McGill, NV-News

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This is the very first issue, so, please bear with me.

McGill is coming back to life after the shut down of Kennecott that has devastated the entire area. There is a lot of new activity on our Main Street.

The bank building was recently purchased by Mike Nass and he is opening a locksmith shop and a thrift store. The old I.O.O.F. Hall is getting restored. The crumbling brick front is being repaired. A cosmetician is setting up a salon between Stacy's and the McGill Club. The sheriff's office and the post office front have been painted and look great. The McGill Club is under new ownership.

Remember sitting on these stools and getting a sundae or an iron port??





Figure 1=New cell tower under construction between the old commissary and the engineering building.

I will try to get more info on this for you. You can see the famous Peak with the flag pole still standing after 102 years. It is as tough as McGill.

Now it is time to start with the first Keith's Corner column since December,2018.

Water Carnival

Thanks to my Mom, Ada Gibson, for saving so many items from the past. I found this little gem. It is dated Monday, July16th, but no year. I searched and found that it would have to be 1945. So, there were two earth shaking things that

happened that day. The McGill Water Carnival and the first atomic blast that took place at the White Sands Proving Ground.

Every year the McGill Community League put on a water carnival to show off what the local heathens learned in the Red Cross swimming class that summer. There were swimming and diving events. The Life Guards demonstrated the proper way to rescue a possible drowning victim. Johnny Demos did some great dives and in later years I remember watching Buddy Jukich doing his dives.

We started out as beginners clinging onto the kiddies board. We graduated into the intermediate classes and did our first solo swim across the pool. I remember that day and the great feeling of doing it. It opened up so many wonderful days at the pool in the years ahead.

The carnival was quite a production in those days and was a lot of fun. The McGill Community Band, under the baton of Ray Anderson, provided the music. There was always a big crowd. The Ruth kids and their parents were there, also, as it was for the members of the Ruth and McGill Community Leagues.

The Red Cross also trained the life guards. KCC paid the life guards and maintained the pool. Each year the bull gang would show up and drain the pool and get rid of the seaweed. Yellow sand was spread in and around the pool. The water in the early morning was beautiful and clear. There were high and low diving boards. The water under the diving platform was deep.

There were two large rafts that we kids played king of bunker hill on, and many of us still have skid marks on our legs.

The Water Carnivals were a reflection of the community pride at the time. The Community Leagues in Ruth and McGill were financed by monthly contributions from the workers and matched by KCC. I feel so lucky to have lived during those days.

We didn't know about the atomic blast at the time as it was shrouded in secrecy. The carnival was more important to us anyway.

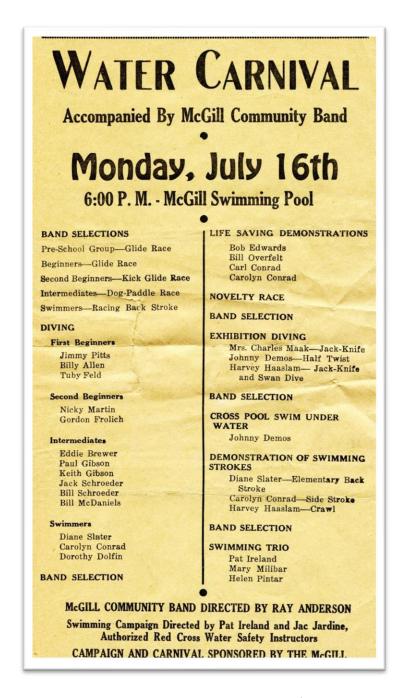


Figure 2--1945 Water Carnival

A big thanks to all those who have subscribed so far. I really appreciate your confidence in me. I will do my best to make McGill, NV-News worthy of your support.