

... And the winner is...

Evelyn Moffatt, left, holder of ticket No. 18 won this lovely afghan at the recent HDH auxiliary Christmas dance. Evelyn is seen here receiving her prize from Leah Bertrand, right,

who made the afghan, while Margaret Douglas, centre, chairperson of the draw committee for the auxiliary. Draw was made at the dance held at the Budd Watson Gallery on Dec. 4.

Food for thought Sometimes to be nice, it is of alcohol or drug abuse is to distort

necessary at first to be nasty. Sounds like a contradiction, but that's reality. For example, Johnny comes in from play with a nasty scraped knee. As usual, he goes to Mom to make it better. But to make it better, she has to

removes bits of stone and dirt, wash that tender area and bathe it with antiseptic to prevent infection. There are tears, there is a struggle, perhaps even accusations: "You don't love me!" "I hate you!" "I'm going to run away from home because you're being mean to me!" Mom, who really loves Johnny may well be hurting as much or more than he is, but she inflicts the pain so that Johnny will get well. That's one form of tough love.

Treatment of alcohol or drug problems is a complex process but one of its essential elements is the same tough love. The injury may not be as visible as a bleeding knee but it is every bit as real; the request for help probably won't be directed to Mommy. On the surface there is insistance that the suffering alcohol drug abuser doesn't need or want help, but indirectly and in very subtle ways, he is asking for help from a friend, the boss or the wife or husband.

Alcohol or drug (chemical) abuse is different from skinned knees. Johnny knows he has a skinned knee; the alcohol or drug abuser may not know he has a problem - and, even if he knows it deep down, he probably isn't accepting it.

The reason - one of the subtle effects

the perception, judgement and memory of the abuser so that his reality is not objective reality. He feels the hurt, but rather than relate it to chemical abuse, blames it on the very person whom he is asking for help. So his cry for help is seldom directly expressed.

Mom can take Johnny on her knee, order him to remain quiet while she cares for his wound, ignore his screams of pain. The person whom the alcoholic asks for help must act in a similar manner.

We can't tie the alcoholic up and carry him to treatment but we can let him hurt until, in spite of his befuddled state, realizes he needs it. We can ignore the blaming, the anger, the self-pity and respond to the underlying message of "help me, I can't handle this myself".

Rather than cover up his messes, cater to his childish whims, or essentially, by protecting him, help him go on destroying himself, we can insist that he seek help. Until he does, we can withdraw any support which will enable him to keep on drinking or using chemicals.

In the workplace, this approach takes the form of assertiveness training for supervisors and union counsellors. It can help save money and lives. Jim Brechin, who for several years was the Regional Director of Canadian Labour Congress, told us during a Simcoe County meeting that we had killed more than one man with well-meaning cover-ups.

Dr. David Parsons & Dr. Robert Archer

would like to announce that Dr. Parsons is leaving medical practice on DECEMBER 15, 1982.

Dr. Archer will continue to see patients at 516 Elizabeth St., Midland 526-8351

Grits' leader wants loophole(s) plugged from Medonte's claim

Non-resident foreign investors are buying up Ontario farmland and avoiding the Ontario Government's 20 per cent land transfer tax, Liberal Members of the Legislature have revealed.

Opposition Leader David Peterson (London-Centre) and Agriculture Critic Jack Riddell (Huron-Middlesex) cited the example of 3,585 acres of productive farmland in Huron and Bruce which was sold in the last year to overseas interests.

In these sales alone, a total of \$845,136 in land transfer taxes were circumvented.

"We believe these purchases reveal sizeable flaws in existing Ontario legislation regarding speculation in farmland," Mr. Peterson said.

"They also demonstrate a neglect by the Ontario Government of a growing problem -- the increasing takeover of farmland by non-residents for speculative purposes."

In the Legislature, Revenue Minister George Ashe conceded he does not know how much land is involved province-wide, or how much in land transfer taxes have been lost through an existing loophole which enables foreign investors to take over farmland through a corporate structuring of farms.

Agriculture Minister Dennis Timbrell assured the Liberals that the loophole would be closed, but Mr. Peterson was skeptical. He said the Conservative Government has been aware of the problem since 1954 and has failed to act.

Special week proclaimed by Midland

proclaimed by Midland council as National Diabetes Month.

Council took the action Monday night in approving a motion put forward by Alderman

March 1983 has been Ian Ross and seconded sheds at 526 Bay St. by Alderman Nancy Keefe.

In other council business this week, local law-makers agreed to call tenders for the demolition of the CPR

That motion was inspired by Alderman Dan Herbert after he pointed out, the sheds "were in a bad state of affairs."

Only recently has the town taken over the sheds since the CPR moved to a warehouse at the town dock, a facility the CPR plans to lease for the next five years.









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