

**PLEASE CALL US**  
Story or picture idea:  
549-2012 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

"Information is the hallmark of democracy"

## New law(s) off to a good start, but...

THE NEW Property Trespass and Occupier's Liability Acts which came into effect Sept. 8, 1980, are much needed legislation but the new law fails to complete the task it was designed for.

The major reason for implementing the new law was to clarify the many ambiguities and points of confusion that existed under the old legislation.

Further, the new acts were to increase protection for landowners rights as well as placing some responsibility on him and land users for the protection of anyone using the land for recreation.

But the new legislation, even though it has gone a long way to improving the former act has its own ambiguities that tend to defeat the purpose of clarification.

For example, the basis of the occupier's liability section is seen in section 3-(1), (2), which says the occupier has a duty to take such care, (for users safety), as is in all cases reasonable. The key word is "reasonable"

The word itself requires on interpretation.

After all, what is reasonable for one person is not necessarily reasonable for another.

What is reasonable precaution for another's safety?

Does it mean merely a verbal warning of possible danger areas or does it mean backfilling every gopher hole in sight so as to prevent an accident?

No doubt trespassers should be dealt with and arrested if need be, but to place such authority or power in the hands of private citizens is at least a questionable decision; particularly considering that many trespass incidents occur during hunting season when those involved are likely to be armed.

The new legislation was meant to clarify and facilitate the enforcement and processing of cases under the law.

The built-in ambiguities and potential for violent confrontation between landowners and trespassers that arise from the new legislation may serve to complicate matters rather than simplify them.

## Town hall on the ball

THERE ARE a lot of reasons why Penetanguishene operates, as a municipality, as smoothly and efficiently as it does.

Aside from a capable political arm, the municipality has a talented and hard working administrative staff as well.

As with most organizations, it is this contingent of people who the political wing of the municipality relies on to see to it that records are kept up to date, information is readily available and accurate and that all the background work

is prepared prior to meetings and discussions.

One good indication of the efficiency and thoroughness of the town's organization is the preparation and issuance of complete agendas for planning board and council meetings, long before the deadline for such data.

Another indication of a well developed, well run organization is the lack of turnover.

A tip of the old fedora to the hard working people at town hall.

## The Midland Times

Second Class Mail Registration Number 3194

## The Penetanguishene Citizen

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## The Elmvale Lance

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### Photo flashback

This picture from the past features C. Beck Box Company's 1923 hockey league champions. Recognize any of the players? Do you have a photo flashback you'd like us to publish? If so please get in

touch with our editor Ken Regan at The Penetanguishene Citizen. All photos will be returned following publication.

## Letters

### Our readers say...

### Newspaper staff wins praise

Dear Sir:

On October 18th and 19th the Huronia Association For The Mentally Retarded produced a telethon which raised \$29,545.00

A major portion of our success was due to the excellent coverage we received from The Midland Times.

This newspaper and its subsidiaries were instrumental in helping us to attain our goal.

### Thanks from tele-a-thon group

Dear Sir:

It is with heartfelt gratitude that I write this letter to sincerely thank the many tireless workers who helped make HAMR "Opportunathon" a success.

First, I would like to individually mention each of our co-ordinators:

- Arnold DeCarli — our pillar of strength.
- Harry Cox — our financial expert.
- Clare Armstrong — our man on the street.
- Mary Gibson — our personnel whiz.
- Grace McCabe — Public Relations Plus.
- Tony Vipond — Logistical Jack-of-all-trades.
- Barbara Hacker — Fred's right-hand.
- Paul McDonald — Master Chef.
- Anne Connell — our Roller Skater.
- Lynn Turnbull — All All-Star Talent.
- Gail Scott — our Bell Lady.

I thank Douglas Reed and Grace McCabe for showing such great interest.

My sincere thanks to you all on behalf of all the Opportunathon committee.

Gail White  
Executive Chairman  
Opportunathon  
Huronia Association For The  
Mentally Retarded

### A special thanks to volunteers

Dear Sir:

We, the Midland and District Ability Association (for the handicapped) would like to thank all those who participated in the wheelchair obstacle course on our public awareness day last Saturday at the Huronia Mall.

We would like to thank the following, without whose assistance the day would not have been a success. The management and staff of Huronia Mall, Radio Shack, Athenian Hall, Huronia District Hospital the media, Contact, and the gentlemen of the Midland Secondary School senior football team who acted as spotters.

Without others helping us to help ourselves, we could not do what we did, so again to all those who participated and assisted, thank you.

Midland and District Ability Assoc.  
(For The Handicapped)  
Box 183, Midland  
Frank Shunk  
Awareness Director

The warmth, friendliness, emotion and genuine devotion shown by each person who has partaken in this event is an experience I will long remember and cherish.

Sincerely,  
Gail White  
Executive Chairman  
Opportunathon  
Huronia Association For The  
Mentally Retarded

### 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.

More letters on page 6