

# Friday comment

## Applause for news of 2,000 signature petition

We applaud the news this week that a group of concerned senior citizens have managed to obtain well over 2,000 signatures on a petition calling for the Ministry of Health to allow more beds to be opened at the new St. Andrew's Centennial Manor nursing home.

We also applaud the manner in which they have conducted themselves in circulating the petition. Unlike so many petitions that have gone around town recently, the senior citizens quietly and industriously presented local residents with theirs, and through reasoned argument, based on statistics which they took the time to compile, evidently managed to convince many people that in fact, there is a need for more nursing home space in Midland.

It is hard to understand why the provincial government feels that only 28 beds of the 63 available at St. Andrew's should be opened. There is an obvious need for extended care beds in Midland, and in light of this fact, the Ministry of Health's claim that Simcoe County has its quota of nursing home space pales indeed. Some areas of Simcoe County may in fact have enough space available. But when the space available in Collingwood, a town of comparable size to Midland, is viewed next to the space in Midland, the government's reasoning seems curious. Collingwood has almost 100 more beds

available.

Excuses such as the one offered by the ministry of health tend to make one just a little bit cynical about the Tory government. Could it be that Midland's senior citizens will be joining other groups across the province who have had services reduced or even taken away completely, so that the big blue machine can fulfill campaign promise to balance the provincial budget in two years?

Even if the freeze on nursing home space across the province is not politically motivated, it certainly must be considered bad management by a government so obsessed with fiscal responsibility to keep people in hospitals at a cost of \$100 a day, when the same care could be had at a nursing home at a fraction of the price.

But most compelling of all is the argument used by the petitioners, that it just isn't right for people to have to leave the community they've lived almost all their lives in order to find a bed in a nursing home. And it's especially aggravating to realize that some senior citizens will have to leave Midland in the near future, after St. Andrew's has opened, when there are 35 beds lying unused.

It might be a nice gesture on the government's part to remember some of the people who at one time, voted to elect it.



Test

Children at Regent Park Public School took a test on bicycle safety from a film Monday morning. Questions for the test were given on film by actor Bill Cosby.

The film, produced by the American National Safety Council, was presented by McDonald's Restaurant and the Midland Police Department.

## THE TOWN OF MIDLAND WILL PROVIDE A SPECIAL COLLECTION

of Residential Refuse such as Discarded Furniture, Junk, Mattresses, etc., which is not collected as part of the Regular Garbage Collection. (Trees, discarded vehicles, industrial waste, demolition materials, etc., will not be collected as part of this collection.) If in doubt, call 526-4275. There will be only one Special Collection in 1978.

The collection will be made on the following dates:

**Tuesday, May 23rd**

All that part of Town lying East of King Street and including the East side of King Street.

**Thursday, May 25th**

All that part of Town lying West of King Street and including the west side of King Street.



More mobile

Times carrier Jessica Gleben is a little more mobile this week, after winning this ten speed bicycle in a special carrier draw. Jessica added five new

customers to her route to qualify for the draw. Pictured with her is the Times' circulation manager Ed Dorion.

Staff Photo

## The Friday Times and Friday Citizen

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Markle Community Newspapers Limited also publish The Midland Times, Penetanguishene Citizen and Elmvale Lance each Wednesday in the Huronia market.

## Midland and District Community Calendar

- Friday, May 19**  
—Salad Plate Supper in the Odd Fellows Hall, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Bake Sale, Talent Table.
- Saturday, May 20**  
—Garage Sale, Conc. 5, Tay, 1/2 mile south of Hwy. 12, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Saturday, May 20**  
—St. John's Dance, sponsored by St. John's Catholic Church. Music by Jim Armstrong (Disc.); lunch; chili and fresh bread. Door prize. Dancing from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. St. John's Hall, Waubaushe. Everyone welcome. Tickets at Waubaushe Shopping Centre or at the door.
- Saturday, May 20**  
—Gigantic Lawn Sale, two big days. Household items, furniture, clothing etc., garage items, tools. Highway 27, one mile north of Waverley, East side.
- Saturday, May 20**  
—Georgian Shores Swinging Seniors will hold a tea and bake sale from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at The Place, Balm Beach.
- Monday, May 22**  
—The Barrie Civitan Club Inc. Annual Fireworks Display, Centennial Park, Barrie, Ontario, Monday, May 22. From dusk (app. 9:30) until 10:30 p.m. Admission: Only \$3. per family. All proceeds from this event over and above expenses, are to go in aid of charities within Simcoe County.
- May 24**  
—The Midland-Penetanguishene Big Brothers Association will hold its annual meeting May 24 at the Athenian Hall, Midland. Drinks will be served at 6 p.m. with the meeting getting underway at 7 p.m. Judge John Gammell, who has been active in the area and is currently serving as a Family Court judge in Owen Sound, will be the guest speaker. Tickets are \$5. each.
- Wednesday, May 24**  
—Meeting of the Canadian Diabetic Association, Huronia & District Branch will be held in the Blue

- Flame Room, Consumers' Gas, Ferris Lane, Barrie, at 8:00 p.m. Topic: "Research". Dr. Hilda Macmorine, Director of Research at Connaught Laboratories and Dr. Anthony Seen, Leader of Research Team will be guest speakers. Public is welcome.
- May 25-27**  
—Huronians Players present "Once Upon a Mattress", a musical, directed by Lynn Gorell, at Sacred Heart School, William and Elizabeth Streets, at 8 p.m. Lynn Gorell directed last season's play, "Paint Your Wagon".
- Friday, May 26**  
—Evening Sale, used clothing and household articles, from 7 to 9 p.m. in Knox Presbyterian Church, Hugel Ave. and First Street. Auspices Dorothy Lukes Auxiliary. For pickup of articles call 526-2907.
- Saturday, May 27**  
—A Centennial Homecoming will be held for all former students of Midland High School, M.P.D.H.S., and M.S.S. The afternoon reception will be at 2 p.m. in the M.S.S. cafeteria; the dance at 9 p.m. at the Country Mill. For information, call 526-2274.
- Saturday, May 27**  
—The Ladies' Guild of St. James' On-the-Lines is holding a Garage and Bake Sale, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., in the Parish Hall, Church Street. All donations welcome. Phone Mrs. V. Grigg, 549-8850, for further information.
- Saturday, May 27**  
—Midland Horticultural Society bus trip to Cambridge, 7:30 a.m. Shopping in downtown Galt in the morning. Lunch provided by the City of Cambridge. Next stop - Elora - Shopping and view of the Gorge. Midland by 5:30 p.m. For further details, phone Mrs. Maria Wittig at 526-5530.
- May 27**  
—ACW Rummage Sale May 27, 12:30 p.m. at All Saints Anglican Church, Peel Street, Penetanguishene.
- Saturday, June 3**  
—Third Annual Vasey United Church auction sale will be held at Vasey Community Park, County Road 23.

- This outstanding auction sale includes homemade quilts, dishes, antiques, and numerous articles donated by the residents of the area. Time—12:30 p.m.
- Monday, June 5**  
—Calvary Baptist Church Choir presents Soiree Musicale, featuring John French, Pianist, Vicci Thompson, Soprano soloist, and Bonnie Worthen, French Horn Soloist, and Church Choir, at 8 p.m., in Calvary Baptist Church auditorium. Tickets available at 526-9845 or 526-6738.
- Friday, June 9**  
—Tickets are available for the First Presbyterian Church luncheon. Seating times are: 11:30, 12:00, 12:30 and 1:00 p.m. The menu is a cold plate. Phone early for your choice of time. The numbers to call are, 549-2185 or 549-8516.
- June 9, 10, 11**  
—Yoga Retreat—enjoy a relaxing weekend on beautiful Beausoleil Island. Workshops offered include Beginners and Advanced Hatha Yoga, Massage Therapy and Meditation. For information call Janet Phillips 361-2196.
- Saturday, June 10**  
—Miscellaneous auction sale will be held at Waverley Park, sponsored by Waverley United Church.
- Saturday, June 10**  
—Penetanguishene Curling Club is holding its Annual Garage Sale, Water Street, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Bake table, plant sale and a huge assortment of household and outdoor goods.
- Saturday, June 17**  
—Centennial Dance at the Midland Civic Centre. Two dance bands, Modern and Dixieland. For tickets phone 526-9636. Door prize.
- Organizers are invited to publicize their upcoming events free of charge in the Times Community Calendar. Please call the Community Calendar editor at 526-2283 or drop your message into the Midland Times office, 525 Bay Street.

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