

PLEASE CALL US
Story or picture idea:
526-2283 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

"Information is the hallmark of democracy"

Blood-letting time for Tories?

YOU CAN call it what you wish but we call it a rift that has been created between provincial and federal supporters of the Tory faith in the ridings of Simcoe East (provincial) and Simcoe North (federal).

If you have joined us late the entire fuss raised its ugly head after the Simcoe North MP Douglas Lewis took a shot at Premier William Davis (in press releases) over the provincial government's support of constitutional policies of the federal Liberal government.

In a letter to Simcoe East MPP Gord Smith, Lewis reportedly told Smith as a PC he (Lewis) would like to be in a position to encourage the 1,200 workers who supported him (Lewis) in the last federal election to support Smith in the next provincial election however Lewis is reported to

have added he would have great difficulty in finding a reason to support provincial Tories.

Maybe Lewis' support of Smith might be the kiss of death since Lewis only won the last federal election by the skin of his teeth.

All this blood letting can only enhance the Liberal's cause during the next provincial election which is sure to come in early spring of 1981.

We echo the comments of the Orillia Wednesday Nighter: "Not only has MP for Simcoe North Doug Lewis created a rift which was previously unheard of between PC candidates in this long time Conservative area, he has done so at the time when his party's provincial force's in Simcoe East have the greatest need for his support."

Some observations

WE SAW a sample of what team-work can achieve last week during a training session for members of Midland, Tay Township (Old Fort Road) and Port McNicoll fire departments.

The drill, conceived by Tay's Deputy Fire Chief Bill Beck, was staged in conjunction with Deputy Fire Chief Hal Belfry from Midland Fire Department and Gord Duggan from Port McNicoll Fire Department.

The session involved scores of firefighters and at least 10 pieces of apparatus.

The smoke-eaters were backed up by members of the OPP who provided traffic control around Martyrs' Shrine where the training session was conducted.

Purpose was to iron out any wrinkles that might occur

during a real fire at the national shrine since it would be likely all three municipal fire departments would be called in to quell any major inferno there.

From all reports the exercise was a successful joint venture. We are apt to see more of these in future thanks to the co-operation that exists between these and other North Simcoe firefighting brigades.

TWO MUNICIPAL appointments in Midland in recent months without advertising the positions prompt us to worry an unhealthy precedent is being set by those people in public office who should know better.

We think it would be wise to nip this habit in the bud before it gets out of hand.

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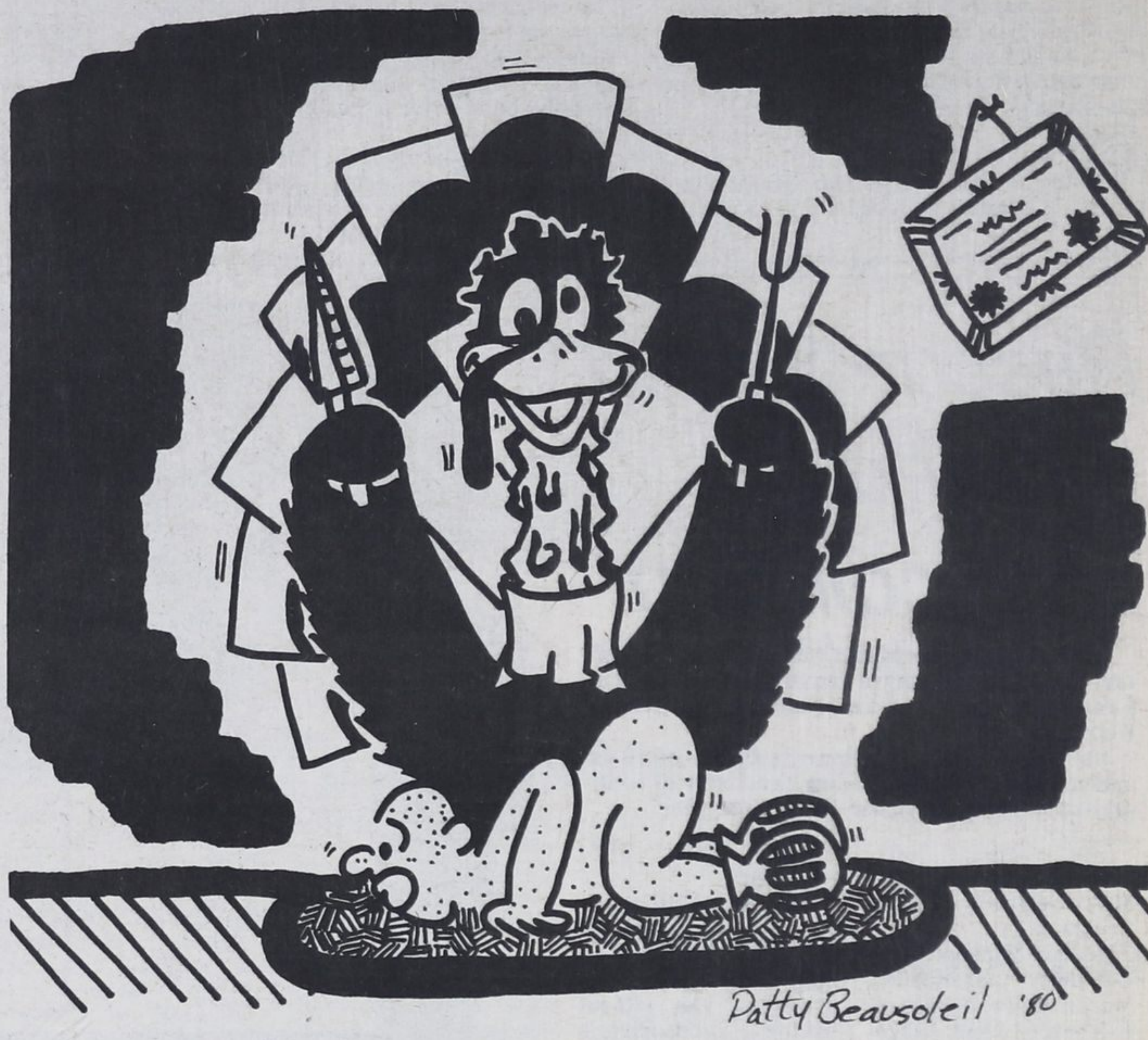
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"Ah, a Thanksgiving turkey's dream come true!"

Letters

Our readers say...

Tiny's turn to react to TPPB rhetoric

Dear Sir:

Council of the Township of Tiny would like to clarify some of the comments made through the media, in reference to Tiny's withdrawal from the Tiny-Tay Peninsula Planning Board.

It was mentioned in the press Dr. Peter Brasher was a member of Tiny Council. For the record, Dr. Brasher is not a member of Council, however he is a member of Planning Board and was one of the four Tiny representatives on the Tiny-Tay Peninsula Planning Board.

In that same article it appears that Mr. Platt accuses Tiny of dragging out matters and that there was a lack of interest on the part of Tiny to come out and say that they didn't want an Official Plan.

Mr. Platt however does not indicate that the Township of Tiny Planning Board and Council had outlined over the past two years several concerns with certain policies in the draft Official Plan and wanted clarification as to the implementation of the document once approved.

These legitimate concerns were treated as delaying tactics and to date some of these inquiries are still left unanswered.

Mayor Lynn also outlined that the Area Board Official Plan is for all municipalities to work together and without it (Official Plan), the only way a municipality can protect its borders is with annexation.

This is very interesting in that even while the draft Area Official Plan was being considered by all municipalities Tiny through the media, has been bombarded by some members of Midland council with threats of annexation.

With this attitude, an Area Official Plan is no guarantee in preventing annexation against, who else, but the rural municipalities.

It is outlined by Mayor Lynn that a decade ago no formal land use planning existed in the area save Midland's and that the municipalities that announced their withdrawal from the Area Board were amongst those which had little or no formal planning.

As to other municipalities, Tiny is not in a position, as Mayor Lynn purports to be, to judge their planning program; however, in Tiny since 1966, Comprehensive Zoning By-laws have been in effect and in 1970 a detailed Official Plan was approved by the Ministry of Housing.

Since 1962, planning has also been one of the top priorities in Tiny and maintained at a level of planning second to none. Tiny's planning programs have been at least equal to other area

municipalities and substantial scope and detail.

As to Tiny's financial contribution to the Area Board, Mayor Lynn's comments that Tiny and Tay's share is relatively small, out of a \$477,930.00 expenditure since 1972, Tiny's share was \$152,684.00 which is a substantial amount.

If Tay's share (\$76,387.00) is included with Tiny's portion, it almost makes up one half of the financial disbursements of the Area Board.

It was also pointed out by Mayor Lynn that Tiny has opted out of the Area Board for centralized County planning.

While Tiny has discussed this topic at various times as we're sure, have all other municipalities in the County of Simcoe, however to date, Tiny Council has not officially endorsed county planning other than keeping an open mind on the issue.

In conclusion, without necessarily jeopardizing intermunicipal co-operation through irresponsible rhetoric, Tiny's decision to undertake the necessary action to withdraw from the Area Board has been made.

It was not made lightly and it involved repeated discussions with various agencies. It also gave careful consideration to the establishment of another level of bureaucracy to run our lives.

The decision was made unanimously by the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Tiny, keeping in mind the best interest of the ratepayers of this municipality.

Respectfully submitted, REEVE, J. M. DARBY
DEPUTY-REEVE, J. LACKIE
COUNCILLORS
J. BUTLER R. HAMELIN G. BRUNELLE

What's Your Opinion?

The Midland Times, The Penetanguishene Citizen and Elmvale Lance welcome Letters to the Editor. They must be legible, signed, (by hand) and carry the writer's address and telephone number for verification purposes. Pen names are not allowed and anonymous letters will not be published. All letters are subject to editing for length, clarity, good taste and libel. It should be noted letters that are typewritten and brief have the best chance of being published.

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