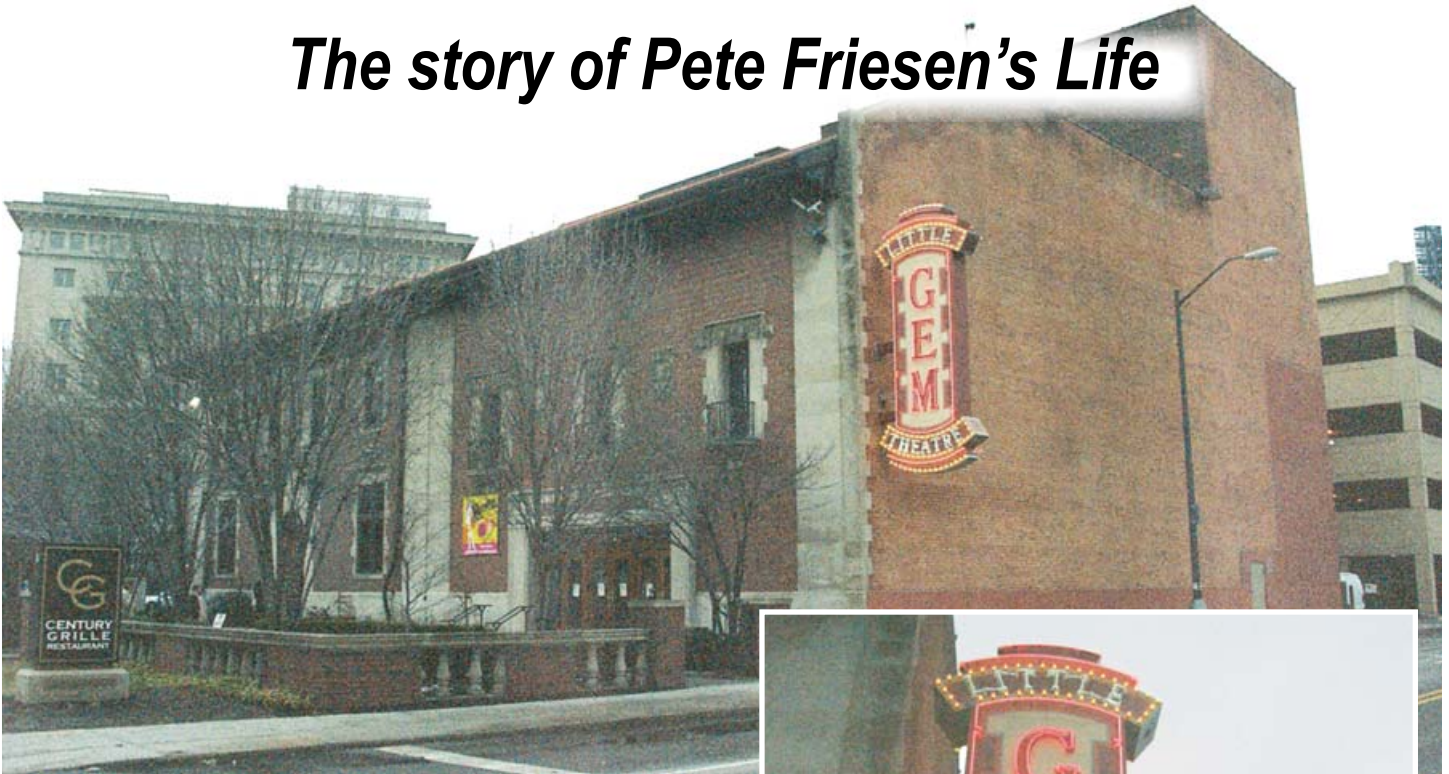


Moving Man Made Mountains

The story of Pete Friesen's Life



Historic Gem Theatre, Detroit Michigan. The structure weighted 2,700 tons. In 1998 the Guinness World Book of Record recognized the project for the Heaviest Building Moved on Wheels. Friesen designed a pressure panel and distribution blocks for control of hydraulics.

The name Pete Friesen is well known in the structural moving business. This recognition has been earned for a career that could not have been imagined at his birth 85 years ago, even by the man himself. A close facsimile of his story is now recorded in a 90-minute documentary by RYBW Productions, Inc.'s filmmaker Bill Stewart of Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. The film was first viewed by attendees to the 25th Annual Conference of the International Association of Structural Movers in Tucson, AZ on February 16, 2007. The official premiere was March 19-20 in Detroit, MI at the Gem Theatre, a structure moved by Pete and what he refers to as "The "dream team", in 1997. On May 5th the movie was premiered in Canada, in Pete's childhood home of Provost, Alberta. Provost is located near the Saskatchewan Province border.

The opportunity to return to the small community of Provost offered many memories for the honoree to reflect on the days of his youth that netted an eight grade formal education and realization of some of the principles that would guide him on his remarkable career. "The film", said Stewart, "was made on a very limited budget over a three year period and was an endless source of fascination with the subject and accomplishments documented." Unfazed by all the accolades and attention, [if not, he masks his emotions with the skill of an accomplished actor] Friesen credits what success one may attribute to him, to his Creator and the constant support and encouragement of his lovely wife, Edith."

Friesen also maintains his entry into the structural moving business came, in part, when he was being discharged from Canadian military service. A question on the discharge form asked: "How do you plan to spend your civilian life?" He reflected



and responded....

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By **GENE BRYMER**, Staff Executive / Editor