

The Penetanguishene Citizen

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Town shocked at the news Bernard Leclaire's untimely passing

Requiem mass will be said at 11 a.m. today for the late Bernard Leclaire who died Sunday at Toronto General Hospital where he was rushed Friday in poor health. (He was in his 61st year.)

Following the funeral service this morning in St. Ann's Roman Catholic Church, Penetanguishene, he's to be buried in St. Ann's Cemetery of which he was its board chairman up until the time of his passing.

Born, raised and educated in Midland, the late "Bernie" Leclaire moved to Penetanguishene more than two decades ago.

While in Midland he was active in the Sea Cadet movement. In Penetanguishene he became associated with the insurance business and later operated his own shoe store.

More recently he had been director of Tiny Township's parks and recreation, a position he had held for the past seven years.

Those who knew him called the late Bernard Leclaire a "go-getter." He served for many years as chairman of the Penetanguishene Public School Board before it was amalgamated.

He also was an ardent member of the Knights of Columbus serving twice as Grand Knight, in 1953-55 and again in 1970-72.

He also served the fraternity as its district deputy. To his credit was the chairmanship of the town's winterama committee, a position he held on more than one occasion.

Guy Maurice, clerk of Tiny Township, described the late Bernard Leclaire as "a super man and a terrific person who will be very hard to replace."

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Up to Queen's Park

Waiting game for Tiny, town over Hwy. 27

Penetanguishene and Tiny Township councils' representatives will not have a second meeting to discuss Tiny Township's Official Plan amendment 23 until the Ministry of Housing's position on the amendment is known.

On Monday Mayor Ron Bellisle said that the ministry's response is expected soon, perhaps this week.

During last week's meeting between the two councils' representatives, Penetanguishene's representatives were informed that a Tiny Township official had been told that the ministry's reply would be sent within 10 days.

Commenting on the meeting itself, Mayor Bellisle said that the two councils are "not that far apart on the Official Plan amendment." He has the hope that the two councils can agree on the text of Official Plan amendment 23 after one more meeting.

Penetanguishene objects to the present zoning of the highway strip between Midland and its border because, the mayor said, practically any type of building can be built in that area under the present zoning. Permission to build is granted by Tiny Township council.

Tiny Township council "tends to agree with us," the mayor said. The two councils will need to draw up together a list of uses to be allowed

there, he said, a list that will "mean a bit of give on their side."

Midland and Tay Township would have to approve any revised amendment agreed upon by Penetanguishene and Tiny Township, as Midland and Tay Township were involved in the original drafting.

Subsequent to four party approval, the amendment would be sent to the Ministry of Housing. Mayor Bellisle expects quick approval because the ministry has had the amendment in its hands for two years.

Penetanguishene's goal is to control development along the Highway 27 strip so as to prevent businesses from lining the sides of the highway to the town's detriment.

The town fears that large scale further building on the strip will discourage people from driving to the town.

The control of land use, and the control of access to the highway, are the town's two concerns. Controlling use in effect is also controlling access, the mayor said.

The Ministry of Housing ordered development freeze on the strip now in effect would be superfluous if the two councils reach an agreement on zoning in the area, Mayor Bellisle said.



Top athletes of the year

Ecole Secondaire Penetanguishene Secondary School held its athletic banquet Friday night with the evening rounding out with the presentation of trophies to the top athletes of the year. There were from left:

Dave Bayfield, top midget boys; Anne McNamara, top midget girl; Brian Wagg, top junior boy; Carrie Fedorowich, top junior girl; Morris Robitaille, top senior

boy; Michelle Morrow, top senior girl. The awards were presented on the basis of the amount of work the students put into the various sports they played.

Citizen briefly

Barbecue owners, take note

Do you know where your gas barbecue is? Town police say that a gas barbecue worth \$250 was reported stolen to them Sunday by 50 Fox Street resident, Bill Puddicombe.

The theft of the Puddicombe barbecue was the second barbecue theft reported in town this year.

Street reconstruction cost is \$310,000

The taxpayers of Penetanguishene's share of the \$310,000 cost of the reconstruction of Fox Street from Robert Street East to Wolfe Street will be \$98,350.

The cost includes sanitary sewers, watermains, storm sewers, curbs and gutters, granular base and hot mix paving.

Neighbourhood Improvement Project funding from federal and provincial levels account for \$141,100. A further \$70,550 subsidy has been granted by the Ministry of Transportation and Communication.

Cars crunch near Main Street

Estimated damage of \$1,200 occurred last Friday at 9:30 p.m. when a car driven by Karen Starling, 26, of Churchill Road, Acton, collided with a car parked near the intersection of Poyntz Street and Main Street.

The owner of the parked car was a Lawrence Avenue, Don Mills, resident, Daniel Vent.

Starling was charged with careless driving, and driving without an operator's licence. No one was injured.

Improper passing charge laid Sunday

Improper passing was the charge laid by town police after a 1:30 a.m. accident on Sunday on Robert Street West.

John Vanoverschelde, 26, of S1-10, Compartment 37, Penetanguishene, was charged following the collision that involved his car and a car driven by Shevawn Cosgrave, 18, of 5 Birchleaf Court, Toronto. No one was injured in the estimated \$350 accident.

Town police also laid a total of six charges under the Liquor Licence Act through the weekend.

Four teachers won't return to ESPSS

There will be four fewer teachers at Ecole Secondaire Penetanguishene Secondary School in the fall.

The head of the science department, Max Wagg, is taking a year off at his own expense. Chemistry teacher Ed Hartman will take his place for the year.

History teacher Lee Steusser has resigned after two years at ESPSS. He will be attending the University of Manitoba to study law.

Two other teachers will be transferred, Principal Gilles Cing-Mars said. The school will have 700 students in the fall, down from 786, and 47 teachers.

Town waiting to hear from hotel developer

Two weeks and more have passed since the town met with the developers who want to build a 100-room hotel on Penetanguishene's waterfront.

At the end of the last meeting between the town and representatives of Sieur de Champlain Motor Inn, Penetanguishene, Inc., it was decided that the developer's representatives would tell the town whether the group wants to buy, or lease, the property under negotiation within two weeks.

Two weeks had passed by Tuesday of last week. On Monday neither the mayor nor the town clerk had heard from the group's representatives.

Clerk Yvon Gagne suggested that perhaps the group might be waiting for the results of the feasibility study it decided to commission during the May 12 meeting here.

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