Addition Planned – Montgomery Place” stated: “Agreement has been reached between the Veterans’ Land Act administration and the city for about a one-third addition to the small holdings project in the Montgomery Place subdivision, Walter Brice, VLA district supervisor, announced Wednesday. There are now 315 homes built by war veterans on half-



Grade 3 class of Mrs. Tidsbury,  
Montgomery School, 1963  
*Daryl Genereux photo*

acre lots in Montgomery Place. The newly-planned development of 100 additional lots would be immediately south of the present area. ...a site for a separate school had been included in the new development. ...Mr. Brice said the first 40 lots to be opened for the development this year would be on the east side nearest the city. Also on the east side and between the new development and Dundonald Avenue, a 234-ft wide strip would be left for Circle Drive. The city and VLA administration would also undertake a joint sewer project. A deep sewer had to be built through the new development to serve the 100 new homes to be erected and the new CNR station being constructed at Chappell junction further to the west. ...Mr. Brice said the fully serviced half-acre lots would sell at a price between \$1,888 and \$2,000 depending on the frontage.”

- 1963**      **20 October** – Trinity United Church was dedicated.
- 1963**      **16 November** – The new St. Paul’s Hospital opened.
- 1963**      **December** – An additional 28 developed lots were purchased at a cost of \$54,628.50 for new development of Mountbatten Street on the south edge of Montgomery Place.
- 1963**      At year-end, the executive of the Montgomery Place Ratepayers’ Association called 1963 “the most exciting year since amalgamation with the City,” in reference to the fight to keep the CNR relocation at bay, giving MPRA president Richard (Dick) Beamish full credit for the fight, if not the win.



Trinity United Church moved from worship in Montgomery School to a new home at the corner of Merritt Street and Rockingham Avenue, 1963. *Church Archives*



Montgomery Service hockey team, 1963-64. *Merle Falk photo*

**1964 – Canada introduced the Social Insurance card.**

**1964**

**2 February** - At the Annual Meeting of the Montgomery Place Ratepayers' Association, points for discussion were:

1. Improved roads throughout the whole area.  
Is our oiling program satisfactory? How about snow removal?
2. Improved street lighting; some folks think not.
3. Proper street signs, where they are now lacking.
4. Drainage problems, where they exist.
5. Residents of 11<sup>th</sup> Street may be interested in how road improvement affects their taxes. The street now figures in with the C.N.R. project.

**1964**

**Spring** – Construction began between 11<sup>th</sup> Street and 22<sup>nd</sup> Street to transform Dundonald Avenue into a section of Saskatoon's proposed Circle Drive.

**1964**

**September** - St. Dominic Catholic School opened on Dieppe Street. Two teachers taught 29 students – one teaching Grades 1-3, the other teaching Grades 4-6. Grade 7-8 went to St. John School in Holiday Park. Not until 1967 did St. Dominic have its own school principal.

**1964**

**16 October** - The Mendel Art Gallery and Civic Conservatory was opened official by Fred Mendel.

**1964**

**28 October** - The MPRA wrote to the City regarding street lighting, power poles, and train noise. "The lighting is bad out here and priority should be given around the school area. Power poles in some lanes are in the centre of the eight foot easeway. This blocks passage through the back lane."



Montgomery Giants, 1964.  
*Newman family photo*



St. Dominic School, 2015.  
*Leslee Newman photo*

“Complaints have started to come in regarding noise of cars shunting in the yards at night.”

**1964**

**Fall** - A new road to the CN yards – Chappell Drive - was built after complaints from Montgomery Place residents that Elevator Road had become a thoroughfare for all manner of trucks and traffic headed to the train station. Chappell Drive was built to divert traffic from Montgomery Place.

**1964**

**2 November** – Referring to a buffer strip for noise between the community and the new road, the City Commissioner wrote: “It was agreed that a much more effective barrier to sound would be to create a small subdivision immediately west of the present Montgomery Place. Such a subdivision has been planned and includes slightly over 100 building lots. This area will be serviced within the next year or so, probably even next year, in order that homes may be built.”

**1964**

**14 November** – The last passenger train passed through the City’s downtown station.

**1964**

**November** – The new CN train station opened officially for passenger and freight traffic immediately south of Montgomery Place. At about this time 22<sup>nd</sup> Street was extended west of Witney Avenue to become the new west entrance of Highways 7 and 14 to Saskatoon.

**1965 – Saskatchewan celebrated its Diamond Jubilee and Canada gained a flag.**

**1965**

**12 January** – A Saskatoon Star-Phoenix report titled “Trucks, Taxis Misusing Elevator Road”



Corner of Caen Street and Rockingham Avenue, 1964.  
*Newman family photo*



Montgomery hockey team – 10-years-olds, Westside Champs, winter of 1963-64.  
*Newman Family photo*



Montgomery Service hockey team, 1963-64. *Wayne Buckle photo*



brought the misuse of Elevator Road by traffic heading to the CN Station to the public. Representatives of the Montgomery Place Ratepayers' Association had appeared before City Council reporting that traffic on Elevator Road was growing heavier, as taxis, cars and some trucks appeared to be using it exclusively. "The association had once asked that the road (Elevator Road) be closed when the new CN station was built at Chappell and a new road built to carry traffic there from 11<sup>th</sup> Street. However, the association agreed to having the road open as an alternative route to the station on the understanding it would be for a limited use – primarily for a transit bus which could then pass through Montgomery Place itself, giving that subdivision better service."

**1965**

**7 February** – The Montgomery Place bus route was jeopardized by the addition of the CN Station to the route. The Ratepayers' Association wrote to City Council stating "For some years the residents of Montgomery Place have had ½ hourly bus service, with one bus required. While the schedule was not ideal, it was found indispensable to a growing number of patrons. When the route was changed and extended to service the new CN Yards, the service to Montgomery Place was curtailed by eliminating a former loop route. ...In effect, the residents of Montgomery Place are to have their former bus service further curtailed, due to an unfortunate experiment in serving the CN."

The Saskatoon Transit System replied on 10 February that "no adjustment in the present service from the centre of the city to the CNR Chappell Yards is contemplated immediately."



Don Leier in the garden at 3457 11<sup>th</sup> Street West, 1965.

*Don and Joanne Leier photo*



Montgomery School operetta "Be Prepared" written by Lloyd Widenmeir, 1965. *Gwen Will photo*



Phil Genereux family, 1965.

*Daryl Genereux photo*

- 1965**      **Spring** – Dundonald Avenue between 11<sup>th</sup> Street and 33<sup>rd</sup> Street was transformed into a section of Circle Drive, the roadway envisioned to move traffic efficiently around the City of Saskatoon.
- 1965**      **June** – Kramer Tractor opened at 3502 11<sup>th</sup> Street West.
- 1965**      **27 June** – The MPCA gave its approval to the construction of the CN Curling Club south of the west end of Dieppe Street, on the understanding that “this is not to be construed as an acceptance of any possible subsequent commercial construction in this area or adjoining area affecting the residents of Montgomery Place.” Acceptance was only granted on the understanding that Chappell Drive, not Elevator Road, would be the access route to the rink.
- 1965**      **28 July** – The Montgomery Place Ratepayers’ Association voted in favour of a proposed City bylaw permitting stores to remain open until 9 pm on Thursday nights.
- 1965**      **November** – The first games were held at the new CN Curling Club. Work on the new club began in the spring of 1965. The Club recorded that the land was donated by the Mount Pleasant Land Company Ltd. to the Montgomery Recreation Association, which then turned it over to the Curling Club. No records of this transaction exist in the present Montgomery Place Community Association heritage files.



CN Curling Club, 2015.  
*Leslee Newman photo*



Children of veterans growing up in Montgomery Place, 1965.  
*Newman Family photo*

**1966 – Medicare was adopted nationally in Canada. The Saskatchewan Roughriders won its first Grey Cup.**

**1966**

**24 January** – The Montgomery Place Ratepayers Association wrote the Secretary of State in Ottawa requesting a second television station in Saskatoon.

**1966**

**17 April** – At the MPRA annual meeting held in the lobby of the CN Curling Club, Professor Dick Spafford spoke about the problems of urban growth.

MPRA President C.D. McGillivray addressed the meeting with a brief history: “The Ratepayers Association was formed in 1947 by the first few families that built here. That was before Montgomery Place was part of the City. In order to secure even the basic needs of a community, these people found it necessary to band together to make their voice heard by the appropriate authorities. Some of these needed services were mail, telephone, garbage disposal, gravelling of roads, recreation, etc. To meet the costs, each family was assessed a small amount each year. Much of the area was hay meadow, so being entrepreneurs; they sold the hay to McGavin Bakeries who fed it to their horses.

In 1958 the Community had expanded so it was decided that Recreation should be handled by a separate body. The Recreation Association was then formed and has since served the Community so well, that we have the best facilities of any community in the City. The two bodies have, harmoniously, worked together since that time and the Community has grown beyond all original forecasts.

During the past two years we have been facing new pressures resulting from rapid city growth. We must now be ever more alert if your community interests are to be secured.”



Montgomery Place ball field in Montgomery Park, c.1966. At the time the ball field had been made and was maintained by Montgomery Place volunteers.  
*Newman Family photo*



Brownies at Montgomery School, c. 1966.  
*Daryl Genereux photo*



**1966**

**9 June** – The MPRA wrote to Saskatoon City Council stating: “Because of heavier traffic and general city growth today, we face the following problems in our area:

1. Need for hard surface streets.
2. Need for proper drainage.
3. Cost of the above and financing.”

**1966**

**15 August** – The City Clerk replied to the MPRA letter of 9 June stating: “The question of constructing local improvements in this area has been one that has seen several exhaustive studies over the past eight years.”

“...In order to resolve this matter and as a means of determining with finality the wishes of the majority of the residents in the area, the following is proposed for 1967:

- a. That the City Engineer design a storm sewer district for drainage into the Dundonald System. This program to be brought forward for Council approval and, if issued, the work to be advertised under the appropriate Local Improvement Act provision which enables petitions against the work.
- b. That the City Engineer raise a 1967 dust palliation program for all streets except the bus route – with it being advertised in a manner that permits petitions against the work.
- c. That a recommendation will be brought forward in the 1967 budget with respect to the hard surfacing of the bus route for consideration by Council, as a levy against the City at large, in whole, or in part – and perhaps a partial charge against the Transit System.



The Gevelot Slough south of the railyards, seen here in 1966, is now known as Chappell Marsh.  
*Newman Family photo*



Montgomery Place families were growing, 1966.  
*Newman Family photo*



It is not considered that sidewalk, curb and traditional boulevard improvements are applicable to this area.”

**1966** John and Ella Boki took over the store at 3111 11<sup>th</sup> Street West, just west of Dundonald Avenue.

**1966** A plan by Fred Mendel to increase the number of cattle and hogs to be fed on his ranch two miles west on 11<sup>th</sup> Street West sparked controversy about feedlots in and around Saskatoon. Although the ranch was in Cory Municipality, the R.M. had a bylaw prohibiting feedlots within a five mile radius of city limits.



Ruby Sleath kindergarten,  
Crescent Boulevard, December  
1966 Don and Joanne Leier photo

## 1967 – Canada celebrated its Centennial.

**1967** Canada celebrates its centennial – a country for 100 years.

**1967** **2 February** – In a letter to Saskatoon Mayor Buckwold, the Montgomery Place Ratepayers’ Association supported the Cory Municipality bylaw calling for feed lot operations to be located well outside city limits, citing air and water pollution as major concerns.

**1967** **March** – Montgomery Place residents appealed to the Court of Revision, City of Saskatoon, regarding property assessment. In 1954, the City and VLA had agreed that the maximum mill rate of taxation for Montgomery Place residents would be 01% less than the city mill rate to a maximum of 51 mills, for a period of 25 years. Montgomery residents were concerned that a substantial tax increase would follow the expiry of the 1954 agreement. “It would seem reasonable that the taxpayers of Montgomery



Web image



Montgomery Place B Division  
hockey team, c. 1967.  
Newman Family photo

Place should have the assurance of City Council that our taxes will not be increased “any more” than those of other taxpayers.”

**1967**      **21 July** - The Gardiner Dam went into operation, controlling the South Saskatchewan River water flow through Saskatoon.

**1967**      **October** – Another eight lots were purchased at a price of \$21,000 on the southeastern perimeter of Montgomery Place.

## **1968 – The Centennial Auditorium opened in downtown Saskatoon.**

**1968**      **March** – Eight residents in Montgomery Place appealed their property assessment increases citing:

“1. The condition of all streets south of 11<sup>th</sup> Street in this area were very bad in 1967 and street grading and dust palliation were practically non-existent.

2. Street lighting south of 11<sup>th</sup> Street in this whole area was extremely poor and definitely needed considerable increase to provide normal lighting as enjoyed in the rest of the City.”

**1968**      **3 April** – The Montgomery Place Ratepayers’ Association executive met with City Commissioner Carl MacLeod to discuss short and long-range problems in the community as follows:

“ Drainage – It was agreed that the long-range solution would come with subdivision plans – natural drainage with some assistance from the City Engineering Department.



Girls in the Sunday School class of Joanne Leier, Trinity United Church, 1967. *Church Archives*



Montgomery Indians, Western Canadian champs, in front of the dugout at the Montgomery Park ball diamond, 1968.

*Newman Family photo*

Roads – The short range plans are that with the help of our \$12 per household contribution (collected by the MPRA, not the City), the City would keep the roads in good shape.

Lighting – It was agreed that after 14 years as part of the City, it was time to bring Montgomery Place up to the standards enjoyed elsewhere around the City.

Parks – The MPRA asked that the weeds and grass in boulevards and parks be kept down, in keeping with the standard achieved in other areas of the City and by the Montgomery Place residents themselves.

Traffic – It was agreed that the Engineering Department would close off the corner of Dieppe Street and Elevator Road near the CN Curling Club.”

**1968**

**May** - Cutting boulevard grass in Montgomery Place continued to be an issue. After six years of complaints, not much changed. The Parks Director wrote to the City Commissioner stating: “There is very little change in the situation (since 1962). The central boulevard is nothing more than road flankage. Gravel from the roadway is constantly being thrown on the centre portion by traffic and road patrols. There is usually a high ridge each side, and as a result, machines used must be set very high and only tractor-operated or rough-cut mowers can be used. ...It is my opinion that this centre portion of the road allowance in Montgomery Place will never look any good until they are constructed in a suitable manner.”

**1968**

The Duval Potash mine opened just south and west of Montgomery Place. In 1976 it would be purchased by the Potash Corporation of Saskatchewan (PSC) and renamed Cory.



Ruby Sleath kindergarten class,  
1237 Crescent Boulevard, 1968.  
*Buckle Family photo*



Glenn Genereux rafting on the  
St. Dominic slough – looking  
north from Mountbatten Street –  
1968. *Daryl Genereux photo*



**1968** The Montgomery White Rose service station became a Shell station.

**1968** 20 August – A letter from the Saskatoon Transit System stated: “Members of the Transit Board are aware of the transit services which have been allotted to Montgomery Place from 1949 and also the position the city was in when Montgomery Place became a part of Saskatoon in 1955. When the C.N.R. moved their operations to Chappell, it was agreed that adequate service would be provided for the accommodation of the C.N.R. Many trials have been conducted to improve patronage of transit vehicles servicing Montgomery Place and the C.N.R. with discouraging results. The Superintendent would recommend that transit services into Montgomery Place and the C.N.R. be confined to a 12-hour period from approximately 6:30 am to 6:30 pm Monday through Saturday. This would exclude Sundays and recognized holidays.”

**1968** Bader and Lancaster Crescents were built.

## **1969 – Saskatchewan got its own flag. Humans reached the moon.**

**1969** A newspaper story titled “New paving cost formula to be debated by council” stated: “The city administration is now drafting alternate costing formulas for paving roads in the Montgomery Place area. A report will soon be presented to city council and the residents for consideration.

In a report Monday, City Commissioner Carl McLeod said he has instructed the city engineering department to prepare



3300 block of Caen Street, 1968.  
*Newman Family photo*



Fun in the St. Dominic slough,  
spring of 1969.  
*Daryl Genereux photo*



But already there are indications the alternative will be met with opposition from at least one member of council.

Ald. Owen Mann questioned Monday the principle of the entire city assuming a larger than usual part of the cost of road paving for one area.

He pointed to the increasing number of lot severances in the subdivision over the last two years and said some residents could wait for road pavement before selling their lots. The paved roads would increase the value of the lots at the expense of the city at large, he said.

Mr. McLeod said the problem could be countered under the local improvement agreement.

Before any paving program could be launched in the Montgomery Place area under a local improvement agreement, the scheme would first have to be approved by a majority of residents.”

**1969** Hong and Margaret Wong became the new owners of the store at 3111- 11<sup>th</sup> Street West.

**1969** Fairhaven, a new neighbourhood north of Montgomery Place was being prepared for settlement. Over 90% of Fairhaven homes were built between 1971 and 1985.

**1969** British-American Oil and Royalite amalgamated to become Gulf Oil, announcing that Saskatoon’s 11<sup>th</sup> Street refinery would be closed the following year. The site would become a product terminal, serving as a storage and transfer facility.



Greg Newman on Rockingham Avenue, 1969. Montgomery Park recreation building in the background. Note the gravel road. *Newman Family photo*



Montgomery girls’ hockey team, winter of 1969-1970. *Gwen Will photo*

## 1970 – Midtown Plaza opened in downtown Saskatoon.

- 1970** Sub-division was becoming a hot topic. The City of Saskatoon conducted a planning study that outlined possible land severances in Montgomery Place.
- 1970** **30 July** - Midtown Plaza opened in downtown Saskatoon, on the site of the former CNR railyards.
- 1970** **15 December** – Mount Blackstrap south of Saskatoon was officially opened.



Trinity United Church Junior Choir, 1970. *Church Archives*

## 1971- Saskatoon hosted the Canada Winter Games.

**Homecoming '71 invited people to return home to Saskatchewan.**

- 1971** The VLA arrangement ended, opening homes in Montgomery Place to non-veterans.
- 1971** **February** – The 400 metre Clarence Downey Speed Skating Oval opened in Holiday Park in time for the 1971 Canada Winter Games, 13-21 February.
- 1971** **7 March** - Trinity United Church welcomed the formal transfer of membership from the rural charge of St. Andrew's-Cory.
- 1971** Lots were opened on Bader Crescent at the southern edge of Montgomery Place.
- 1971** **May** - Representatives of the Montgomery Place Ratepayers' Association met with City staff and councillors and a VLA representative to discuss the "proposed paving program and surface drainage system." MPRA rep Charles McGillivray reported that a motion was passed at the meeting on May 22 "to proceed with modified paving and drainage program



The backyard of 3427 Ortona Street, c. 1971.  
*Stella Pristupa photo*

immediately, subject to Council approval. Draining some areas will be needed before paving. Paving can commence where no water problems exist.”

There was no paving undertaken in 1971; instead roads were oiled that year.

## 1972 – The first McDonald’s Restaurant opened in Saskatoon. Canada converted to the metric system.

**1972** Three organizations came together to create green spaces in Saskatoon’s urban landscapes: the Saskatoon Horticultural Society, the Saskatoon Parks and Recreation Department and the Canadian Nursery Trades Association. Trees were planted south of Montgomery Place and west of the community across Highway 7. Later the forest south of the CN yards was named the Richard St. Barbe Baker Afforestation Area.

**1972** **11 July** - The Western Development Museum opened officially, moving from 11<sup>th</sup> Street West to Lorne Avenue South on the east side of the river.



Saskatoon Star Phoenix article, May 10, 1972. MPCA Archives

## 1973 – The Confederation Park Mall opened.

**1973** For the first time, Kindergarten classes were incorporated in Saskatoon schools.

**1973** Saskatchewan hospitals restricted smoking to designated areas.

**1973** **30 August** - The Confederation Park Plaza opened.

**1973**                      Saskatoon was in a boom. Housing prices spiked and continued to rise through the decade. Developers looked for new land to develop. By the end of 1974, developers complained that the shortage of serviced residential lots was critical. In response to the demand for residential building lots, some Montgomery residents began to subdivide their lots.

**1973**                      **October** - Trinity United Church celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> year anniversary at the corner of Rockingham and Merritt in Montgomery Place.



After church, Rockingham Avenue, 1973. In the background – the ball diamond and dugouts in the park and the original Montgomery School.  
*Church Archives*

## **1974 – Boychuk Construction pushed forward its Cassino Avenue development.**

**1974**                      **20 September** – An article in the Star-Phoenix cited “Plans for a 110-unit housing subdivision immediately south of Montgomery Place have been on the drawing board for about a year, amid complaints from some residents that intensive new developments could alter natural drainage patterns.” It went on to say that “Charles McGillivray of Arnhem Street is attempting to revive the now dormant Montgomery Place Ratepayers’ Association to promote discussion of problems in the subdivision. The association was last active in negotiations with the City over the location of the CNR station near Montgomery Place.”

**1974**                      **24 September** – A Star-Phoenix article stated “Minimum lot width of 60’ will be demanded later this week when Montgomery Place residents and city officials meet with an intended subdivision developer.” The developer was Boychuk Construction.



Pristupa brothers, in the backyard of the Nick and Stella Prystupa home, 3437 Ortona Street, 1974.  
*Stella Pristupa photo*



The Cassino Avenue development was the City's answer to Montgomery Place complaints of noise from the CN railyards. The City decided that a natural buffer or berm was not needed. Instead they would build a buffer strip of new homes. Hence, Cassino Avenue was conceived as a sound attenuation project. Residents buying new homes there would be well aware of their proximity to the railyards and would have to accept the accompanying noise. There was opposition from Montgomery Place residents. It was unfair to newcomers to make them a human noise buffer. And, if the development went ahead, Montgomery residents wanted a generous front footage so that the new street blended with the established streets, good access roads, and well-planned drainage.

Joan Coggins, President of the newly revived MP Ratepayers' Association, said they would not oppose development; they would oppose dense development. Keeping the semi-rural character of the community was important.

## **1974**

In October 31, 1974 the Saskatonian (Volume 1, Number 25) printed an article titled "Council gives Boychuk the nod – Montgomery Place meeting unnecessary, Wellman says". The article stated: "City Council showed Monday (October 28, 1974) it considers public participation in development schemes a minor object compared to appeasing the wishes of private developers.

The scheme in question was the proposed Boychuk addition to the Montgomery Place subdivision of southwest Saskatoon, an area adjacent to the CN yards.

In an original motion passed by Council September 3, it was agreed that no decision

regarding acceptance of Boychuk's development would be made before a general meeting was held to determine the wishes of Montgomery Place residents concerning future plans for their neighbourhood.

The Planning and Development Committee of City Council, consisting of Aldermen Junor, Mann and Wright, would confront the residents with the proposal, according to the September 3 motion. At meetings held with representatives of the Montgomery Place Ratepayers Association, however, it became obvious there would be opposition to the scheme which would allow 35 foot lots in an area where large 60 foot lots were the norm.

Boychuk subsequently amended his proposal to include some larger lots, but still could gain no approval from residents. As a result, the expected public general meeting did not come about.

The whole matter came to a head last Monday night when Council met to consider the proposal. Alderman Cliff Wright, Chairman of the Planning and Development Committee, conceded that Council had changed its plan regarding the public meeting because his committee had decided that this might jeopardize the project.

Spokesperson for the Montgomery Place Ratepayers' Association, Ms D.J. Coggins, noted their complaints of the scheme: Montgomery is a unique "Rural cross-section," and having a minimum of sewer, sidewalk and street conveniences, could not withstand the increased problems new development would bring.

The pastoral setting, accented by the large lots of the area, would be sacrificed in the drive toward more subdivision of land. The area has been preserved, until now, under the Veterans' Land Act, but that protection will expire in a few years' time.

Alderman Glenn Penner accused Ms. Coggins of opposing an development in her area. He said that the proposed 35' to 100' lots were "very favourable" when compared to others in the city. Besides, keeping larger lots is "an unrealistic goal."

Ms. Coggins replied that it only becomes "unrealistic" when the city allows smaller lots to become prevalent. She noted that Montgomery residents cannot subdivide their lots smaller than 50' frontage.

Ald. Penner further contended that it was "inappropriate" to deal with the matter at a public meeting. Ald. Mann, however, asked Ms. Coggins whether her group would like a public meeting to be held to discuss the drainage and traffic problems before Council voted on the proposal.

City Planning and Development Director, Bert Wellman, interjected that a meeting was "unnecessary" because "we've been working on it for six months." Ald. Mann then remarked as to why the planning department had been unable to come up with these details for the meeting.

Ms. Coggins stressed that nothing be approved until the residents of the area are allowed more input into the proposal. Ald. Penner reminded her that Council had already shelved that idea. "We've been through this all before," complained Mayor Bert Sears.

A questionnaire, circulated earlier among the residents of Montgomery Place, indicated that a great majority favoured retention of the large-lot tradition of the rural cross-section.

Council knowingly ignored their wishes and passed the Boychuk proposal, goaded on by Director Wellman who claimed that if there was any further delay the developer could appeal to the Local Government Board of the provincial government. ...Only Aldermen George Dyck and Owen Mann opposed the motion.”

**1974**      **6 November** - In a November 6, 1974 article by Jack Wells in The Commentator, Wells wrote: “Does City Council really care about the Public image? Does city civic administration reflect the attitude of council? Or is it vice-versa?

Regardless of the merits or demerits of the thoughts of the Planning and Development Committee of Council, expressed during the Council Meeting of Monday, October 28 about the wishes and desires of residents from Montgomery Place, Council should never have made their final decision approving even the modified Montgomery Place Development Plan, without first holding the promised public meeting with the ratepayers in the area. ...”

**1974**      **November** - In a November, 1974 Star Phoenix article by Vern Greenshields titled “Montgomery threatens court action” Greenshields noted “Saskatoon city council has been charged with violating a number of city bylaws and has been threatened with court action by the Montgomery Place Ratepayers Association if proposed development in their area is not halted.



The group is protesting a proposed residential development immediately south of Montgomery Place, citing inadequate barrier zones between the development and railway tracks, inadequate study of possible drainage problems and inadequate access to the proposed development. ...”

## **1975 – The Viet Nam War ended. Saskatchewan introduced a prescription drug plan.**

**1975**      **6 January** - On January 6, 1975 the Montgomery Place Ratepayers Association brought forward a petition objecting to the proposed Boychuk Construction subdivision south of Mountbatten Street. The petition was signed by about 470 Montgomery residents.

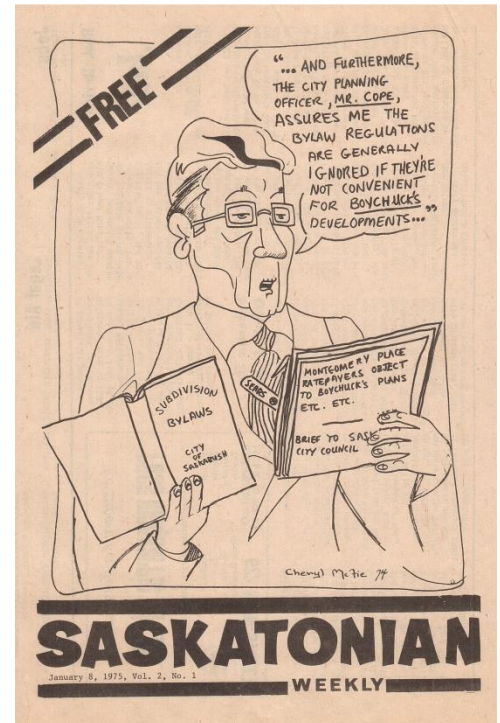
**1975**      A Star-Phoenix report by Wayne Lowrie titled “Montgomery building plans approved” stated; “Ducking objections from one alderman and a residents’ association, city council cleared the way Monday for the future construction of a residential subdivision south of Montgomery Place.

In approving the plans Monday, council exempted the developer from complying with six provisions of the city’s subdivision bylaw which cover street widths, lots sizes, and a buffer strip between the lots and the railway right-of-way.

... “This is the first time I’ve seen council ignore the wishes of such a vast number of people,” said Alderman George Dyck after the subdivision plans were approved. ...”

**1975**      **20 June**– Confederation Park School opened officially.

**1975**      New homes continued to appear in the Fairhaven neighbourhood to the north of



*MPCA Archives*

Montgomery Place. The major period of building stretched from 1971 to 1985.

## **1976 — Sherwood Credit Union in Regina pioneered the first ATM in Canada.**

**1976** Fred Mendel of Intercontinental Packers died. His daughter Johanna Mendel Mitchell was appointed a company director and later president. Eventually Mendel's grandson Fred Mitchell took over the company.

**1976** **15 June** - In a June 15, 1976 Star Phoenix article titled "Subdivision developer to give up 16 residential lots" it was clear that the angst between Boychuk Construction and the Montgomery Place Ratepayers Association had continued. The article stated: "The developer of a residential subdivision south of Montgomery Place in Saskatoon has agreed to give up about 16 lots in the subdivision to overcome drainage problems.

... The subdivision was approved a year ago by council following a long-running dispute between the city and residents of the existing Montgomery Place.

... The plan before council Monday would establish a drainage area south of the subdivision. In the original plan the drainage property was marked for residential lots."

**1976** The Block Parent program started in Saskatoon.

## **1977 — The first Telemiracle was held in Saskatchewan.**

**1977** The service station at the corner of 11<sup>th</sup> Street West (3107 11<sup>th</sup> Street) and Dundonald



Montgomery School snow sculpture crew, April 1975.  
*Gwen Will photo*



1977 Montgomery Bantam Boys Softball "A" Tournament Champions.  
*Montgomery School Archives*

- Avenue reopened under the new name Montgomery Service, with new owner Ken Chambers.
- 1977 Lots were opened in the new Lancaster Crescent at the southern edge of Montgomery Place.
- 1977 Lots were surveyed in the Fairhaven and Meadowgreen neighbourhoods, north and northeast respectively, of Montgomery Place.
- 1977 The city drafted the “Montgomery Place Lot Severance Study.”
- 1977 The Montgomery Place Ratepayers Association expressed concern over bus service in the community. An April 27, 1977 report on transit service to Montgomery Place detailed that “Montgomery Place is a small (under 2500 persons) isolated single family subdivision within the City of Saskatoon. The area is bound by industrial land to the north and east with the CNR station and yards located to the south. There is undeveloped land to the west.
- The area has been developed with very large residential lots which is not complementary to high usage of a public transportation system. Subdivision of existing lots will increase the number of lots in the future but this will not materially affect the basic problem of the limited size of the neighbourhood. The Transit System is not aware of any plans for a large residential development or redevelopment which would eliminate this problem in the near future.”
- 1977 From 1946, streets in Montgomery Place were gravelled and oiled. Reportedly, oiling led to a “dustless surface.” Montgomery mothers knew that oiling also meant ruined shoes and boots as their children tried to make their way home from school after a fresh road-oiling. Mothers went out to place wooden planks across the

road, or if sand was available, to pour pathways of sand over the oily mess.

**1977**      **1 May** – Beginning this day, all subdivisions of properties in Montgomery Place were subject to severance fees and levies. People who subdivided before this date were not charged.

**1977**      **14 June** – In a Star-Phoenix article titled “Residents views sought on roads,” reported Chris Mushka wrote: “Montgomery Place residents will have the opportunity to give their opinions regarding the condition of roads in their subdivision before Saskatoon city council authorizes any street improvement projects.

Council decided Monday to advertise a street oiling project proposed for all streets in the subdivision by sending letters to individual homeowners.

... In his report to council, city engineer Derrick Carroll recommended the road surface be dug up to a depth of three to four inches, mixed with gravel and asphalt and then rolled.

In 1971, the city engineering department used a similar procedure which put the roads into good condition with the least amount of money possible, said Carroll.

City commissioner Carl McLeod said the only long-term solution to the problem is a formal asphaltting program. ...”

**1977**      **24 June** – Montgomery Place residents presented City Council with a petition *against* the proposed oiling of roads and *for* asphalt paving, recommending that prior to any roadwork a complete ditching program be undertaken to obviate road seepage from the many extensive water puddles.



Gravel road in the background of this 3303 Caen Street photo, May 1977. Newman Family photo



**1977**      **22 August** – A letter from the City of Saskatoon to Montgomery Place residents promised to “Initiate a street paving program in 1978.” There would also be a “Drainage review to commence no later than June 1, 1978.”

**1977**      **16 November** – Sod was turned for the construction of the Cosmo Civic Centre.

## **1978 – Montgomery Place streets were paved!**

**1978**      **12 January** – A letter from A. Carroll, City Engineer regarding Montgomery Place dust palliation and drainage system stated: “In summary, City Council on August 22, 1977 recommended that in 1978 the City initiate a local improvement program for street paving, including a review of the drainage system. Program to commence no later than June 1, 1978. Estimated cost of the street paving program was \$263,000 excluding drainage.

Subsequently, because of some drainage complaints, Council on December 5, 1977 approved a sum of \$5000 for a drainage survey for the area as part of the proposed 1978 local improvement paving program.

In a letter dated November 28, 1977, your attention was drawn that without any storm sewer system in the area, to properly improve on the drainage system hundreds of front lawns and driveways would be affected. ...

As an alternative, consideration should be given to constructing some form of storm sewer system for the area. Although, it should be pointed out that there are few drainage or flooding problems in the area. This may be explained because of the natural sandy soil and



Shingles that were installed when this home at 3303 Caen Street was new in 1956, needed replacing by 1978.

*Newman Family photo*

small amount of water ponding in many areas because the original drainage system has been altered by ditches and culverts being filled.

... Essentially the entire subdivision drains towards the south and the east. To the south, one major drainage outlet at Haida Avenue drains onto low undeveloped property and three outlets at Cassino, Lancaster and Bader Crescents. ...”

**1978**

**3 April** – The City Engineering Department reported “there are no plans in our files for a drainage system of the first area developed in Montgomery Place.

In the later development to the south, some provision for drainage was made along Bader Crescent, Lancaster Crescent and Cassino Avenue. As a result, part of the south area could be paved without causing much of a drainage problem. The remainder of the area requires a storm drainage system and it is now evident that a full surface drainage system would require deep ditches which, in our opinion, would not be acceptable to the residents. On the other hand, an underground storm drainage system would cost approximately \$20 per front foot which would have to be added to the paving cost of \$9.52 per front foot ... . It is unlikely that many property owners would be willing to accept both these charges, particularly when this same area will be charged full City taxes in 1979.”

**1978**

**8 April** – In response, Montgomery Place Ratepayers’ Association Chair W.F. Apps, wrote: “In all fairness to the residents concerned, our executive feels that a price per front foot should be established, indicating the maximum footage to be charged and also if flankage is to be assessed. This should be



Spring melt at the curve of Ortona Street to Caen Street, 1979. *Gwen Will photo*

presented to each individual concerned, with the opportunity for them to vote by a certain date. Paving should not proceed unless at least a 60% majority request it.”

**1978**      **18 May** – A letter from Saskatoon’s Technical Planning Commission to the Montgomery Place Ratepayers Association stated: “As you are aware, the City receives many requests from residents of Montgomery Place to sever their property.” The letter went on to recommend an idea to create a street along the back lane between the 3300 blocks of Ortona and Dieppe Streets (Block 15) between Crerar and Haida. The recommendation was endorsed by City Council.

**1978**      **10 August** – In a letter from the City of Saskatoon to Montgomery Place residents, it was reported that the contract for surfacing Montgomery roads had been awarded to Asphalt Services Ltd. After more than 30 years of lobbying, Montgomery Place streets were surfaced with “2 inch thickness of hot mix asphalt.” The letter promised that “Some improvements will be made to the shoulders to protect the pavement and facilitate drainage.” There was also an offer to supply and install culverts when necessary for a flat fee of \$60 per culvert for the homeowner.

**1978**      **31 December** – The VLA agreement with the City of Saskatoon concerning Montgomery Place came to an end.

A Star-Phoenix article stated: “In 1979, about 235 veterans’ families in the west-end subdivision will begin paying full city property taxes. In 1954, a 25-year agreement was signed between the city and the administration of the Veterans Land Act (VLA) which established a 51-mill ceiling on property taxes.”

## 1979 – Sony introduced the first Walkman.

- 1979**      **1 January** - The Tax Limitation Agreement for veterans settling in Montgomery Place, signed in 1954 between VLA and the City of Saskatoon, expired.
- 1979**      **6 March** – Fairhaven School opened.
- 1979**      **4 May** – The Meewasin Valley Authority was established to conserve the cultural and natural resources of the South Saskatchewan River Valley.
- 1979**      During the 1970s there was talk of transforming back lanes in Montgomery Place into full streets, so that existing lots could be severed across their backs, thereby creating new lots fronting a new street. The Technical Planning Commission of the City of Saskatoon requested the Planning Department “to investigate the possibility of creating a new street, in place of the existing lane....” Subdivisions of Montgomery Place properties were on the rise.
- 1979**      The Canadian Government Elevator was sold to Richardson Grain of Winnipeg, Manitoba.
- 1979**      **16 October** - The Cosmo Civic Centre opened officially.
- 1979**      **28 November** – The Montgomery Ratepayers Association held its annual meeting with guests from the City – Morris Cherneskey and Bland Brown. Discussion included drainage, garbage pick-up, and the light industrial designation east of the Packers. Undoubtedly traffic on 11<sup>th</sup> Street would increase. “There will be a need for 11<sup>th</sup> Street upgrading next year,” stated City Engineer Brown. Traffic signs were discussed, noting a need for a stop sign at Chappell Drive and 11<sup>th</sup> Street, and



Fairhaven School at 495 Forrester Road.  
*Saskatoon Public Schools photo, 2016*



Trinity United Church Sunday School, 1979. *Church Archives*



Thelma McDonald and Stella Pristupa making draperies in Thelma's basement business, c. 1979. *Stella Pristupa photo*



yield signs where Dieppe crosses Lancaster Boulevard. There was a call that street shoulders be gravelled.

**1979**

**30 November** – A letter to the City Commissioner from Councillor Morris Cherneskey stated: “I wish to advise you that Mr. Bland Brown (City Engineer) and I met with the Montgomery Ratepayers Association on November 28, 1979 ... discussing ... drainage and front street garbage collection. Several other ancillary topics were also discussed.

Drainage - 1. That new home builders be required to install culverts – that it be a stipulation before issuance of a building permit, 2. That culverts be kept open and that ditches remain free of debris, 3. It was noted that the new Boychuk division does have underground sewer drainage.

Front Yard Garbage Pickup – 1. By a motion which carried 22 to 9 it was agreed to maintain the existing garbage pickup routine, i.e. front yard in winter and backlane in summer, 2. It was generally agreed that the garbage collection be carried out with a minimum amount of damage to the cans and covers, 3. That where applicable the owners trim the trees on their property if the overhanging branches interfere with garbage collection, 4. That more publicity be given as to the change in dates of garbage collection as a result of the roll over system, 5. That the responsibility for trimming trees by power lines and on city boulevards be clarified.

Ancillary – 1. The ditch on the east side of Elevator Road at 11<sup>th</sup> Street is unusually deep and is a hazard to children. (It’s about 6 feet



Fall yardwork at the Pristupa home, 3437 Ortona Street, c. 1979.  
*Stella Pristupa photo*



3437 Ortona Street, c. 1979.  
*Stella Pristupa photo*

deep),

2. The garbage container at the store-gas bar at 11<sup>th</sup> Street and Elevator Road is not large enough,
3. That the shoulders adjacent to the paved streets need to be gravelled and/or raised,
4. A yield sign should be placed at Dieppe and Lancaster.”

## **1980 - Saskatchewan celebrated its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary.**

**1980**      **16 February** – The Montgomery Place Community Association held a Sadie Hawkins dance as a fundraiser. It was held at the Union Centre

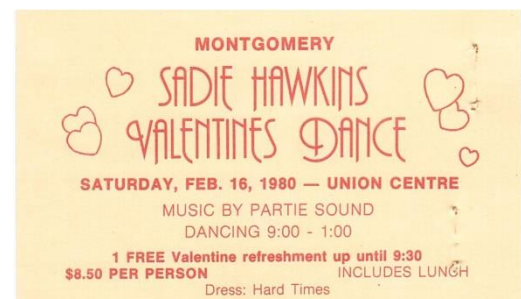
**1980**      **February** – The City of Saskatoon proposed the major development of a light industrial area east of Montgomery Place. The area under discussion was south of 11<sup>th</sup> Street and west of Avenue Y, an area that under Saskatoon’s blueprint for development was slated for greenspace park development. Council amended that designation at its meeting on February 4, 1980 to allow for industrial development to proceed.

Art Robinson reported in a Star-Phoenix article entitled “Industrial area approved for west side.” The article stated: “Saskatoon city council has given the green light for the development of a major light industrial area west of Gordon Howe Park which Mayor Cliff Wright said Monday will help provide “balance” to the city’s development.

The 126 acres between the park and Intercontinental Packers Ltd. to the west will



*Web image*



Montgomery Place Valentine Dance, 1980.    *MPCA Archives*

be developed by the Saskatchewan Economic Development Corporation (SEDCO) which only Monday took it over following council's actions.

Council decided to amend its community planning scheme which had the agricultural-zoned land classified as being for park purposes. The land involved is south of 11<sup>th</sup> Street and west of Avenue Y.

... There was no public opposition to the plan, although Ald. Pat Lorje expressed a number of concerns, particularly regarding increased traffic in and around Montgomery Place.

... Lorje said she was "somewhat concerned" about rezoning of property for industry which is already scattered "all over the city." She questioned the advisability of putting industrial areas "willy-nilly" all over Saskatoon.

... Lorje said she believes more trucks travelling on Avenues P and W would be "totally unacceptable." She also said she believed the development would change the complexion of that part of Montgomery Place closest to the proposed development."



Montgomery Place c. 1980.  
*MPCA Archives*

**1980**

**18 March** – Montgomery Place Ratepayers discussed the proposed industrial area expansion, citing the following concerns in a letter to the Mayor and City Council: "1. Increased heavy traffic on 11<sup>th</sup> Street and adjacent areas, 2. Possible pollutants emitting from plants in the area and noise, 3. The appearance of the Industrial Area."

The letter continued: "Under item 1 above, a report to the Works and Utilities Committee of 10 October 1979 estimated that at full development 8,800 vehicle trips a day would

be made above the now normal traffic in the area. Mention was also made of signalization of the 11<sup>th</sup> Street-Circle Drive intersection and reconstruction of 11<sup>th</sup> Street east of Circle Drive.

We are concerned in regard to the increased traffic in this area which might aggravate traffic problems in Montgomery Place, Fairhaven and other districts adjacent, thus we suggest the following to be carried out prior to the Industrial area coming into being:

1. Signalization of 11<sup>th</sup> Street and Circle Drive intersection.
2. That 11<sup>th</sup> Street be widened to four lanes plus turning lanes.
3. That parking be prohibited on 11<sup>th</sup> Street.

We would like assurance that the regulations of I.D.1A District Zoning be strictly enforced being: emission of dust, smoke, refuse matter, odour, gas fumes, noise and vibration also the production of noxious material, refining and storage of explosive and or toxic materials.

We also request the strict enforcement of the landscaping requirements covering this type of District Zoning, thus assuring the area is of pleasant appearance rather than turning it into an ‘asphalt jungle.’”

**1980**

**26 March** – In a letter to City Hall, Montgomery Place Ratepayers reported no progress on the initiatives discussed at the annual meeting on 28 November 1979. Furthermore, “The breakup of recently laid pavement in this area [intersection of Lancaster and Dieppe] due to drainage problems and heavy traffic causing road shoulder erosion and the dangerous condition of the ditch at 11<sup>th</sup>



Street and Elevator Road were also re-discussed.”

**1980 April** – Montgomery Place residents supported the City Parks and Recreation plan to repair the Riversdale Swimming Pool.

**1980 9 April** – In a Star-Phoenix article titled “Holiday Park showpiece promised,” reporter Chris Mushka wrote: “The Saskatchewan Economic Development Corporation (SEDCO) is determined to turn a 126-acre light industrial parcel in Holiday Park into a “showpiece,” Mayor Cliff Wright said Tuesday.

Wright assured the president of the Montgomery Place Ratepayers Association development of the parcel, which was formerly zoned agricultural, will be compatible with adjacent residential areas. “

**1980 8 May** – In a letter to the Secretary to the Constituencies Boundaries Commission regarding Riversdale and Saskatoon West boundaries, the MP Ratepayers commented: “Our area has always been represented by one member of the legislature. In the early years, Montgomery Place was in the Hanley Constituency. Mr. R.A. Walker was our representative and assisted the organization when the amalgamation with the city took place.

Since 1967, our Legislative Representative Hon. R. Romanow has been called on a number of times to assist us in presenting our views to City Council. In all instances we have had to approach only one representative instead of two.

In view of the above reasons the Montgomery Ratepayers’ Association would urge the Boundaries Commission to reconsider the



Montgomery Place residents want improvements to 11<sup>th</sup> Street before industrial development took place. Saskatoon Star Phoenix, April 9, 1980. MPCA Archives

proposed boundary division so that our region remains a cohesive neighbourhood unit. ...”

**1980** A garbage collection questionnaire was circulated in Montgomery Place to determine if residents were receptive to year-round front street garbage pick-up. Residents expressed concern that “dogs would tear up packaged garbage thereby creating unsightly front street conditions.”

**1980** **10 November** – The new interchange at Circle Drive and 33<sup>rd</sup> Street opened officially.

## **1981 – The West Edmonton Mall opened.**

**1981** **7 April** – Montgomery residents complained to the Ratepayers Association of the “smoke and smell from burning rubber tires at the dump.”

**1981** **12 June** – Montgomery School celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a Come-and-Go Tea and a student entertainment program. Souvenir spoons were sold.

**1981** **June** – The Montgomery Place newsletter reminded everyone that “Driving across park areas to gain access to ball fields is illegal.”

**1981** Trinity United Church posted *No Smoking* signs in its basement. Smoking was not allowed during the Turkey Supper or during the coffee time that followed church services.



Montgomery School Grade 8 Graduation, 1981.  
*Stella Pristupa photo*



Saskatoon Centennial 1882-1982 Web image

## **1982 – The City of Saskatoon celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its founding.**

**1982** Eldorado, Saskatchewan's oldest uranium mine, closed at Uranium City.

**1982** **24 May** – The Montgomery Recreation Association wrote to the City asking

a.) "Why do we have a commercial league ball diamond in Montgomery Park?"

b.) If this is not desired, how do we have it removed?

c.) Will the City maintain the ball diamonds in the St. Dominic School area?

d.) The maintenance of Montgomery Park is behind as many of the posts have been removed therefore attracting cars in the park area. Is it up to the City to do repairs?"

On June 18 the City replied:

A) The City of Saskatoon has limited upper division ball diamonds. Fortunately, or unfortunately, however, your perspective Montgomery Place has a diamond suitable in size to accommodate senior play. In planning the placement of diamonds, consideration was given in having an adequate number of diamonds for all ages in each area of the City. Montgomery Park can accommodate upper level play and because of diamonds the space was allocated for Senior men. In essence, two years from now the allocation may again change because of increased demand in another level of play.

B) Unfortunately you cannot do anything to remove the diamond.

C) The City and school system jointly maintain school diamonds. Please let your area coordinator know the maintenance concerns you have with the diamond and

that information can be passed on to myself.

D) The City is responsible for the repairs to the posts in the Park. The Recreation Workshop has been informed of the situation and will deal with the required repairs.”

**1982** The City of Saskatoon made public its plan to create a second entrance to the landfill. In addition to the Spadina Avenue entrance, the City proposed a second route along Dundonald Avenue at the eastern perimeter of Montgomery Place. The City promised the installation of traffic lights at 11<sup>th</sup> Street and Dundonald Avenue when traffic demands increased. Montgomery Place residents expressed concern regarding dust, air and noise pollution, as well as garbage falling from cars and trucks on the way to the landfill. Increased traffic would also mean less safe conditions for residents living along the eastern edge of Montgomery Place.

**1982** **23 September** – Regarding the proposed Dundonald access to the landfill, the Montgomery Ratepayers Association, through City Alderman Pat Lorje, wrote to the Director of Works & Utilities asking “for a reasonable compromise that would allow the City to take advantage of potential energy efficiencies and cost and travel time savings by using the Circle Drive-Dundonald Avenue route to the landfill, but insisting on a guaranteed stringent program of hygienic maintenance of the Montgomery Place neighbourhood. This would include, but not be limited to: a.) strict enforcement of the City’s tarpaulin bylaw for trucks and trailers hauling garbage, particularly for loads of building construction refuse;

b.) a weekly program of litter removal along Circle Drive and Dundonald Avenue;



c.) routine (minimum of monthly) mowing of weeds along the ditches and City-owned lots adjacent to Dundonald;

d.) consideration of designating the west side of Dundonald as No-Parking to avoid traffic conflict with employees of Inter-Con who use a baseball diamond (the old “Olympic Stadium”) just off Dundonald;

e.) early traffic signalization of the Circle Drive-Dundonald-11<sup>th</sup> Street intersection;

f.) vigorous maintenance of the quality of the roadbed on Dundonald. It is assumed that any costs of paving upgrading would be a City-wide charge, and not a local improvement, as per the commitment given when Holiday Park industrial subdivision was opened, and the Fletcher Road-Dundonald intersection was developed;

g.) paving of the balance of Dundonald Avenue from Mountbatten Street to Spadina Crescent; and

h.) stricter enforcement of the bylaw prohibiting people from “reclaiming” waste at the landfill.

These conditions were considered to form the basis of reasonable compromise that would preserve the sanctity of the Montgomery Place neighbourhood and at the same time allow the City to develop a second, possible more efficient entrance into the landfill.”

**1982**

Plans for William A. Reid Park in Fairhaven were submitted to Saskatoon City Council.

## **1983 – The population of Saskatchewan reached one million for the first time.**

**1983** Prior to 1983, 11<sup>th</sup> Street West from Elevator Road to Circle Drive was a two-lane paved highway with gravel shoulders. In 1983, before the 1984 changes in the Crow Rate - the federal government's grain transportation subsidy, the shoulders along this section of 11<sup>th</sup> Street were widened and paved to provide the same load-bearing capacity as the two driving lanes.

**1983** **30 May** – On behalf of the Montgomery Recreation Association, Pat Lorje wrote to Emmett Smith, Manager of the Parks and Recreation Department, citing:

“Several residents of Montgomery Place have repeatedly expressed concern to me about the use of the large ball diamond in Montgomery Park by senior ball clubs. They are primarily concerned about the traffic problem this creates, since it appears that every one of these athletes requires a car to transport himself to the playing field. Added to that, of course, is the problem with spectators, who, upon becoming bored with the game, hop into one of their vehicles to practice “wheelies” up and down Caen Street.

A second concern that has been expressed to me relates to the fact that the children in Montgomery Place are unable to play baseball at what they consider to be a home diamond, since it has been allocated for senior men's play. Since the residents of Montgomery Place apparently first installed the ball diamond, they are justifiably a bit miffed that one of their

own creations has turned into such an unwelcome problem for the area.

The third concern has to do with the maintenance of the park itself, including the orientation of the diamonds and the control of traffic onto the park.”

**1983**      **1 July** – The Circle Drive Bridge was opened officially.

**1983**      **Summer** – New homes were built in Montgomery Place on Lancaster Crescent, Bader Crescent, Cassino Avenue and on subdivided original lots.

## **1984 – Marc Garneau was the first Canadian in space.**

**1984**      The Crow’s Nest Pass Agreement of 1897 was eliminated by the Government of Canada. The original fixed railway freight rates were changed to a subsidy paid directly to the railways. (The subsidy was abolished in 1995.) The loss of the Crow led to railway branch line closures, and the demolition of hundreds of country grain elevators. For Montgomery Place residents, it meant more and larger trucks travelling 11<sup>th</sup> Street to the Canadian Government grain elevator.

**1984**      **4 May** – St. Marguerite School opened.

**1984**      **June** - A new creative play structure was erected in Montgomery Park. The playground structures were supported by the Montgomery Place Recreation Association, Montgomery Home & School and the Saskatoon Public School Division.

**1984**      **9 June** – Montgomery Place held a neighbourhood garage sale.

- 1984** Nose-in angle parking was established along the western edge of Montgomery Park along Rockingham Avenue and on the north side of Merritt Street south of Trinity United Church.
- 1984** **August** – The City proposed year-round automated front street garbage pick-up using city-supplied containers to Montgomery Place residents. At the time, garbage was collected manually in the alleys from May 1 to November 30 and on the front street from December 1 to April 30. Questionnaires were distributed to Montgomery Place homes seeking response to year-round front street pick-up using 90 gallon containers provided by the City. Operating demonstrations of the truck and the wheeled containers were held at St. Dominic School on August 13 and 14. There was not an overwhelming response in favour, so front street pick-up resumed in December, 1984 using the manual side-loader trucks used historically. Back lane pick-up resumed on May 15, 1985.

**1985 – A North American first, the debit card was tested in Swift Current, SK.**

- 1985** Lt. General G.G. Simonds Park was slated for an upgrade. A community meeting was held in February to look at the plan. The park fronted Simonds Avenue, and was flanked on the north by Dieppe Street and on the south by Cassino Avenue.
- 1985** Complaints were made to the City regarding “The road surface on 11<sup>th</sup> Street West between Avenue P and Circle Drive ... Specifically, due to construction activity and water main-sewer repairs, the road has collapsed at Avenue T, west of Avenue Y just across the spur line,



Montgomery School students clean Montgomery Park, spring c. 1985. This is where the present-day cairn and monument are situated. The former Canadian Government elevator in the background was owned by Northern Sales Company Ltd. in the 1980s.

*Montgomery School Archives*



and adjacent to Intercon. ... patching does not appear to work – it just continues to sink along with the rest of the roadbed.”

## **1986 – Canada celebrated Expo '86 in Vancouver, British Columbia.**

**1986** Fred Mendel's grandson, Fred Mitchell, launched the Mitchell's Gourmet Foods line.

**1986** **December** – The former Second World War airplane hangar housing the Western Development Museum on 11<sup>th</sup> Street West burned to the ground.



Montgomery School Winter Carnival in Montgomery Park, c. 1985. There was no hill in the park at this time.  
*Montgomery School Archives*

## **1987 – The loonie replaced the dollar bill in Canada.**

**1987** The Parkridge Centre opened on Gropper Crescent in the Fairhaven neighbourhood.

**1987** The service station on the corner of Dundonald Avenue and 11<sup>th</sup> Street (3107 11<sup>th</sup> Street) closed and was left vacant.

**1987** The idea for a toboggan hill in Montgomery Park was put forward by Montgomery School parents.

**1987** **April** – The Montgomery Styling Centre in the store at the east end of 11<sup>th</sup> Street advertised that it was open under new management. “Sandy and Shirley bring you years of expertise and experience. Free ear piercing with every cut and style for the month of April.”

**1987** **May 30** – The Montgomery Garage Sale was held, complete with a Pancake Breakfast at Trinity United Church.

**1987**      **Summer** – Paddling pools in Saskatoon, built as new neighbourhoods grew after the Second World War, were being closed or upgraded. The Montgomery paddling pool was not affected this year.

**1988 – Saskatoon became the home of Canada’s first urban reserve, a First Nations reserve created within the City limits, when the Muskeg Lake Cree Nation claimed a 33 acre plot in Sutherland.**

**1988**      **January** – Montgomery Place neighbourhood Watch reported “Criminal activity is continuing. Wilful damage, theft from motor vehicles, and break and enters are still alarmingly high. The main items stolen are stereo cassette decks, radar detectors, VCRs, TVs and microwaves.”

**1988**      **7 April** – A special sub-committee of the Montgomery Place Community Association asked the City of Saskatoon for permission to build a memorial cairn in Montgomery Park at the corner of Caen Street and Rockingham Avenue.

**1988**      The City obtained the former Western Development Museum site on 11<sup>th</sup> Street in a lease agreement with the WDM for land on Lorne Avenue South.

**1988**      **10 September** – Saskatchewan Place opened officially.



Montgomery Community Association Logo, 1993.  
*MPCA Archives*



An idea for a toboggan hill in Montgomery Park was reality by June 1988 as seen in the background of this ball photo, June 23, 1988.  
*Newman Family photo*

**1989 – Saskatoon hosted the Jeux Canada Games.**  
**Cellular phone service was introduced in Saskatchewan.**

**1989**      Lieutenant Colonel D. Walker Park on Cassino Avenue was redeveloped.

- 1989**      **13 May** – The Montgomery Place community garage sale was held.
- 1989**      **17 June** – The annual Montgomery Place Ball Tournament and Fun Day was held.
- 1989**      **Spring** – Neighbourhood Watch reported “that some of the solutions to youth crime are societal solutions – better neighbourhoods, better family life and better support for young people and families, particularly those in difficulty.” Crime statistics showed that 75% of Montgomery Place crime was bicycle theft and theft from vehicles.
- 1989**      **Summer** – Gougeon Park south of St. Dominic School was redeveloped with underground sprinklers, horse shoe pits, a soccer field, play structures for preschoolers and a small parking lot. Trees and shrubs were planted.
- 1989**      **Summer** – The demolition of the Saskatoon Sanatorium at the south end of Avenue K in Holiday Park got underway.
- 1989**      Trinity United Church stepped into the future with the purchase of a Macintosh SE, the church’s first computer.
- 1989**      **10 September** – Montgomery Place dedicated a memorial cairn to the veterans who had returned from the Second World War and established Montgomery Place. The cairn was built in Montgomery Park at the corner of Caen Street and Rockingham Avenue. Fundraising throughout the year had been vigorous and was rewarded with many contributions from local and past residents and from many community area businesses. The Minister of National Defence, the Honourable Bill McKnight, attended the dedication.



Ball in Montgomery Park, June, 1989. *Newman Family photo*



Bernie Newman of Caen Street and Lew Winger on Normandy Street conceived of a cairn to honour the founders of Montgomery Place, 1989. *Montgomery Place Community Association Archives*



**1989**      **12 October** – The Montgomery Place Community Association carried out a Community Needs Survey, with 257 surveys returned from residents. People were asked about programs and possible classes, and the program times that would best meet their needs.



The Cairn Committee, 1989.  
*MPCA Archives*

## **1990 – Saskatchewan-born Ray Hnatyshyn became Governor-General of Canada.**

**1990**      **19 February** – Concept plans for the redevelopment of Montgomery Park were presented to the community.

**1990**      **22 May** – Gordon Dewar, on behalf of the Montgomery Place Cairn Committee, wrote to the Montgomery Place Community Association to say that “we have now completed the construction of the memorial Cairn and of placing the Time Capsule in the prepared area. The Records Department of the City of Saskatoon has been advised of the contents contained in the capsule and requested to diarize the recovery and reopening date as September 10, 2039. This will coincide with the 100<sup>th</sup> year of Canada’s Declaration of War – September 10, 1939 – the Dedication of the Cairn – September 10, 1989.”

The unused funds that had been raised were set aside for future maintenance of the cairn.

**1990**      **Fall** – Work got underway on the refurbishment of Montgomery Park. It would continue into 1991.

**1990**      The grain elevator operation on 11<sup>th</sup> Street West was sold to the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool.



Time capsule at the cairn, 1990.  
*MPCA Archives*



Boulevard of the 3200 block of Ortona Street, 1990. By this time, the Montgomery Place Community Garage Sale on the first Saturday of May was a well-established event.  
*Newman Family photo*



**1990** Precious Tots Co-operative Playgroup preschool opened in St. Dominic School.

**1991- NAFTA – the North American Free Trade Agreement – was signed.**

**1991 February** – Cameco officially opened its new building on 11<sup>th</sup> Street West.

**1991 March** – The Montgomery Place Community Association raised the question of reducing the speed limit in Montgomery Place to 40 kph. Safety at intersections was also a concern. A speed reduction on Montgomery Place roads had been put forward as early as 1960.

**1991 Summer** – Montgomery Park was refurbished, gaining a new Recreation Building, a skating pond, pathways, and the long-awaited toboggan hill.

**1991 17 September** – A public meeting was held with City of Saskatoon Engineering Department staff to discuss reducing the speed limit in Montgomery Place, unposted and uncontrolled intersections, the intersection of Dundonald Avenue and 11<sup>th</sup> Street, the intersection of Ortona, Crescent and Rockingham and the dog run.

**1991** The Moderator of the United Church of Canada, the Right Reverend Walter Farquharson, visited Trinity United Church.

**1992 – A Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) Agreement was signed by federal and provincial governments and 25 First Nations bands in Saskatchewan.**



Precious Tots Playgroup,  
December 1991.  
*Newman Family photo*



New recreation building  
underway in Montgomery Park,  
summer, 1991.  
*Newman Family photo*



Right Reverend Walter  
Farquharson , Trinity United  
Church, 1991. *Church Archives*

**1992**      **April** – A writer from the Heritage Committee of Saskatoon Leisure Services prepared a history of Montgomery Place: “Remembering Montgomery 1945-1956.”

**1992**      **9 May** – The annual Montgomery Place Garage Sale was held.

**1992**      **Spring and Summer** – The veterans cairn in Montgomery Park was vandalized with three brass letters removed from the plaque and stones scratched. Later that summer, the cairn suffered graffiti.

**1992**      **21 June** – A *Fun Day in the Park* was organized to officially open the newly-refurbished Montgomery and Gougeon Parks.

**1992**      **October** – After a year’s delay, the City replied to Montgomery Place concerns expressed at a public meeting in September 1991. The City said a flat NO to reducing speed limits. The City proposed to install yield signs at Crerar Drive and Caen Street, Crescent Boulevard and Caen Street, Dieppe Street and Haida Avenue, Dieppe Street and Crerar Drive, Mounbatten Street and Crerar Drive.

**1992**      Wanuskewin Heritage Park opened north of Saskatoon, interpreting 6000 years of northern plains culture.

## **1993 – VLTs – Video Lottery Terminals – were introduced in Saskatchewan.**

**1993**      **13 March** – The 1<sup>st</sup> annual Montgomery Place Community Association *Family Spiel* was held at the CN Curling Club.

**1993**      **8 May** – The annual garage sale was held.



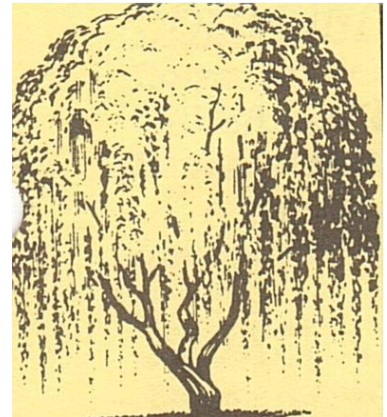
Hill in Montgomery Park,  
January 1992.  
*Newman Family photo*



Fun Day in the Park, June 1992.  
*Newman Family photos*



- 1993** New equipment was installed at the grain elevator, the noise of which has plagued some Montgomery Place residents ever since.
- 1993** **October** – The weeping willow logo was used for the first time on the Montgomery Place Community Association newsletter.
- 1993** **December** – Montgomery Place residents Lloyd and Cheryl Minion took over the store at the east end of 11<sup>th</sup> Street near the Dundonald Avenue intersection.



Montgomery Community Association Logo, 1993.  
MPCA Archives

**1994 – SGI, Saskatchewan Government Insurance, introduced no-fault insurance.**

- 1994** **February** – The Montgomery Home & School and the Saskatoon Public School Division petitioned against the Saskatoon West School Unit's plan to remove 57 rural students from Montgomery School.
- 1994** **12 March** – The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Montgomery Place Community Association *Family Spiel* was held at the CN Curling Club.
- 1994** **Spring** – Substantial equipment upgrades to control chaff emissions were made at the AgPro Grain elevator, with a subsequent dramatic increase in noise levels.
- 1994** **7 May** – Annual garage sale.



Montgomery School students on the hill in Montgomery Park, c. 1994.  
Montgomery School Archives

**1995 – SaskTel introduced Internet service to Saskatchewan.**



**1995**      **11 March** – The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Montgomery Place Community Association *Family Spiel* was held at the CN Curling Club.

**1995**      **6 May** – Annual garage sale.

**1995**      **June** – After much fundraising, the Montgomery Place Community Association built a new rink in Montgomery Park. During the 1991 park refurbishment by the City of Saskatoon, the original rink had been removed. The new rink was 60' x 90', with asphalt over a six inch gravel base. Pressure-treated wooden boards around the rink were built 4' high. Basketball nets and four light poles, with speakers on two poles, were also erected.

**1995**      **September** – The congregation of Trinity United Church installed an elevator to the lower hall.



Field east of the elevator, April 1995. The elevator is now owned by the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool. *Newman Family photo*



Montgomery Place volunteers fundraised and built a new rink in Montgomery Park, 1995. *MPCA Archives*

## **1996 – Montgomery Place celebrated 50 years.**

**1996**      **10 February** - The 4<sup>th</sup> annual Montgomery Place Community Association *Family Spiel* was held at the CN Curling Club.

**1996**      **4 May** – Annual garage sale.

**1996**      **14-15 September** – The Montgomery community celebrated 50 years with a weekend reunion. An opening ceremony near the cairn kicked off the event. Music, games and activities, a bike parade, displays, food, clowns and balloons, fireworks - all contributed to the festivities.

**1996**      **11 November** – The first modest Remembrance Service was held at the cairn in Montgomery Park, organized by Korean War



Montgomery Place 1946-1996 Celebration. *MPCA Archives*





veteran Don Leier, with friends from Trinity United Church comprising the audience.

## **1997 – The Saskatchewan Party was founded.**

**1997            8 March** - The 5<sup>th</sup> annual Montgomery Place Community Association *Family Spiel* was held at the CN Curling Club.

**1997            3 May** – Annual garage sale.

**1997            11<sup>th</sup> Street** from Elevator Road to Lancaster Boulevard was upgraded again to accommodate increasing grain deliveries to the AgPro Elevator. The work involved the widening of the westbound shoulder and the strengthening of all lanes through an additional structural asphalt overlay. Afterwards, a similar upgrade was made from Lancaster Boulevard to Circle Drive.

**1997            October** – Outdoor fires with City of Saskatoon limits were deemed permissible, provided residents used common sense to ensure community safety. Fires were to be confined in non-combustible containers that met fire regulations. The Saskatoon Fire Department advised that “Materials such as rubbish, garden refuse and manure shall not be burned with the city limits.”

**1997            October** – City Council offered the former Western Development Museum site on 11<sup>th</sup> Street West to Hi-Way Greenhouses Ltd. For \$180,000.

**1997            11 November** – A Remembrance Service was held at the cairn in Montgomery Park.

**1997            December** – The Montgomery Place Community Association hosted a Christmas



Don Leier, c. 1996.  
*MPCA Archives*

Light contest with ribbons awarded for the Best Block, Most Humorous, Best Nativity and Best House.

**1997**      **December** – The Montgomery Place Community Association sent a letter to the City of Saskatoon protesting the relocation of the main entrance to the landfill to Dundonald Avenue. The increase in litter and debris that would occur, along with the increase in traffic, were cited as problems.

**1998 – Saskatchewan's Sandra Schmirler rink won curling gold, while Catriona LeMay Doan brought home speed skating gold at the Nagano Olympics in Japan.**

**1998**      **28 March** - The 6<sup>th</sup> annual Montgomery Place Community Association *Family Spiel* was held at the CN Curling Club.

**1998**      **April** – The City Waste Management Department staff reported that they intended “to clean twice a day along Dundonald Avenue and Circle Drive up to 22<sup>nd</sup> Street.” Further, they said “The City would like to change the bylaw requiring loads to be tarped to a bylaw requiring loads to be secured.”

**1998**      **2 May** – Annual garage sale.

**1998**      **May** – A Montgomery Park Patrol group was established and began evening walks this month.

**1998**      **June** – Staff from the City of Saskatoon Transportation Department attended the MPCA meeting to discuss concerns with the intersection of Dundonald Avenue and 11<sup>th</sup> Street and the increased traffic along Dundonald Avenue due to the landfill entrance relocation. “The issue of the absence of

shoulders on Dundonald Ave making the road dangerous for bikes, wheelchairs and pedestrians was raised, but the city has no plans to widen the road and does not intend to change the intersection at 11<sup>th</sup> Street and Dundonald for at least 15 years. The city will look into the condition of the empty lot next to the store at this intersection.”

- 1998**      **Summer** – The Community Association allocated funds to upgrade the ball diamonds in Montgomery Park.
- 1998**      **Fall** – The City of Saskatoon piloted a yard and garden waste collection program in Lakeview, Erindale and Lawson Heights neighbourhoods.
- 1998**      Intercontinental Packers was renamed Mitchell Gourmet Foods the same year that Fred Mendel’s grandson Fred Mitchell died. The company was taken over by Fred’s widow, LuAnn Mitchell.
- 1998**      **11 November** – A Remembrance Service was held at the cairn in Montgomery Park.
- 1998**      **December** – The MPCA hosted the second *Light Up Montgomery* Christmas light contest.

## **1999 – The Millennium Bug infected many around the world.**

- 1999**      The *millennium bug* infected the world with fears of computer chaos as clocks shift from 1999 to 2000. Fearing the worst, concerned North Americans gathered bottled water, canned foods, generators and survival gear.



*Web image*

- 1999** The store at 3501 - 11<sup>th</sup> Street West changed hands and became MBK Muffins and More.
- 1999** **20 March** - The 7<sup>th</sup> annual Montgomery Place Community Association *Family Spiel* was held at the CN Curling Club.
- 1999** **Last week of March** – This was the deadline for banding American elm and Manitoba maple trees against canker worms. If not treated, infested trees became a web of threads as worms spun down from branches to the ground.
- 1999** **Spring** – City of Saskatoon officials attended MPCA meetings to discuss the designation of the Saskatoon Landfill as a Regional Waste Management Site. A litter control unit was scheduled to patrol Dundonald Avenue twice each day to pick up refuse that had blown or fallen off trucks on the way to the dump. City representatives said that a public program of recycling was a high priority as part of a plan to extend the life of the landfill by 25 years. A bylaw requiring loads to be tarped was passed. Fines would be handed out by the Saskatoon Police Service.
- 1999** **May to October** – The City's yard and garden waste program was expanded to include Montgomery Place and other neighbourhoods. Approximately 5,000 homes would be served by the program in 1999.
- 1999** **8 May** – Annual community garage sale.
- 1999** **Fall** - The Montgomery Place Community Association identified the corner of Dundonald Avenue and 11<sup>th</sup> Street, sight of the former service station, as an area for conversion to a park-like setting where a community sign could be erected. Likely the ground was contaminated by the fuel tanks buried beneath



it, so it was thought that the City would not have plans to develop the site any time in the near future. With the go-ahead attained, ground was levelled, grass seeded and trees were planted. It would take another year before a Montgomery Place sign was erected – all thanks to volunteer labour and donations by businesses.

**1999      11 November** – A Remembrance Service was held at the cairn in Montgomery Park.

**1999      December** – The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual *Light up Montgomery with the Spirit of Christmas* contest was held.

## **2000 – The world entered a new millennium.**

**2000      1 January** – Global fears of computer meltdown proved unfounded as the world entered a new millennium without incident.

**2000      March** – City representative Paul Nyirongo from the Transportation Department presented the MPCA with the plans for the continuation of Circle Drive South and the south connector bridge. Nyirongo said the changes would move the Dangerous Goods Route out of the City and lower heavy traffic. He cited three phases of implementation: 1. 22<sup>nd</sup> Street interchange; 2. South bridge construction; 3. Converting Dundonald Avenue into a four-lane highway to complete Circle Drive. Up to 20 houses in Montgomery Place could be affected during the third phase.

**2000      Spring** – The City warned against an outbreak of Dutch Elm Disease (DED) that could attack American elm trees. Caused by a fungus under the bark carried by the elm bark beetle, urban forests were in jeopardy. Trees were to be



Elm tree, Lancaster Boulevard,  
2016. *Leslee Newman photo*

banded by the end of March and trimmed by April 12. Bands were to be removed after May 15. Trimming could be resumed after August 1. Bands were due back up by September 15. The Information line was 1-800-SASKELM.

**2000**      **25 March** - The 8<sup>th</sup> annual Montgomery Place Community Association *Family Spiel* was held at the CN Curling Club.

**2000**      **6 May** – Annual Montgomery Place Community Garage Sale.

**2000**      **17 May** – City of Saskatoon staff met with the Montgomery Place community to discuss plans for Circle Drive South. Residents' concerns included poor and limited access in and out of Montgomery Place. This was an opportunity to correct the grade level railway crossing that had plagued Montgomery residents since 1946, they observed. Increased noise, increased traffic, increased pollution – all were concerns of local residents.

**2000**      **June** – The Montgomery Place sign at the corner of 11<sup>th</sup> Street and Dundonald Avenue was erected.

**2000**      **June** – Saskatchewan Minister of Education announced plans for a major reconstruction of Montgomery School, to include a new gymnasium, a learning resource centre, a performing arts and multi-purpose area, and administration and office space.

**2000**      The congregation of Trinity United Church remodelled the front entrance of the church, installing a commemorative window above the main doorway.

**2000**      **11 November** – A Remembrance Service was held at the cairn in Montgomery Park.



Renovations to Trinity Church,  
2000.      Church Archives

- 2000**      **16 November** – The City of Saskatoon held another meeting in Montgomery Place to discuss community concerns with plans for the completion of Circle Drive South. A letter-writing campaign resulted, with letters sent to the Mayor and City Council.
- 2000**      **December** – The 4<sup>th</sup> annual *Light up Montgomery with the Spirit of Christmas* contest was held.

**2001- Curling was named Saskatchewan's official sport. Needle-and-thread grass, better known as spear grass, was named Saskatchewan's provincial grass.**

- 2001**      **9 January** – Alan Wallace with the City Planning Department attended the MPCA meeting to explain Local Area Planning.
- 2001**      The store at Montgomery's west end, 3501 – 11<sup>th</sup> Street West, changed hands. Bought by Greg and Jenise Vangool, the store was renamed Greg's Grocery.
- 2001**      **13 March** – Bill Kalyn and Wayne Briant from the City of Saskatoon Parks Department met with the MPCA to discuss parks in Montgomery Place.
- 2001**      **25 March** - The 8<sup>th</sup> annual Montgomery Place Community Association *Family Spiel* was held at the CN Curling Club.
- 2001**      **5 May** – Annual Montgomery Place Community Garage Sale.
- 2001**      **June** – The City of Saskatoon began selling compost bins to homeowners.
- 2001**      **16 July** – Montgomery Place residents, led by Jim Earle and Dave Price, presented Montgomery Place options concerning the



Needle-and-thread grass, also known as spear grass, 2009.  
*Leslee Newman photo*

completion of Circle Drive South and the south bridge. The meeting was described as “a raucous three hours.”

**2001**      **Fall** – CN centralized its provincial container facilities and closed its operation in Regina. This meant that Saskatchewan goods being shipped via CN in the increasingly popular containers all headed for the Chappell Yards south of Montgomery Place. This added heavy, noisy, polluting inbound and outbound traffic on 11<sup>th</sup> Street and Chappell Drive. Montgomery Place suffered congestion and 24-hour, seven-days-a-week air and noise pollution in the wake of the CN move.

**2001**      **September** - L'il Sprouts Preschool opened in Montgomery School.

**2001**      After lobbying by the Montgomery Place Community Association, the City of Saskatoon rescinded the designation of 11<sup>th</sup> Street west of Dundonald Avenue as a Dangerous Goods Route.

**2001**      **October** – A marked pedestrian crosswalk and signs were installed on the west side of the 11<sup>th</sup> Street and Fairlight Drive intersection, as a result of safety concerns identified by the local business owners on that corner.

**2001**      **11 November** – A Remembrance Service was held at the cairn in Montgomery Park.

**2001**      **Winter** – The rink at St. Dominic School was rebuilt thanks to the Montgomery Place community and school parents.



Remembrance Service at the cairn in Montgomery Park, 2001. *MPCA Archives*



Montgomery Place veterans at Trinity United Church, 2001. *Church Archives*

**2002 – School zones in Saskatoon were posted 30 kph.**



- 2002** The speed limit on 11<sup>th</sup> Street West from Circle Drive to Chappell Drive was reduced from 60 kph to 50 kph.
- 2002** **Spring** – Demolition of the original Montgomery School got underway, while construction of the new school with front doors facing Ortona Street began.
- 2002** **23 March** - The 9<sup>th</sup> annual Montgomery Place Community Association *Family Spiel* was held at the CN Curling Club.
- 2002** **4 May** – Annual Montgomery Place Community Garage Sale.
- 2002** **June** – The MPCA looked into subdivision of Montgomery Place properties and the questions of minimum lot sizes. Association members were intent on preserving “one of Montgomery’s most endearing aspects – ample lot sizes and frontages,” believing that the majority of residents wanted to maintain this unique feature of the community. The Association conducted a door-to-door survey that registered overwhelming support for restrictions on Montgomery Place lot subdivisions.
- 2002** **1 September** – School zone speed limits of 30 kph were implemented from 8 am to 5 pm on school days.
- 2002** **8 October** – Regarding subdivision of Montgomery Place lots, a motion was passed at the MPCA AGM to “take the necessary steps to have the current bylaws changed to a minimum lot size of 60 feet (frontage) by 130 feet depth.”
- 2002** **28 October** – The at-grade intersection at 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, Confederation Drive and Fairlight Drive was converted to a grade-separated interchange



Equipment arriving for demolition of 1956 Montgomery School, 2002. *Jim Earle photo*



In 1956, girls went in the red door, and boys in through the blue door. Montgomery School, 2002. *Jim Earle photo*

as part of the preparations for the completion of Circle Drive.

- 2002**      **11 November** – A Remembrance Service was held at the cairn in Montgomery Park.
- 2002**      **12 November** - LuAnn Mitchell sold the meat-packing business on 11<sup>th</sup> Street West to Schneider Corporation.
- 2002**      **November** – Montgomery Grocery at the east edge of Montgomery Place changed hands. It was purchased by Rick and Colleen Petryshyn.

### **2003 – The Lions Skatepark opened in Victoria Park in Riversdale.**

- 2003**      **15 March** - The 10<sup>th</sup> annual Montgomery Place Community Association *Family Spiel* was held at the CN Curling Club.
- 2003**      **3 May** – Annual Montgomery Place Community Garage Sale.
- 2003**      **13 May** – A public meeting was held in the auditorium of St. Dominic School to survey residents regarding increasing the minimum lot size in Montgomery Place from 15 metres wide by 30 metres deep to 18.25 metres wide by 39.6 metres deep.
- 2003**      **30 May** – The new Montgomery School opened.
- 2003**      Ehsan Chaudry bought the Montgomery corner store at the east end of 11<sup>th</sup> Street.
- 2003**      The City of Saskatoon bought houses along Dundonald Avenue in preparation for the completion of Circle Drive South.



Montgomery School at 3220 Ortona Street. *MPCA Archives*

- 2003**      **25 September** - Schneider Corporation was acquired by Maple Leaf Foods and the meat packing plant on 11<sup>th</sup> Street changed hands once again.
- 2003**      **4-5 October** – Trinity United Church, at the corner of Rockingham Avenue and Merritt Street, celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary.
- 2003**      **11 November** – A Remembrance Service was held at the cairn in Montgomery Park.

## **2004 – Saskatoon banned smoking in public places and private clubs.**

- 2004**      **February** – In the MPCA newsletter Montgomery Place residents were urged to voice concerns over the proposed Circle Drive South. “Should you care that your community is being forever changed physically and socially? Should you care about the increased levels of pollution (refuse, noise, light, fumes, etc.) that we will now get to enjoy? Should you voice your opinion to the City and let them know you want to preserve the uniqueness of your community while not standing in the way of progress? Send the City an eMail expressing your concerns (positive and negative) about the South Bridge crossing...”
- 2004**      **20 March** - The 11<sup>th</sup> annual Montgomery Place Community Association *Family Spiel* was held at the CN Curling Club.
- 2004**      **1 May** – Annual Montgomery Place Community Garage Sale.
- 2004**      **June** – The City of Saskatoon began a program to ensure neighbourhood lighting met the minimal standards of neighbourhood safety by

providing a base grant of \$180,000 to complete lighting upgrades.

- 2004**      **Summer** – The MPCA entered a float in the Exhibition Parade called “Montgomery Place Salutes Canada’s Veterans.” The float took second place in the Community Association category.
- 2004**      **September** – Saskatoon’s Infrastructure Services Department evaluated traffic along Elevator Road and installed a mini-roundabout at the intersection of Elevator Road and Arnhem Avenue as a trail traffic-calming device.
- 2004**      **Fall** – The green bin garden waste program was piloted in Montgomery Place with four pick-ups scheduled in October and November in an attempt to divert leaves and grass clippings from the Landfill.
- 2004**      **22 October** – At the University of Saskatchewan, the Canadian Light Source Synchrotron opened officially.
- 2004**      **11 November** – A Remembrance Service was held at the cairn in Montgomery Park.
- 2004**      **December** – Land north of 11<sup>th</sup> Street in the 3100 and 3200 blocks was put up for tender by the Saskatchewan Arts Board, with a minimum bid of \$425,000. The land had been bequeathed to the Arts Board by Fred Mendel. The MPCA was clear in its opinion that barracks-style apartment buildings were NOT in keeping with the character of Montgomery Place and asked that street names be chosen to refer to the Second World War, in keeping with the character of the neighbourhood.



The land north of the 3100 and 3200 blocks of 11<sup>th</sup> Street West had reverted to prairie plants and grasses, 2010.

*Newman Family photo*



## 2005 – Saskatchewan celebrated its Centennial.



Web image

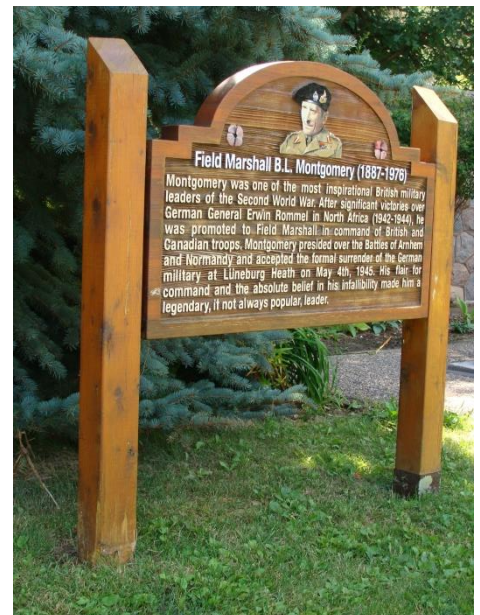
**2005**      **April** – The City of Saskatoon and Stantec Engineering re-ignited planning of the Holiday Park Industrial Area east of Montgomery Place. Meanwhile, plans to expand the Landfill and conversion of the CN railyard to accommodate more container traffic (and hence more truck traffic) proceeded.

**2005**      **April-May** – The green bin garden waste program piloted in Montgomery Place the previous fall was continued with four pick-ups scheduled in April and May.

**2005**      **7 May** - Annual Montgomery Place Community Garage Sale.

**2005**      **14 June** - The Montgomery Place Community Association held a community meeting to discuss its plan to erect informational street signs to explain the choice of names for Montgomery Place streets. The research and writing were undertaken by Kevin Gooding who was MPCA Finance Director at the time, with help from MCPA President Jim Earle.

The signs were produced at Abe's Sign Design Group of Saskatoon, with owner Gerry Tunicliffe giving the Association his whole-hearted support. The paintings were done by Ray Friesen whose own father had fought at the Battle of Cassino. Ray took on the task with dedication and interest.



Sign erected in Montgomery Park, 2015. MPCA Archives

**2005**      **Summer** – The Montgomery Place Community Association entered a float called “Montgomery Place Welcomes You Home” in the Saskatoon Exhibition Parade. Six Montgomery veterans rode the float: Al and Robbie Harder, Mary Will, Earl Braithwaite, Lloyd Sopher, Jack Burrows. The float won

first in the “Saskatchewan – Celebrating 100 Years” category.

**2005**      **Summer** – When Maple Leaf Foods announced the closing of the hog slaughter and processing plant, the planning for the completion of Circle Drive South took another turn. Dundonald Avenue on the west side of the railway tracks was abandoned. The preferred Circle Drive route became one on the east side of the tracks through the Holiday Park Industrial Area.

**2005**      **September** – Excavation and grading began in the Blairmore Suburban Centre on the City’s western edge.

**2005**      **9 November** – Stantec Engineering held an Open House to unveil new plans for the access to the South River Crossing.

**2005**      **11 November** – A Remembrance Service was held at the cairn in Montgomery Park.



Street in Blairmore neighbourhood, 2016.  
*MPCA Archives*

## **2006 – Saskatoon celebrated its Centennial. Montgomery Place celebrated 60 years.**

**2006**      **January** – Rules for automated garbage pick-up were posted as roll-out garbage bins were introduced to the community.

**2006**      **25 March** – A Montgomery Place Funspiel was held at the CN Curling Club.

**2006**      **6 May** - Annual Montgomery Place Community Garage Sale.

**2006**      **May** – The Community Association posted a list of “safe” websites for parents and their children. The Internet was invading home space much as television had done 50 years earlier.



- 2006**      **Spring** – The City of Saskatoon held Open Houses to inform the public of the “Blairmore Multi-District Park and School Site” including two new collegiate and a civic recreation centre.
- 2006**      **June** – The tiles painted by Montgomery School students in 2003, 2004 and 2005 were installed in the school’s front entrance.
- 2006**      **Summer** – “Montgomery Place – A Great Neighbourhood to Call Home” was the theme of the Montgomery Place float in the Saskatoon Exhibition Parade. Once again, several veterans participated on the float: Lloyd Sopher, Jack Hyde, Jack Burrows, Cliff MacDonald, Al and Robbie Harder.
- 2006**      **Summer** – Saskatoon Parks Department staff reinstalled the Montgomery Place sign at the corner of Dundonald Avenue and 11<sup>th</sup> Street and agreed to take over the annual maintenance of the corner lot.
- 2006**      **Summer** – The distribution of the MPCA newsletter switched from the StarPhoenix Sunday Sun to Canada Post. For the first time, an electronic version of the newsletter was offered to residents. “Send an eMail with “eNewsletter” in the subject and your preferred eMail address. Then sit back and enjoy a PDF copy of the newsletter.”
- 2006**      The Fire Creek gas station and confectionary located on the corner of 20<sup>th</sup> Street and Avenue P, on land declared an urban reserve in November 2005. This was the second urban reserve in Saskatoon and was owned by the One Arrow First Nation.
- 2006**      **September** – Science Trek, a program for Grade 8 students at Montgomery School,

began with 28 students who had applied to attend the program from across Saskatoon.

**2006**

**9 September** – A celebration of the Montgomery Place 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary was held in Montgomery Park. A celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Montgomery School was held in conjunction with the activities in the park. Attending the anniversary event were the Honourable Carol Skelton, Minister of National Revenue and Minister of Western Economic Diversification; Saskatchewan Premier Lorne Calvert; Saskatoon Mayor Don Atchison; Councillor Owen Fortosky.



Montgomery Place celebrated 60 years in 2006. *MPCA Archives*

**2006**

**15-16 September** - MPCA Communications Director Gary Berg gave us the first Montgomery Place website, becoming Montgomery Place's first webmaster. The domain name – montgomeryplace.ca – was granted on September 15. The web space was acquired on September 16.



**2006**

**12 October** - A three-year process to close the meat-packing plant, formerly Intercontinental Packers, was formally announced by Maple Leaf Foods.



**2006**

**11 November** – A Remembrance Service was held at the cairn in Montgomery Park.

**2006**

**15 November** – The City of Saskatoon received funding for *Artist in the Community* programming from the Department of Canadian Heritage. Theatre artist Clare Middleton was assigned to Montgomery Place and called a community meeting to discuss ideas for her community placement.

**2007 – Roadway construction exploded on the western edge of Saskatoon.**



- 2007**      **10 January** – The “Blizzard of the Century” hit Saskatoon. In the two weeks following the storm, the City of Saskatoon spent \$950,000 on snow removal.
- 2007**      **March** – Students from the Montgomery School Science Trek program placed first at the Cameco Spectrum 2007 Exhibition at the University of Saskatchewan.
- 2007**      **20 March** - Artist-in-residence Clare Middleton spent the winter months researching the history of Montgomery Place, interviewing residents and creating a play to tell the story of the community. On this day a meeting was held to appeal to community volunteers as actors and production crew. DVDs of the performance were produced.
- 2007**      **24 March** - A Montgomery Place Funspiel was held at the CN Curling Club.
- 2007**      **Spring** – Spring run-off problems prompted City Councillor Pat Lorje to ask City administration to explore drainage challenges in Montgomery Place.
- 2007**      Six years after Saskatoon opened its first compost depot on the east side of the city in 2001, it opened a second depot on the west side – at the end of 11<sup>th</sup> Street West at the junction of Highway 7. In an attempt to divert compost materials from the Landfill, the depots offered free composting of branches and grass clippings to Saskatoon residents. However, with the threat of Dutch Elm Disease, elm branches were sent to the Landfill.
- 2007**      **5 May** - Annual Montgomery Place Community Garage Sale.

- 2007**      **20 June** – The play, *Sentimental Journey*, about the roots of Montgomery Place was performed at Trinity United Church.
- 2007**      **31 August** – The Saskatchewan Wheat Pool was renamed Viterra.
- 2007**      **August** - Tommy Douglas Collegiate and Bethlehem Catholic High School opened in the Blairmore subdivision, flanking the Shaw Centre.
- 2007**      **22 September** – MPCA President Jim Earle, MPCA Vice-President Dave Price, MPCA Finance Director Kevin Gooding, along with MPCA Secretary Larry Rempel, MPCA Communications Director Gary Berg and resident Don Janzen, rented an auger and then dug, filled, tamped and installed the first 16 Montgomery Place story signs. Three more signs were installed later.
- 2007**      **11 November** – A Remembrance Service was held at the cairn in Montgomery Park.
- 2007**      **16 November** – The pedestrian overpass over 22<sup>nd</sup> Street to the Shaw Centre and new high schools officially opened.



Sign installation volunteers,  
September 22, 2007.  
*Jim Earle photos*

**2008 — Saskatoon housing prices began to skyrocket.**  
**Federal and provincial governments announced a combined support of \$170 million for the completion of Circle Drive in Saskatoon.**

- 2008**      **3 May** - Annual Montgomery Place Community Garage Sale.
- 2008**      **11 November** – A Remembrance Service was held at the cairn in Montgomery Park.

**2008**

**19 December** – In Saskatoon, Montgomery Place was the only neighbourhood with ditches to control run-off. A City memo recorded “City Council, at its meeting held on October 9, 2007, considered a report of the General Manager, Infrastructure Services Department, dated September 7, 2007, in response to an inquiry from Councillor P. Lorje regarding surface drainage in Montgomery Place. The report advised that Administration had engaged SAL Engineering Ltd. to review the drainage complaint history received by the City, identify problem areas and explore possible solutions. ...The Montgomery Place Drainage Study, conducted by SAL Engineering, identified three strategic drainage routes within the neighbourhood...”

**2009 — Saskatoon set a record for the longest freeze of temperatures below -25C since record-keeping began in 1892, with a 24-day period that began December 13, 2008.**

**2009**

**Spring** – The City Engineering Department addressed three key drainage routes that needed attention to keep more Montgomery Place homes dry each spring. The February 2009 The MPCA newsletter reported “Starting this spring, the city will remove snow from the ditches along Haida Avenue, short stretches of Mountbatten Street and Cassino Avenue, and Lancaster Crescent to the point it meets Lancaster Boulevard, and part of Ortona Street. In May, the city will survey the drainage routes and check the condition of culverts. The grades



Roadwork on Haida Avenue, 2010. *MPCA Archives*

of some ditches will be redesigned and some culverts will be replaced or adjusted.”

**2009**

Early in the year the Montgomery Store near the corner of 11th Street and Dundonald Avenue was demolished. The store had been purchased by the City and left vacant, causing concern in the community.

**2009**

**April** – The 50-member Montgomery School Green Team was awarded an Environmental Activist Award by the Saskatchewan Eco Network for environmental initiatives in and around the school. Among other projects, students worked to create an ecologically-friendly school front yard.

**2009**

**3 May** - Annual Montgomery Place Community Garage Sale.

**2009**

**1 June** – This was the last day of operation for the former Intercontinental Packers plant.

**2009**

Murals, painted by William Pehudoff in the Intercontinental Packers plant on 11<sup>th</sup> Street, were donated to the City of Saskatoon by Camille Mitchell. Montgomery Placer resident Lynn McDonald Earle and art conservator Ian Hodgkinson spent many hours coaxing the murals off the walls and preserving them.

**2009**

**Fall** – The City of Saskatoon began work to improve storm water drainage in Montgomery Place. Over the years many culverts became clogged, were damaged, or were even removed by new homeowners who knew nothing of the neighbourhood’s reliance on surface drainage. Heavy winter snowfalls and summer rains taxed the efficacy of ditches and culverts. Major drainage routes along Haida Avenue, Lancaster Boulevard and Lancaster Crescent



Garage Sale fundraiser for cancer research, Rockingham Avenue, 2009. *MPCA Archives*



Murals are seen in the background of this photo, c. 1950. *Stella Pristupa photo*



were rehabilitated. Nearly a kilometer of ditch was regraded and 39 culverts replaced.

**2009**

**11 November** – A Remembrance Service was held at the cairn in Montgomery Park.

**2010** – Saskatoon was Canada's fastest-growing city, with a population growth rate of 27.7 percent.

**2010**

The City of Saskatoon signed an agreement with the Canadian National Railway and the Canadian Pacific Railway to move railcar switching from the downtown to north of 11<sup>th</sup> Street West at the junction of Circle Drive. This decision would come to haunt the lives of Meadowgreen and Montgomery Place residents.

**2010**

Construction to complete Circle Drive South got underway. Detours were everywhere as roadwork preparation began. The project was the largest in Saskatoon's history, costing \$272 million.

**2010**

**Spring** – Just shy of its 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, the former Marshall Building, aka Derby Building and aka Intercontinental Packers, was torn down. Almost all the gravel used in the Circle Drive South project was crushed construction rubble from the old plant.

**2010**

**Spring** – The City of Saskatoon drainage upgrade continued with work focussing on the major drainage path along Crerar Drive from Ortona Street to Cassino Avenue.

**2010**

**1 May** - Annual Montgomery Place Community Garage Sale.

**2010**

**2 June** – Stantec Engineering made a presentation on the South Circle Drive Bridge for Montgomery Place residents at St. David's Trinity United Church.



Montgomery Place veterans at the Remembrance Service, St. David's Trinity United Church, 2009. *Church Archives*



The demolition of a landmark on 11<sup>th</sup> Street West.  
*Leslee Newman photos*



**2010**      **5 June** – The Montgomery Place Community Association held a *Veterans Day in the Park*. New street signs were officially opened and a plaque for the time capsule at the cairn in Montgomery Park was dedicated.

**2010**      **31 July** - On behalf of the Montgomery Place Community Association, Barb Thompson Biddle embarked on a project to list the names of all veterans who settled in Montgomery Place from 1946 to 1977. This date was the deadline for submissions.

**2010**      **24 August** – The City of Saskatoon closed the Traffic Bridge that had been built in 1907 to connect the three communities of Nutana, Saskatoon and Riversdale.

**2010**      **September** – As one bridge was closed, the building of another got underway. Construction of a coffer dam on the west bank of the South Saskatchewan River began - to keep water away from the crews digging foundations in the river channel. Excavation began for the most westerly bridge pier.

On 11<sup>th</sup> Street, a temporary railroad track for CN and CP north at Circle Drive was installed with a permanent switch-over to the new tracks in late September. A new temporary on-off ramp at 11<sup>th</sup> Street would carry traffic for the next two years. Along 11<sup>th</sup> Street, catch basins were installed and SaskEnergy re-routed pipelines.

**2010**      **25 September** – Mount Royal Collegiate celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**2010**      **November** – Work began on the CN-CP rail structure over Circle Drive, north of 11<sup>th</sup> Street.



*Veterans Day in the Park, 2010.*  
MPCA Archives



Grads from 50 years celebrated Mount Royal's landmark, 2010.  
Leslee Newman photo



- 2010**      **11 November** – A Remembrance Service was held at the cairn in Montgomery Park.
- 2010**      **8 December** – The City of Saskatoon held a public open house at St. David's Trinity United Church to view and comment on the proposed site of a new Snow Dump and Civic Operations Centre for the relocation of transit services and public works. The site proposed was south of the CN yards on Valley Road.
- 2010**      **Winter** - When road construction began in 2010 for Circle Drive, deer were living contentedly in the brush east and west of the Viterra elevator. When confronted with the noise and mayhem, the deer made their first tentative forays into 11<sup>th</sup> Street yards in Montgomery Place.



Veterans at St. David's Trinity United Church, 2010.  
*Church Archives*

**2011- The City of Saskatoon introduced the Vacant Lot and Adaptive Re-Use incentive program for infill housing construction.**

- 2011**      **February** – A number of Community Associations including the MPCA and Great Places Saskatoon co-sponsored a workshop on architecture and urban design to look at the pressures of infill threatening older neighbourhoods. The City of Saskatoon was “setting bold new goals to redirect growth inward.” The workshop explored ways of improving the quality of development.
- 2011**      Construction of the Circle Drive South Bridge was underway and continued for the next two years. The north-south rail line across 11<sup>th</sup> Street that Montgomery Place residents had complained about since 1946 was maintained, even more rail tracks were added, and



Circle Drive underpass, 2011.  
*City of Saskatoon photo*

Montgomery Place remained cut off by train traffic as trains got longer and more frequent.

- 2011** The Dog Park in the vacant land across from the 3300, 3200 and 3100 blocks of 11<sup>th</sup> Street was closed.
- 2011** **12 April** – The Montgomery Place Community Association established a Facebook page.
- 2011** **7 May** - Annual Montgomery Place Community Garage Sale.
- 2011** **June** – Concrete was poured for the CN-CP overpass structure north of 11<sup>th</sup> Street, requiring 750 cubic metres of concrete. South of 11<sup>th</sup> Street, crews constructed a new access road to the Landfill.
- 2011** **24 June** – Due to filtering problems at the Water Treatment plant, the City of Saskatoon issued a mandatory outdoor water restriction prohibiting the watering of lawns and gardens, and washing cars in driveways. High levels of sand, silt and clay were being drawn into the plant from the river.
- 2011** **August** – The new 11<sup>th</sup> Street bypass opened, linking the original 3400 block of 11<sup>th</sup> Street to a new northern loop to the intersection of Dundonald Avenue. The original 11<sup>th</sup> Street became a three block long street with cul-de-sacs at the east and west ends.
- 2011** **13 September** – Fire Protective Services met with the MPCA to outline an evacuation plan for Montgomery Place in case of a major rail accident and spill at the CN yards.
- 2011** **14 September** – This day marked the official opening of the Chappell Marsh Conservation Area between Valley Road and the CN railyards, just east of Cedar Villa. This Ducks



Garage Sale day is a good day to meet friends, 2011.  
*Newman Family photo*



Circle Drive construction on the left and Dundonald Avenue still a north-south road on the right, August 2011.  
*Ruth Bitner photo*



Unlimited habitat project offered trails and interpretive sites for school students and their teachers. Fifty years earlier Montgomery Place kids had skated on what was then called the Gévelot Slough. Gévelot Canada had an ammunition manufacturing facility from 1961 to 1973 southwest of Montgomery Place, near the slough.



Chappell Marsh, c. 2011.  
*Leslee Newman photo*

**2011**      **11 November** – A Remembrance Service was held at the cairn in Montgomery Park.

**2011**      Montgomery Place residents rallied to oppose a tall wind turbine proposed for the Landfill. Montgomery Place residents fought long and hard against the turbine, citing concerns of noise, vibration, strobe effect, bird and bat mortality, human health and welfare, and cost.



Remembrance service,  
November 2011.  
*Newman Family photo*

**2011**      **December** – The City of Saskatoon set a new building permit record, issuing 4,528 building permits in 2011.

**2011**      **1 December** – The City of Saskatoon hosted an information meeting to review the proposal submitted by North Ridge Development Corp. for “a residential development on the lands located north of 11<sup>th</sup> Street West (3130 11<sup>th</sup> Street West). ...North Ridge has applied to the City to amend the phasing designation to Phase 1 so that the land can be developed.”

**2012**      **December** – The new traffic overpass on 11<sup>th</sup> Street opened at the same time as the two railway overpasses. When 11<sup>th</sup> Street opened, Fletcher Road at Dundonald Avenue closed permanently.



Deer in Pat Lorje’s backyard,  
Dieppe Street, 2014.  
*Pat Lorje photo*

**2011**      **Winter** – More deer visited Montgomery yards in the winter of 2011-12. It became a pattern that would be repeated every winter as deer from the herd by the grain elevator sought better food supply in the depth of winter.

Montgomery Place yards offered cedar and fruit trees that deer love.

## **2012 – The last steel girder was installed on the Circle Drive South Bridge.**

**2012      16 January** – A tall wind turbine proposed for the landfill did **not** get approval at City Council, apparently due to the high bids submitted, to the relief of Montgomery Place residents who feared one more noisy and unhealthy disturbance in the neighbourhood.

**2012      February** – The City of Saskatoon approved a project to expand the capacity of the Water Treatment Plant at Avenue H and 11<sup>th</sup> Street West. The intersection would be blocked for the next two years as work proceeded on pump station upgrades, improvements to the distribution system and enhancements to the disinfection system.

**2012      1 March** – There was a record turnout of over 300 people when the Montgomery Place Community Association held an information meeting to review the proposed apartment construction on the land north of the 3100 block 11<sup>th</sup> Street West. The land, part of the parcel willed to the Saskatchewan Arts Board by Fred Mendel, was sold to North Ridge Development. Then North Ridge sold five acres east of Lancaster Boulevard to Seymour Developments of British Columbia. That company proposed to build three barrack-style 4-storey apartments - 192 units in total.

**2012      March** – The re-naming of the original 11<sup>th</sup> Street to Scheldt Street in honour of the Battle of Scheldt in 1944 where Canadians played a decisive role in the victory, was suggested by



Circle Drive South bridge, 2012.  
*City of Saskatoon photo*

the Montgomery Place Community Association. Residents on 11<sup>th</sup> Street did not support the change, so the 11<sup>th</sup> Street West name remained, with the new bypass being called the 11<sup>th</sup> Street West Bypass.

- 2012**      **May** – Glencore International bought Viterra taking ownership of the 100-year-old elevator on 11<sup>th</sup> Street West.
- 2012**      **5 May** - Annual Montgomery Place Community Garage Sale.
- 2012**      **1 June** – Spadina Crescent was closed for construction of the south bridge. Traffic on Valley Road was routed on the new northbound and southbound lanes during the summer as asphaltting, paving, pavement marking and street lighting were undertaken. Closer to Montgomery Place, it was announced that 11<sup>th</sup> Street lane closures would occur throughout the summer months to facilitate tie-in connections to the Circle Drive on-ramps and off-ramps under construction. The Circle Drive and Clancy Drive intersection would also experience detours as road realignment and asphaltting progressed.
- 2012**      **17 June** – An article in the Saskatoon StarPhoenix informed residents that “An apartment complex on the edge of Montgomery Place will receive a \$750,000 grant and be property tax-free for five years. Under a rental construction incentive program, the city will provide a five-year property tax abatement to the Broadstreet Properties.”
- 2012**      **Summer** – Sound walls were built adjacent to the new 11<sup>th</sup> Street West Bypass and east of Dundonald Street and south of 11<sup>th</sup> Street. Time would prove both structures useless in absorbing or deflecting sound.

**2012**      **Fall** – The City of Saskatoon Planning District and the R.M. of Corman Park began a project to develop a concept plan for the southwest portion of the planning district.

**2012**      **Fall** – By the fall of 2012, against Montgomery Place protests, Seymour Development moved equipment onto the parcel of land north of the 3100 block of 11<sup>th</sup> Street West. Construction of three barracks-style apartment blocks got underway.

**2012**      **October** – In cooperation with North Ridge Development Corporation, the MPCA shared results of a community survey concerning the proposed developments north of the 3100 and 3200 blocks of 11<sup>th</sup> Street West. There was a 45 per cent participation rate, with no one in favour of rental apartments. However there was a high approval rate for a seniors' complex, for family-owned townhouses with garages, and a somewhat lower support for 4-storey condominiums. A commercial proposal also received cautious support. The survey showed that Montgomery Place residents were open to a variety of options, but did not in any way support the development of rental properties.

**2012**      **11 November** – Snow and cold forced the Remembrance Service that was to be held at the cairn in Montgomery Park to move indoors to St. David's Trinity United Church. This was the first time the service had to be moved indoors.

**2012**      **Winter** - With brutal cold and deep snow in the winter of 2012-13, deer ventured further into Montgomery Place.



Construction of barracks-style apartments underway in the 3100 block of 11<sup>th</sup> Street, 2012.  
*MPCA Archives*



Remembrance Service forced indoors for the first time, St. David's Trinity United Church, 2012. *Church Archives*





## 2013 – The Circle Drive South project opened officially.

- 2013**      **8 January** – The MPCA held a community meeting to elicit approval for the cost of building a granite monument inscribed with more than 500 names of veterans who settled Montgomery Place from 1946 to 1977. Approval was given.
- 2013**      **February** – Blue bins were rolled out as Saskatoon finally approved a residential recycling program.
- 2013**      **February** – The MPCA newsletter printed 563 names of veterans for the new Montgomery Place monument in an attempt to ensure no errors were made and no one was missed.
- 2013**      **April** – A new “off-leash recreation area” for people and pets (not a dog park just for dogs) opened south of the CN Railyards near Cedar Villa.
- 2013**      **April** – A public meeting was held regarding development by North Ridge of the land north of the 3200 block of 11<sup>th</sup> Street West.
- 2013**      **4 May** - Annual Montgomery Place Community Garage Sale.
- 2013**      **22 June** – A new monument honouring the 565 veteran families who called Montgomery Place home between 1946 and 1977 was unveiled. Barb Thompson Biddle (daughter of George and Doris Thompson of 3101 Ortona Street) did the lion’s share of research, compilation, fact-checking and spell-checking for this project. The new black granite monument was mounted near the existing cairn in Montgomery Park. It was dedicated at a day in the park called *Celebrating Our Veterans and Community Heritage* on 22 June. It was



At long last, a recycling program, 2013.  
*Leslee Newman photo*



Barb Thompson Biddle at Montgomery Vets monument, 2014.      *MPCA Archives*

re-dedicated at the Remembrance Service on 11 November that year.

**2013**      **June** – The Landfill Gas to Energy Project at the Saskatoon Landfill got underway. When completed, methane-rich landfill gas would be captured and piped to a power generation facility being built just west of the Landfill.

**2013**      **June** – Council approved the North Ridge Developments for a townhouse complex in the 3200 block of 11<sup>th</sup> Street West. The MPCA petitioned City Council to be exempted from new garden and garage suite infill initiative.

**2013**      **July** – The Circle Drive South bridge was opened, followed immediately with the opening of Circle Drive. One hundred years after its conception, Circle Drive was a circle.

**2013**      **6 October** – St. David's Trinity United Church celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> year at the corner of Rockingham Avenue and Merritt Street.

**2013**      **Fall** - After six busy years, Gary Berg, MPCA webmaster, passed the torch to Katie Rosen.

**2013**      **Fall** – The increase in train traffic, combined with longer trains, has had serious consequences for Montgomery Place residents cut off from the City by trains that move slowly, or sit across the tracks not moving at all. Residents were asked to keep track to the details of their train delays and share them with City Councillor Pat Lorje. The MPCA lobbied for a solution.

**2013**      **11 November** – A Remembrance Service was held at the cairn in Montgomery Park.

**2013**      **Winter** - Tracks and damage showed that deer were still feasting in Montgomery Place yards during the winter of 2013-14.



Circle Drive bridge nearing completion, May 2013.  
*Leslee Newman photo*



Montgomery Place residents resigned to waiting to get in or out of the neighbourhood, 2014.  
*Leslee Newman photo*

**2014 – Saskatoon introduced the *Notify Now* system for household notification in times of calamity and emergency.**

- 2014 January** – The Montgomery Place Community Association gained a new logo, thanks to the creative talents of Montgomery students.
- 2014 January** – Because Dundonald Avenue was closed at its south end following the completion of Circle Drive and was no longer a through street, stop signs at the end of Caen, Dieppe and Mountbatten Streets were changed to yield signs. Stop signs at Caen and Dieppe were subsequently re-installed.
- 2014 January** – Although City administration had recommended that Montgomery Place be exempt from the City's new garden and garage infill strategy, a motion by Councillor Darren Hill negated the recommendation and Montgomery Place was included in the infill strategy guidelines.
- 2014 3 May** - Annual Montgomery Place Community Garage Sale.
- 2014 May** - The City of Saskatoon partnered with SaskEnergy and embarked on a Landfill Gas Collection Facility to collect methane gas from rotting garbage, then pipe it to a power generation facility to generate electricity. The innovative plan called for the gas to fuel internal combustion engines coupled to electrical generators to produce power that would be sold to SaskPower. The heat energy produced during the process would be recovered and used in the Turboexpander. The Landfill Gas to Energy Project was a unique project in that both heat and electricity would be generated. While a praiseworthy initiative,



*MPCA photo*

it came with increased noise for Montgomery Place residents.

- 2014**      **Spring** - The Montgomery Place Community Association (MPCA) began the process of applying for Canadian Heritage designation that would reflect the unique Second World War roots of the Montgomery neighbourhood. Of all the VLA settlements established across Canada at the end of the Second World War, Montgomery Place has the distinction of remaining the most extant. While there have been property severances and new streets added to the south and west perimeters - in essence, Montgomery Place remained true to its original conception.
- 2014**      **Spring** – Montgomery Place residents were surveyed regarding their opinions on reducing the neighbourhood speed limit to 40 kph and their support for Canadian heritage designation.
- 2014**      **June** – The former Dominion Elevator on 11<sup>th</sup> Street West celebrated 100 years. Montgomery Place residents were polled concerning noise pollution from the neighbouring giant.
- 2014**      **29 July** - Kate MacFarlane, Historian with the Cultural Sciences branch of Parks Canada, came from Ottawa to visit Montgomery Place. MPCA President Barb Biddle toured Ms. MacFarlane around the community, noting in particular the veterans' cairn and monument at the corner of Caen Street and Rockingham Avenue and the community Remembrance Service that is held there every November 11.
- 2014**      **August** – The reconstruction of ditches to improve drainage and prevent further deterioration of the Cassino Avenue roadway



Cassino Avenue roadwork,  
2014. *MPCA Archives*



got underway from Haida to Simmonds Avenue.

**2014**      **Fall** – The extensive building and remodelling of the Water Treatment Plant at Avenue H and 11<sup>th</sup> Street West was completed and opened.

**2014**      **26-28 September** – St. Dominic School celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**2014**      **October** – Properties along Dundonald Avenue were put up for sale. They had been purchased by the City when Saskatoon thought Circle Drive South would run along the west side of the tracks.

**2014**      **11 November** – A Remembrance Service was held at the cairn in Montgomery Park.

**2014**      **12 December** – A CN grain train derailed on the tracks east of the Viterra elevator. Five cars loaded with grain derailed, two tipping over and spilling their contents.

**2014**      **13 December** – Exacerbating the derailment incident was a malfunction of the rail arm crossing the off-ramp from Circle Drive. The faulty arm blocked traffic for over two hours.

**2014**      **Winter** – Deer have become a winter reality for Montgomery Place residents.



Remembrance service, 2014.  
*Newman Family photo*



Rail line clean-up, December 2013. *Leslee Newman photo*

## **2015 – Montgomery Place embarked on a Local Area Planning (LAP) process initiated by the City of Saskatoon.**

**2015**      **January** – North Ridge Developments started construction of town homes on the most westerly 6 ½ acres on the north side of the 3200 block of the original 11<sup>th</sup> Street.

**2015**      **2 May** - Annual Montgomery Place Community Garage Sale.



Townhouse construction underway on 11<sup>th</sup> Street, 2015.  
*Leslee Newman photo*

**2015**

**Spring** – Construction began on the new Civic Operations Centre (COC) south of Montgomery Place, forever impacting the rural charm of Valley Road. Plans are “to develop the COC in phases, co-locating the new Saskatoon Transit Operations Facility and the City’s first Snow Management Facility. The facility will have room to store 224 City buses with capacity for future fleet growth. Among the features will be administrative offices, fare collection, fueling, wash lanes, maintenance bays and inspections pits. The Snow Management Facility will have the capacity to store up to 1 million cubic metres of snow and will feature a meltwater collection site where the environmental safety of meltwater can be monitored prior to release into the storm sewer system. The COC also allows for the addition of other civic departments and services in the future. Construction is expected to start in Spring 2015 and is due to be completed by late 2016 with Saskatoon Transit moving in, and the Snow Management Facility operational by January 2017.”



An expanse of concrete, 2015.  
*Meghan Beaven photo*



Valley Road transformed from a country route to an industrial roadway, 2015.  
*Leslee Newman photo*

**2015**

**Spring** – With community and school support, Montgomery School transformed its outdoor classroom space.

**2015**

**Spring** – With the North Ridge sale of 11<sup>th</sup> Street property in the 3200 block to Westbow Construction, the first set of two-storey townhouses went up quickly. North Ridge held a contest to name its development with the winning entry submitted by Montgomery Place resident Dalton Males – Highlander Ridge.



Westbow town homes, 3200 block 11<sup>th</sup> Street, underway in 2015. *Leslee Newman photo*

**2015**

**28 May** – The **first meeting of a Local Area Planning (LAP)** process was held. The City of Saskatoon Neighbourhood Planning Section

initiated the process to develop a long-term plan for Montgomery Place including vision, goals and recommendations.

**2015**

**6 June** – Volunteers from Montgomery Place and Cedar Villa joined to clean up the piles of refuse in the Richard St. Barbe Baker Afforestation Area south of the CN railyards. The greenspace, planted in 1972, had not seen much TLC over the years. Later in the month, the MPCA voted unanimously to “adopt” the forest area and champion the greenspace.



St. Barbe Baker forest clean-up volunteers, 2015. *MPCA Archives*

**2015**

**10 June** – The **second LAP meeting**, which was also the first Montgomery Place Traffic Meeting was held to hear residents’ thoughts and concerns about traffic in the community. A reduced speed limit was the first and foremost recommendation.



LAP meeting, St. Dominic School, June 2015. *MPCA Archives*

**2015**

**20 June** – A series of implosion charges began the demolition of the 105-year-old Parrish and Heimbecker Mill at 515 Avenue M South. The mill opened in 1910 as a flour mill and grain storage facility. In the years after the Second World War, when it was owned and operated by Quaker Oats, the mill provided summer employment for many boys growing up in Montgomery Place and other westend neighbourhoods. The mill sold to Parrish and Heimbecker in 1973.



The old Quaker Oats plant is gone, 2015. *Leslee Newman photo*

**2015**

The City of Saskatoon began a series of public meetings to discuss traffic concerns on 11<sup>th</sup> Street from the Water Treatment Plant on Avenue H to Highway 7.



- 2015**      **July 1** – Kramer Ltd. at 3502 11<sup>th</sup> Street West was sold to Finning International Inc.
- 2015**      **Summer** – Road resurfacing was undertaken on sections of Cassino, Mountbatten and Ortona Streets.
- 2015**      **September** – Fred and Janey Hettinga at the corner of Lancaster Boulevard and Caen Street set up the first Little Free Library in Montgomery Place.
- 2015**      **17 September** – The **third LAP meeting** was held to discuss the neighbourhood vision of its future, Montgomery Place boundaries, southwest sector planning and the future of land west of Chappell Drive.
- 2015**      **20 October** – The **fourth LAP meeting** addressed drainage, property maintenance, storage and home-based businesses.
- 2015**      **27 October** – The City held an 11<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor meeting to discuss community concerns along this roadway.
- 2015**      **11 November** – A Remembrance Service was held at the cairn in Montgomery Park.
- 2015**      **19 November** – The **fifth LAP meeting** was held to discuss land use, zoning and infill.
- 2015**      **2 December** – The City and other partners hosted a West Connector Route meeting to discuss connecting Highway 7 traffic and traffic from northern highways to Circle Drive South.
- 2015**      **8 December** – The **sixth LAP meeting** and second Traffic Meeting was convened to discuss the results of the first Traffic meeting and the City's traffic recommendations and proposals.



Finning Cat, former Kramer Ltd. on 11<sup>th</sup> Street West, 2016.  
*Leslee Newman photo*



LAP meeting, September 17, 2015. *Wendy Rosen photo*



West Corridor meeting at St. John School, 2015. *MPCA Archives*



**2015 Winter** – On 11<sup>th</sup> Street east of the tracks at Dawes Avenue, construction began on a Shell service station and convenience store. Across the road to the north, construction began on an expansion to the truck wash.

**2016 – Montgomery Place celebrated its 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, while Montgomery School celebrated its 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.**

**2016 13 January** – The MPCA held a community meeting to ask approval of an expenditure to refurbish the Montgomery Park rink later in 2016. The expenditure was approved. Another motion called for the MPCA to continue its lobby for a reduced speed limit in Montgomery Place.

**2016 8 February** – The expansion to the Water Treatment Plant at Avenue H and 11<sup>th</sup> Street West opened officially.

**2016 10 February** – The **seventh LAP meeting** of the Local Area Planning team was held on the topics of heritage and culture.

**2016 15 March** – The **eighth LAP meeting** of the Local Area Planning team was held on the topic of Noise Pollution. Montgomery Place residents listed their Top Ten noise concerns, in no particular order: 1. Circle Drive traffic; 2. Moving and shunting trains as well as the Chappell railyards and the Intermodal Terminal noise; 3. Viterra elevator; 4. Landfill Gas Recovery Facility; 5. Truck traffic on Chappell Drive; 6. Truck traffic and heavy traffic on 11<sup>th</sup> Street Bypass, especially traffic coming from Highways 7 and 14 using 11th Street as an alternate route to get to Circle Drive; 7. Construction noise at the Civic Operations Centre (COC) on Valley Road and



Shell station underway, winter 2015-16. *Leslee Newman photo*



Lap meeting on heritage and culture, February 10, 2016, St. David's Trinity United Church. *MPCA Archives*

anticipated future noise on completion of the project; 8. Train horn and whistle noise especially in the middle of the night; 9. Valley Road traffic noise; 10. Pets.

**2016**      **6 April** - The **ninth LAP meeting** of the Local Area Planning team was held on the topic of Neighbourhood Safety.

**2016**      **19 April** - The **tenth LAP meeting** of the Local Area Planning team was held, again on the topic of Neighbourhood Safety.

**2016**      **7 May** - Annual Montgomery Place Community Garage Sale.

**2016**      **May** – Montgomery Home and School Association fundraised to purchase and install a Buddy Bench for the playground – where a child could sit to alert others that he or she was looking for a buddy to play with.

**2016**      **6 June** – Word was given by Parks Canada that Montgomery Place successfully won designation as a Canadian National Historic Site. Of all the Veterans Land Act (VLA) communities across Canada, Montgomery Place has remained the most extant of VLA small holding developments.

**2016**      **19 June** – Montgomery Place Community Association Facebook page received its 500<sup>th</sup> *Like*.

**2016**      **23 June** – An Open House to affirm the findings of previous LAP meetings was held, in anticipation of writing the final LAP report.

**2016**      **1 September** – After approval by City Council vote on May 24 earlier this year, a reduced speed limit went into effect for all Montgomery Place streets – from 50 kph to 40 kph. Residents had requested the speed



Speed limit sign at Caen Street and Crerar Drive, August 2016.



Speed limit sign at Caen Street and Crerar Drive, September 2016. *Leslee Newman photos*



reduction for decades, citing safety concerns caused by having no sidewalks, deep drainage ditches and narrow roadways.

- 2016**      **16-18 September** – An event in celebration of the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Montgomery Place was held.
- 2016**      **Fall** – The twinning of Highway 7 to Vanscoy was completed.
- 2016**      **11 November** – A Remembrance Service was held at the cairn in Montgomery Park.



The 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary logo was designed by Katie Rosen, MPCA Communications Director and owner of *Cookiehat Design*, 2016.