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

"Information is the hallmark of democracy"

ce on the bay isn't that thick

THE CAPTAIN of the CCGS Montmorency, the light icebreaker that has been using Midland as its winter home away from home, says there's only eight to 12 inches of ice on the bay in and around the bayports.

For those of you considering snowmobiling or walking out on the ice-covered bay near the ice-breaker's tracks may we suggest you consider taking an alternate route.

By the way the medium ice-breaker Griffon will be arriving in this part of Southern Georgian Bay in the near future and it too will be breaking ice...so watch for her too and be careful.

Remember the life you save might very well be your own.

All eyes will be on Brian Orser

BRIAN ORSER, Penetanguishene's sensational figure skating whiz has started from where he left off last year at this time.

The current reigning Canadian Senior Men's Figure Skating Champion recently topped the field in the Eastern Canadian Figure Skating Championships.

He's now preparing for the nationals which will be staged in Brandon, Manitoba, later this month.

Since becoming this century's top senior men's figure skating champion, Brian has seen his fair share of competition at both the national and international level.

Although missing out in the top three rankings in the world's competition in the States last year he managed to place high in the top 10 and he'll do much better this time around...possibly taking the gold.

He's the skater to watch this year that's for certain. Brian Orser is a joy to watch. He's a strong skater with plenty of spunk.

We wish Brian "all the best" as he heads to the nationals. Good luck, Brian, we're behind you all the way.

These are hideous, gutless criminals

PURSE-SNATCHINGS aren't uncommon in larger centres but here in Huronia they have been all but rare.

However last week there were two separate cases of pursesnatchings investigated in Midland.

It isn't known what prompted either of these repulsive events, but like you, we can speculate.

However what concerns us is the trauma these loathsome crimes can cause their victims.

We know of a woman who had her purse snatched while window-shopping in Florida. The woman's arm was badly injured which took months to heal while it took more time for both she and her shopping companion to get over the repulsive incident.

We can do without these hideous, gutless attacks on pursecarrying females.

Maybe a few strokes of the lash would let these revolting hoods, who delight in purse-snatchings, know that our society won't put up with their kind of crap.

Need we say more?

The Penetanguishene Citizen

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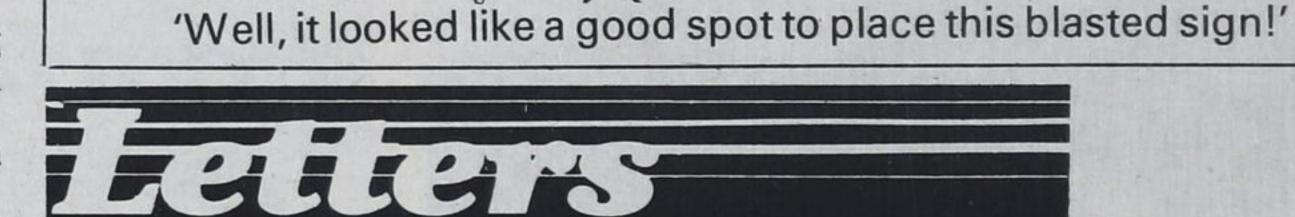
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Our readers say...

Newspaper's support praised

Dear Editor:

The 1981 Canadian National Institute for the Blind is now history. Receipts totaled \$10,500, not quite our objective but very positive for the economic condition at this time. To those who donated "Thank You".

I feel none of this would have been accomplished had it not been for the fine support your newspaper gave to us.

On behalf of the Huronia District Association for the C.N.I.B., a sincere "Thank you".

> Yours truly, -Wm. Dean Nicholls, Campaign Chairman.

P.S. - Feb. 7 - 13 is White Cane Week.

MPP likes VW coverage

Dear Editor:

Before the events of 1981 fade completely into memory, I would like to take this opportunity to comment on one event of particular interest to the citizens of Simcoe Centre, in which the local media played a significant part, i.e. the decision of Volkswagen to locate its Parts Plant in Barrie.

Undoubtedly the negotiating process - heavily complicated by Federal Government intervention through its efforts to lure Volkswagen to locate in the Province of Quebec - was difficult and I am proud of the expertise and diplomacy with which our government finally brought these negotiations to a successful conclusion on behalf of our

community.

The way in which our local media addressed this story deserves particular commendation and I want to thank you for your professional reporting, supportive approach and follow-up during the long weeks of uncertainty.

In this you demonstrated real service to the citizens of our community and sincere interest in the economic well-being of our area.

With many thanks and all the best for 1982. Yours truly,

George W. Taylor, Q.C., M.P.P. Simcoe Centre

Newspaper(s) win praise

Dear Editor:

Our sincere thanks and appreciation to those of you who publicized our November "Christmas Book Sale" at the Simcoe Anglican Resource Centre.

I am enclosing a copy of our brochure for the Jan. 23 workshop on leadership training for leaders of youth groups. We would be grateful if you would publicize it.

If you wish, you could use the following statement, or information from the enclosed brochure.

On Jan. 23 - a "Skills Workshop for Youth

Ministry" for youth group leaders of all ages will be led by the Rev. Brian Pearson at the Christian Education Resource Centre, corner of Highways 11 and 93, two and a half miles north of Barrie, from 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

For more information, call (705)737-0504, or write to the Resource Centre, Box 1131, Barrie, Ontario, L4M 5E2.

Thanking you again, I remain,

Yours truly, -- Susan K.H. Binns Director

Parade plans now in the works

Dear Editor:

Coming up will be Victoria Harbour's third annual Mini Bonhomme Carnaval Parade.

Anyone wishing to enter the parade is requested to assemble behind the Legion in Victoria Harbour on Saturday, Feb. 6, at 11:30 a.m. sharp.

Everyone is welcome. For further information, or to confirm your

Parade entry, please contact:

-Bev Juneau Parade Chairman 534-3118

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. Letters published by this newspaper do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the newspaper, its publisher or editor.

More Letters on Page 6