

## Dogs running at large

# Biggest headache

by Doug Reed

If Pete Bidan, owner-operator of Huronia Animal Control for the past seven years has one beef it would centre around those pet owners in Midland, Penetanguishene and Tiny Township who allow their dogs to run at large.

"It's a never-ending battle. What I like to do though is to encourage responsible pet owners to call me if they see a dog running at large. It's the only way I

can sort this problem out."

According to Bidan, some pet owners "end their responsibility once they pay for their pets. They allow them to roam and get into trouble.

"If the owners would spend more time with their pets they'd find it rewarding."

Bidan says those dogs he picks up "can be redeemed at the shelter after their owners pay a \$10 fine and \$3 a day for us keeping their animals.

"On the other hand if there are people who no longer want their dogs (and cats) we will pick them up free of charge so that they can be adopted."

He adds, "If any owner wants their pet put to sleep we'll pick up the animal and for a very small fee take care of the necessary details."

Although fines may seem steep, annual dog tags aren't at \$4 apiece.

"The fines were raised but the tags

remain the same for a reason. Since not every pet owner allows his or her animal to roam free, they shouldn't be penalized by having dog tags hiked."

Animals that are recovered by Huronia Animal Control staff during their routine patrols are kept for 72 hours, then they are put up for adoption, including the three dogs the shelter is currently housing this week.

And Bidan has a neat idea for developers of

new subdivisions to keep strays at home.

"I'd like to see contractors fence the individual properties. If they did this they'd help to cut dogs running at large by 50 per cent or more.

"Anything a contractor can do in this regard will make our work a bit easier while at the same time people who take care of their dogs won't be getting the flack because of people who are not as responsible."

## Slides showed Zaire to Methodists

by Jeanne Webb

The Wyevale Free Methodist congregation enjoyed slides in the church on April 15. The pictures took them to Zaire, Africa, where Paul Dean Dyer and his family are missionaries. Paul travels many miles, either by landrover or by foot, to reach

outlying stations. The roads and trails are mountainous and sometimes hazardous.

Jean is a nurse and has her work cut out for her. The two older children, about nine and seven, spend three months out of every four, at school, many miles from home. Many of us knew Paul Dean

and the rest of the family when they lived on the 2nd of Tiny and attended No. 15 School.

Sunday was also an exciting day for the Free Methodist folk. Everyone was invited over to Elmira Freeman's for pancakes and syrup. Then a trip to Greenlaws' sugar bush

highlighted the afternoon.

Mrs. Verna Nerpin, along with some friends from Elmvale, Jean Thompson, Glenna Downey and Vi Wade, enjoyed Sunday afternoon and evening, April 18, at Thornhill. They took in the Christian Discovery pot luck dinner and

fellowship, sponsored by the Thornhill United Church, led by Gordon Hunter.

The Wyevale Recreation Group will be holding their monthly meeting in the basement of the United Church April 22 at 8 p.m. All are welcome.

We are pleased to see Mr. and Mrs. Archie Bumstead home from Florida, having enjoyed a good share of the Winter there.

Elmira Freeman and Bessie Webb spent a couple of days in Hamilton recently, visiting sick friends and relatives.

We congratulate Elmvale, and those who worked so hard on committees, etc., another very fine Maple Syrup Festival. In spite of the showers, it was well attended.

## Results of arbitration meeting won't be known

The results of an arbitration meeting between the Town of Midland and the Ontario Public Service Employees Union isn't expected to be known for at least two weeks.

That was the word shortly after the day-long meeting broke up Monday afternoon at the Highland in Midland.

At issue is the firing of Local 328 (OPSEU) member Al Shaw earlier this year.

Under terms set out in Section 45 of the Labour Relations Act the union asked that a single arbitrator be called to mediate the matter.

Miss Jane H. Devlin who was appointed by the

Ministry of Labour to hear from both sides in the matter reserved judgment at the conclusion of Monday's session.

Meanwhile a dozen or so maintenance workers associated with Local 328 of the Ontario Public Service Employees Union who have been without a contract since April 1 will be represented at a conciliation meeting in Barrie tomorrow.

That session is set for a 10 a.m. start. Talks between the union and the town broke down earlier this year.

The union wants another one-year contract and more money.

## Good news

Those chubby 1.5 litre soft drink bottles will soon be reappearing after a 2½ year absence.

The soft drink industry has come up with a method of coating the bottles with a protective plastic film so they won't release flying glass if they did break.

The federal government placed a ban on the bottles originally after receiving about 170 reports of exploding bottles.

## Gas spill watered down, Mon.

Midland firefighters who weren't called out once over the weekend, were summoned Monday afternoon at 4 p.m. to water down a gasoline spill on Midland Ave.

A Dominion Avenue, Midland, man who suffered serious injuries shortly after 2 a.m. last Saturday, when he lost control of his motorcycle on a Midland Street, was taken to Huronia District Hospital.

Paul McClung, 21, was northbound on William Street at 2:19 a.m. when his motorcycle got away from him in front of 179 William Street.

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## Important meetings on calendar

Next regular session of Simcoe County Council has been scheduled for Wednesday, April 28 at 8:45 a.m.

Meanwhile the next

regular meeting of Midland council is slated for Monday, April 26 commencing at 7:30 p.m. in the Dominion Avenue West town hall.

## BETTER LATE THAN NEVER



## 9 DAYS TO FILE

### TAX TIME IS ALMOST UP, BUT WE'RE STILL OPEN TO HELP YOU WITH YOUR INCOME TAX RETURN.

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