

That's My Line



Kevin McCann Housing manager

Kevin McCann manages the North Simcoe and Orillia Housing Authority office in Midland. The office takes care of Authority apartment buildings and houses in North Simcoe. McCann has been with the Authority for four years.

There are 17 senior citizen apartment buildings in our area, with over 500 one-bedroom apartments, plus 200 family homes.

Penetanguishene and Midland each have three apartment buildings, and a new building will be opening in Midland.

Most seniors are appreciative of the opportunity to move into an apartment. In their days they did not have pensions or subsidized housing, and now they can take advantage of things.

I believe the minimum old age pension for a single person is \$443. Rent in our buildings is 20 percent of income, so they're not doing too badly.

The seniors are in apartment buildings,

not homes. A home is something else: one step closer to the grave. Moving into a nursing home means losing independence. It's a step down in physical and mental health.

In a seniors apartment building the seniors enjoy the company of their peers, and the lack of noise. They organize their own social activities, such as euchre parties and bingo, and have the use of a common room.

They run their own social life. They find life a lot easier when they are together with people their own age.

The transition for most newcomers is physical in nature because they are most likely moving into an apartment from a house, into a compact space from a spacious area.

Less time need be spent on cleaning and maintenance, leaving more time for the seniors to spend doing as they like.

In most cases you find the apartments are really well kept, with lots of flowers or knick-knacks. The apart-

ments are decorated as well as they can be.

The Authority provides a refrigerator and a stove. Everything else in an apartment is supplied by the tenants.

Seniors applying for residence should be residents of Ontario for at least a year and be 60 years of age or older. (Exceptions can be made for the handicapped, for example a person on a disability pension who is unable to work.)

Our last inspection of the new seniors apartment building in Midland, on Nov. 5, showed that a lot of minor stuff needs to be done before the building can be occupied. Nothing serious needs to be repaired that would constitute a safety hazard.

It would just be difficult to repair these things after people have moved in, with their carpets and furniture.

There will likely be another inspection in mid-December, which means, if there are no further delays, the earliest seniors could move in would be mid-January.

Employment centre filling its role in the district

Canada Employment Centre at Midland had a good month in November filling 146 regular and 17 casual vacancies.

Figures represent a considerable increase over the corresponding period in 1979 and exceeded the targets set by the centre for the month.

McNee said the majority of hirings took place in the manufacturing sector as a number of firms increased their work force as business improved. Additional hirings occurred in the service area and the construction industry.

He indicated that employment conditions in the area were not too bad. At the end of November there were over 2,100 people registered for employment. For the same period a year ago nearly 2,000 people were registered.

During the month the centre conducted two employer seminars on the Employment Tax Credit Program. By the end of November 55 agreements had been signed with local em-

ployers. These agreements, with an approximate value of \$161,000 represented 115 jobs.

Courses

At the end of November there were over 107 local people attending training courses under the Canada Manpower Training Program, while many attended courses at Community

Colleges in Toronto, Kitchener, London, Oakville, and other centres. Persons referred to Canada Manpower Training Courses receive either unemployment insurance or Adult Training Allowances while attending school.

Two additional courses will be introduced to the area in January, namely, Introduction to

Employment and Dining Room Service. Both of these have been given previously with satisfactory results.

At the end of November there were 50 vacancies unfilled at the centre in such occupations as Machinist, Tool-Die Maker, Upholsterer, Oil Burner Installer, R.N., Child Care Worker, Housekeeper and Waiter/Waitress.



A notable anniversary

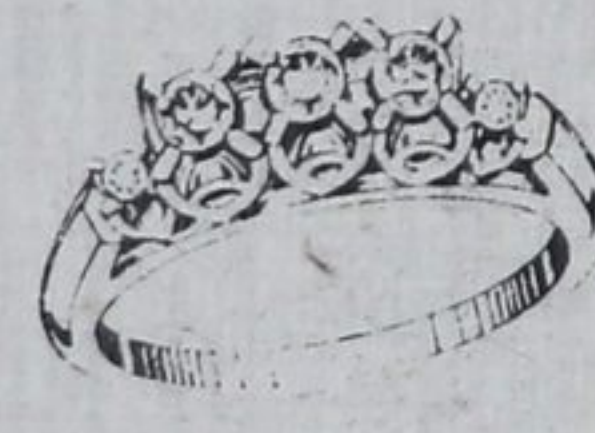
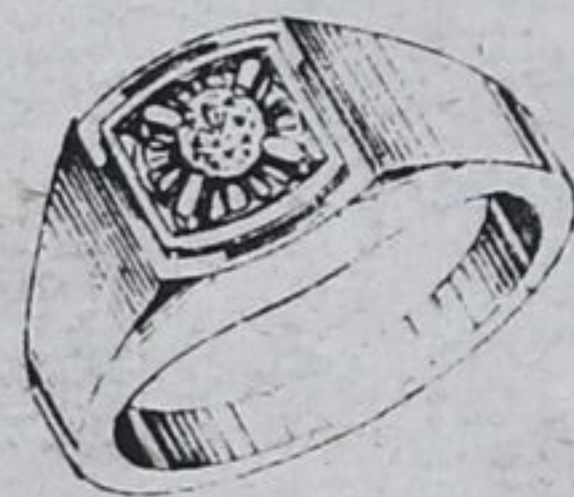
Alma Roi, left and her husband Antoine of 7 Fox St., Penetanguishene recently celebrated their 68th wedding anniversary. Mrs. Roi who is 86 was born and raised in the Lafontaine-

Penetanguishene area, while Mr. Roi who is 90 years young was born in Port Severn, living most of his life in Penetanguishene.

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