

"Information is the hallmark of democracy"

Congratulations to Warden Art Stewart

Congratulations to Reeve Art Stewart of Penetanguishene. Art was picked by his peers at Midhurst yesterday to be Simcoe County's new warden. He failed in his bid last year for the same crown but this week it's his. We think Art Stewart's choice is a good one. The popular Penetanguishene businessman and Huronia Airport Commission member-pilot, we believe, will work hard for not only Penetanguishene and North Simcoe but for the entire county as he takes on a new and exciting position.

Open house you'll not want to miss

THE PLACE TO BE this weekend is Penetanguishene's Historic Naval and Military Establishments. For the eighth year in a row the Establishments will be holding Open House complete with entertainment from 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday. The annual Christmas event at the Establishments has always been very popular with children. Again this year they'll be afforded the opportunity to help prepare 19th century decorations and period food. There is no admission to take part in this weekend's Yuletide Celebration. Plan to attend...you'll be glad you did.

Another job well done by firefighters

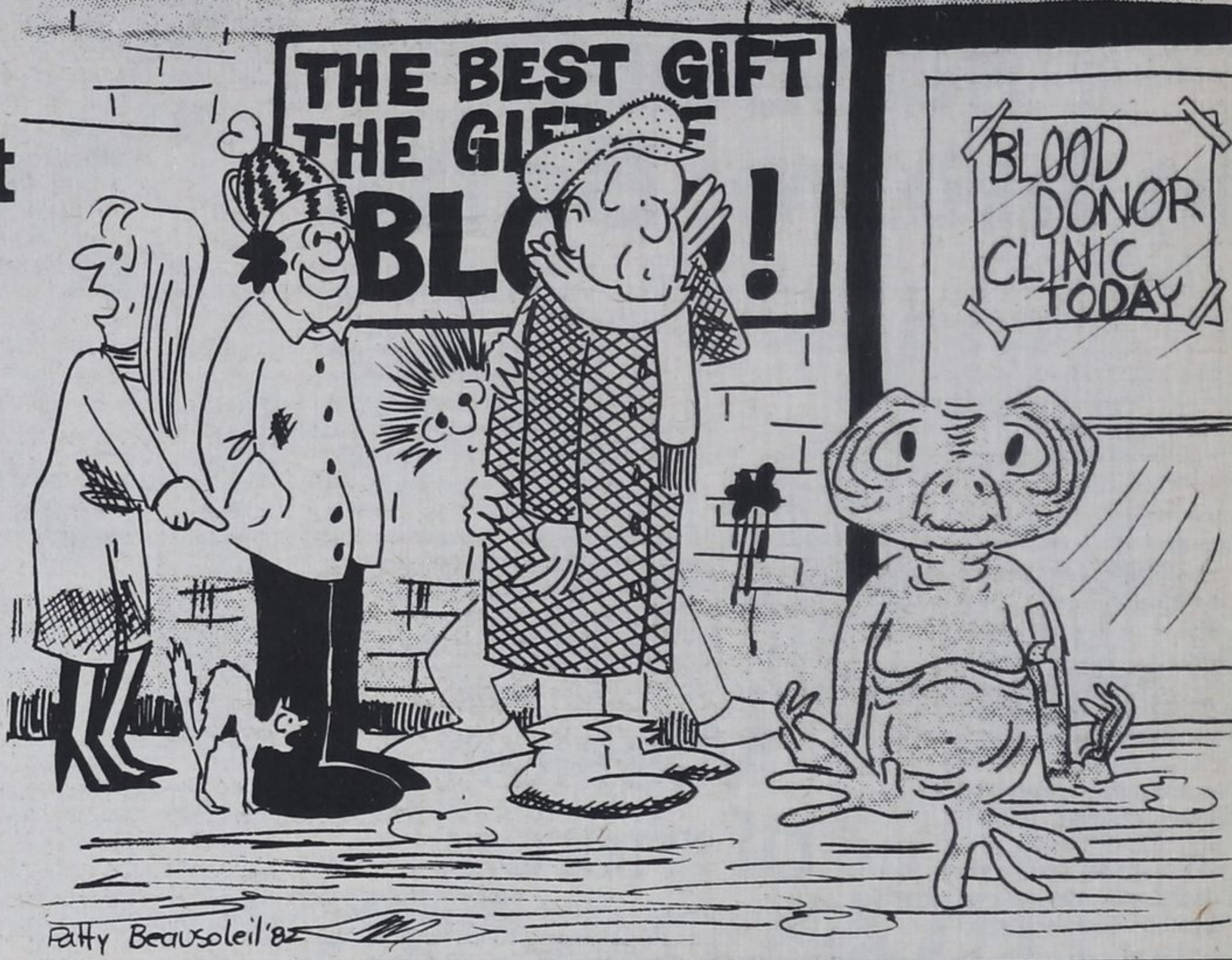
FIREFIGHTERS from Lafontaine, Northwest Basin and Wyevale are credited with quelling a loafing barn fire in Lafontaine, Friday morning, before it could spread to a larger barn close by. Not only did area smoke-eaters have to battle flames and smoke but they had sub-zero temperatures and snow to contend with as well. Fire Chief Guy Maurice was quick to praise his men for a job well done...and we would like to echo those comments at this time. Well done fellows.

Bandage One proves its worth AGAIN

BANDAGE ONE, Ministry of Health's helicopter ambulance, made a quick trip to Penetanguishene last Saturday. Despite local snowfalls the 'chopper managed to sit down at Penetanguishene General Hospital. Later its crew transported a pregnant woman to Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto. PGH staff, including Len Quesnelle who made certain the hospital's parking lot was free of vehicles so the chopper could land, are to be praised for their cool. Bandage One again proved Saturday, it's worth its weight in gold when it comes to transporting patients from North Simcoe to Metro in an emergency situation.

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Letters

Safe driving campaign revealed

Dear Editor:
Solicitor General George Taylor and Ontario Provincial Police Commissioner James Erskine today revealed a program designed to make Ontario highways safer over the holiday period and keep drinking drivers off the road. Both Mr. Taylor and Commissioner Erskine, who is also chairman of the Ontario Traffic Safety Council, emphasized that police would be doing their utmost to get drinking drivers off the road. One of the methods will be by enforcing the temporary suspension law—which requires marginally impaired drivers to surrender their licences to police for 12 hours if it is so indicated by a portable breathalyzer known as an Alert device. The Solicitor General told a news conference that through the Ontario Police Commission he is urging all Ontario police forces to join in the Christmas and New Year's safety campaign, using such methods as the temporary suspension

program, spot checks and enforcement of the seat belt laws.
"The temporary suspension law, enacted by the legislature last year, is proving to be one of the most effective instruments the police have in combatting the drinking-driving problem," Mr. Taylor said.
Mr. Taylor also said the ministry and the O.P.P. were co-operating with the P.R.I.D.E. organization in getting their message to the public of the tragedies caused by drinking and driving. The Minister said the O.P.P. has tape cassettes with messages from P.R.I.D.E. members which will be distributed to radio stations across the province by community services officers.
J.A. Fullerton
Superintendent
Director
Community Services Branch

Balanced viewpoint proposed

Dear Editor:
In his Christmas newsletter, our M.P., Ron Stewart, poses a question on the cruise nuclear missile, in simplistic terms: "Should Canada honour its NATO pledge by allowing cruise missile testing here?"
Ron's constituents should be made aware that Canada is NOT obliged to help test the cruise missile as part of this country's contribution to NATO. The air-launched cruise missile is NOT planned as part of the NATO arsenal; it is part of the U.S. independent strategic arsenal. The ground-launched cruise missile, which is planned for deployment in Europe, will be assigned to NATO; however, Canada has already committed itself to a non-nuclear role in NATO, and, just as European countries such as The Netherlands and Belgium have no prior com-

mitment to NATO to accept cruise missiles on their soil, Canada has no prior commitment that requires it to test these weapons.
For a balanced viewpoint on this matter, may I recommend the Minority Report, "Security and Disarmament," issued by distinguished M.P.'s of all three political parties who were members of the House of Commons Standing Committee on External Affairs and National Defense. It was issued in April 1982, and you may obtain a copy by writing to Joe Clark, Pierre Trudeau or Ed Broadbent; no charge—no postage!
The Minority Report stresses Canada's obligation to humanity not to allow tests of this missile "which is patently attack-oriented. By denying the tests, we are protesting against the arms race. By allowing the tests, we aid the arms race. Who will take Canada's words at the U.N. seriously if our acts are the opposite?"

Give second thought

Dear Editor:
I am writing to express my feelings regarding the terrifying and humiliating experience Reeve Morris Darby was subjected to at the hands of thieves and then by the officials of the Royal York Hotel in Toronto in that they have charged him with the damage to room furnishings. Damage which occurred while trying to protect himself against his assailants. This is certainly adding insult to injury. Reeve Darby is a very dedicated and honest man who speaks out at every opportunity for the common good of all people. I believe we all should in whatever way we can, respond against this injustice and that if we have need of accommodation while away from home we should give considerable thought to the security available and to the policy of the management in the event that such a thing should happen to us.
Sincerely
Bruce Tinney

In friendship,
David W. Mair,
Project Ploughshares
Barrie

What's Your Opinion?

The Penetanguishene Citizen welcomes 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.

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