

Letters

Bell should justify office closing

Dear Editor,

As you are probably aware, Bell Canada has announced its plans to close its operator services office in Midland. This will force 16 regular employees, all of whom are women, to either relocate or commute to another community. In addition, 15 summer jobs will be lost.

This is not the first time Bell has transferred jobs from Midland. In the past we have lost those jobs filled by people who handle repair service calls, customer service records, engineering, as well as the dispatching of a variety of service technicians.

Our region has been hard hit by layoffs and unemployment and 16 jobs may seem like a drop in the bucket compared to the job loss at RCA.

But Bell is a company with no equal. It has a monopoly and it takes its revenue from virtually every home and business in our area.

There is a social responsibility on Bell to keep jobs in Midland, to put back into the community and not just take.

The new technology Bell is using makes offices like Midland easier to keep open because calls from larger centres can be directed here.

All of that aside—we just can't afford to lose any more jobs.

We believe that the people of our region have a right to call on Bell to keep this office open. Bell is supposed to be monitored by the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC). No approval by the CRTC of this move has been sought or given.

We believe that the CRTC should require Bell to justify the office closing to the people of the region. To achieve this end we are asking you to sign the attached card and send it to Francis Fox, Minister of Communications, requesting a public hearing by the CRTC in Midland.

We are clearly fighting for our jobs, we are also fighting for our community—we need your help. Please drop the signed card in the mail.

Sincerely,
Diane McLachlan,
President, Local 40



Totally destroyed

The home of Balm Beach resident Milton Jones was totally destroyed by fire early yesterday afternoon, reports Tiny Township Fire Chief Guy Maurice. Jones was not in the burning residence when Tiny Township firefighters arrived, around 1 p.m.

Rescue truck will be delivered to mayor

Penetanguishene Reeve Art Stewart and Port McNicoll Reeve John Moreau, in their positions as Warden of Simcoe County and chairman of the county property and protection services committee, respectively, will present the keys to new rescue vehicles to Mayor Allan Roach of Midland and Mayor Ron Emo of Collingwood, in a ceremony at Midhurst, on April 22.

The county, Barrie and Orillia, and the province, established a county-wide auto extrication program to take effect last April 1. People in accidents in

cars and on the farm are rescued with special equipment carried in the Rescue trucks.

The new rescue units to be presented to Midland and Collingwood join units in Tottenham, Barrie and Orillia.

The county says that the rescue units are strategically placed in an effort to be responsive to every resident (of the county) in approximately 18 minutes.

"The placement of the two new units completes the initial plans to establish a county-wide rescue program in the County of Simcoe—the first in Ontario."

Master plan stalled until surveys returned

Bill Byrick, chairman of Midland's Culture and Recreational Master Plan steering committee, is disappointed in the response from community clubs and groups to a survey sent out in February.

The committee is still waiting for a response from 32 of the 90 groups who received the questionnaire. Without the results of the sur-

vey, the Master Plan study won't be able to make valid conclusions regarding the future of recreational facilities and services in Midland.

Town clerk, Fred Flood says a letter was sent to those groups who have not responded, asking them to do so as soon as possible. "Better late than never", said Flood.

"It's a long, detailed survey, and may take a couple of hours to fill out," said Byrick at a press conference Tuesday, but planning of recreational facilities for the next 20 years depends on those results."

A recreation master plan is necessary to justify requests for government funding, Flood stated.

Seniors centre: its history and future

by Doris Nurcombe

The Government of Canada, under its Canadian Community Development projects, gave a grant to the Senior Citizens Project in Elmvalle sponsored by the Elmvalle and District Ministerial Association. The project began Feb. 10, 1982 and was funded for one year. The Senior Centre opened and ran successfully for one year; but when the funding

ran out, it closed, on Feb. 7, 1983. The community project had not materialized into an ongoing organization.

A new application for funding was made to run for a thirty-week period to make the project financially viable. The Ministerial Association created a board of management to take over direct managing of the project in Dec. of 1982. The board had representatives from all interested organizations in the village, and created three sub-committees: Works and Program, Personnel and Finance. The Personnel committee hired three new staff members who are

responsible to the Board of Management as well as each committee.

The new staff of Doris Nurcombe and assistant John Brown are responsible for staffing the centre five days a week and involve enough seniors as volunteers and participants to generate an ongoing organization. The aim of the centre is to become self-sufficient, not to compete with any church organization or the Sunshine Club.

Services provided at the Centre include a handyman, Ernie Chapman, three hot meals a week at the

nominal rate of \$3. Meals on Wheels can be delivered to shut-ins at these times.

The Senior Centre is located at the Orange Hall at 39 Peter St., which has adequate kitchen and washroom facilities, is conveniently located, and is

let at a very satisfactory rate.

There is an open program organizational meeting on Monday, April 18 at 9:45 at the Centre. Without the support of the community and seniors, the project cannot continue. This meeting will be led

by Bill Jarvis, chairman of the Board of Management, and will lay plans for more extensive meetings.

Set aside an hour to come out and support this worthwhile organization.

Police blotter

Elmvalle OPP reports two motor vehicle accidents on Sunday, April 10. No charges were laid in either incident, nor were any injuries reported.

On County Road 6 at Tiny Concession 2, Elaine Burer of Penetang reportedly lost control of her car when it pulled over onto the shoulder of the road. The car struck a post, undergoing \$1,000 damage.

A car driven by Denias Deschenes sustained \$800 damage when it left the roadway and struck two fences and a Bell junction box, police say. The driver apparently lost control of the vehicle when the front wheel dropped off the edge of the roadway.

Bahá'í Faith

It teaches:

"Ye are the fruits of one tree, and the leaves of one branch. So powerful is the light of unity that it can illuminate the whole earth."

For more information, please contact:

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Jim Lynn
Funeral Director



WITH A WILL-THERE'S A WAY

If you own anything—a car, house, savings account, possessions of value you should have a will. With a will, you save your relatives considerable time and money in the handling of your estate. Further, you are assured that your estate will not be executed by strangers, but by people you know and trust.

How do you make a will? First, see your lawyer. It's not all that expensive for most estate planning. He has the forms, knows the requirements of the province and probably enough of your personal affairs to help in preparing for future management of your estate.

You may change your will whenever and however you wish. The important thing is to get started and make one right away.

We can provide counseling on funeral arrangements, without obligation, on this aspect of your estate.

Welcome your questions and comments privately or publicly, through this column.

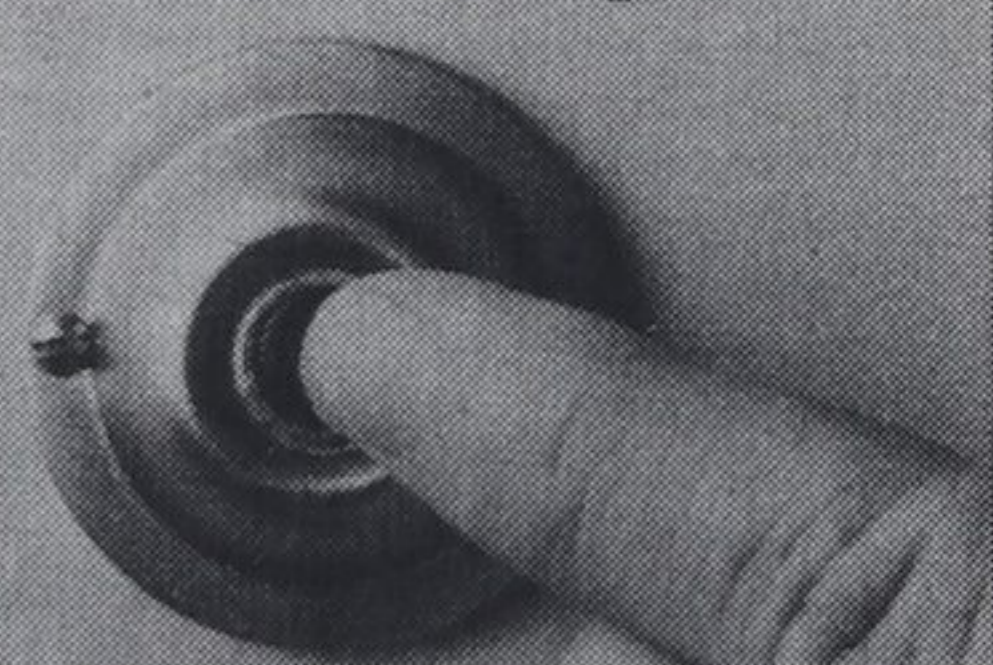


James H. Lynn
Funeral Homes

Midland
526-6551

Elmvalle
322-2732

PANIC BUTTON



Is this when you think about church?

When you're ready to hit the panic button give us a call. We know Somebody who's used to handling big problems. He knows all about the troubles caused by drugs and alcohol. He knows the heartache that goes with divorce. He gives help when you lose your job and comfort when there's a death of a loved one. No problem is too big for a personal God who really cares about you.

We believe that a personal relationship with God does more than solve a lot of problems. It gives hope and meaning to life. A life that doesn't end with death.

Wouldn't it be nice to know Somebody who's bigger than your problems?

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WYVALE Queen St. W.

Hubert Schwartz, Pastor

322-2236

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

Worship Services 11 a.m. & 7 p.m.