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Busy seven days

During the week ending May 9 members of the Midland detachment of the OPP investigated a total of 89 general occurrences.

The information is contained in a report prepared by Const. Murray Cooper, community services officer for the OPP.

His report also notes, OPP investigated 13 thefts, seven break-ins, three cases of wilful damage and two assaults.

During the same period OPP arrested and charged 11 drivers with being impaired.

Helping to meet challenge of disabled

"Actions by the government to meet the needs of Canada's disabled population have been encouraging but have not gone far enough," according to Alan Martin, former member of parliament, speaking on behalf of the Ontario March of Dimes.

Martin is a well known Elmvale-Penetanguishene accountant.

Martin and Grant Jameson, Chairman of the Ottawa Ontario March of Dimes Advisory Committee, met with the Honourable Serge Joyal, Secretary of State and Minister Responsible for the Status of the Disabled, to renew interest in implementing key recommendations listed in "Obstacles".

The report, "Obstacles" was a result of a nationwide study by the Special Committee on the Disabled and Handicapped during 1981, the International Year of Disabled Persons.

In the meeting with Mr. Joyal, Alan Martin presented the Minister with a copy of "Meeting the Challenge", a report of the Ontario March of Dimes. The report focused on major areas of concern for disabled people including education, training and employment; income; and independent living.

Included in the recommendations of the Ontario March of Dimes are reform of the workshop system and replacement of the VRDP Act to better reflect the current needs of

disabled persons; improved protection of federal and private sector employees in the event that they become disabled and require re-training and re-entry programs; and the establishment of a comprehensive national disability insurance program which would simplify and rationalize the income maintenance system.

During the meeting, the Minister reviewed the brief and expressed interest in the recommendations. Mr. Joyal outlined the government's progress to date in implementing many of the recommendations in the Obstacles Report. He will be meeting with Prime Minister Trudeau shortly to discuss future action.

The government is also seriously considering amendments to the Income Tax Act which will increase benefits to the handicapped, changes to the Vocational Rehabilitation for Disabled Persons Act, the provision of aids and devices, and legislation to provide independent living services. All are priorities identified in the latest Ontario March of Dimes brief.

In an effort to maintain the momentum of the Special Committee's work documented in its initial report, "Obstacles", the Ontario March of Dimes submitted its report, "Removing the Obstacles" proposing an implementation plan in response to the findings of the Committee.



Retirement dinner

Margaret Dupuis, the chief librarian of Penetanguishene's library since 1969, at a retirement dinner last Thursday, with Mayor Ron

Bellisle. She worked at the library for 21 years. Library board members and library staff attended the dinner.

CITIZEN BRIEFLY

\$700,000 fire's cause up in air

There has yet to be a break in an investigation into the cause of an April 24 fire which ripped through and destroyed Penetanguishene Public Works Depot.

That fire inflicted an estimated \$700,000 on the building and contents which included a number of pieces of heavy equipment.

Power surge blamed for setting off alarm

A power surge, Saturday night, set off an alarm at Penetanguishene General Hospital, reports Fire Chief Ted Light.

There was, however, no fire to quell.

Snow on Mother's Day sets a new record

That white stuff you spotted on the lawn, early Sunday morning, was snow!

Last year snow appeared for the last time

on April 19 when a trace of it blanketed this area.

This year, snow covering the land on May 8 set some sort of record, local weather-watchers concede.

Heap of trouble faces prankster

The person or persons responsible for calling in false alarms to Penetanguishene Fire Department during the past two weekends could be in for a heap of trouble if they are caught.

Under terms set out in the Criminal Code the person(s) responsible if found guilty could be fined or tossed in jail, or both.

40 years a fireman, that's Laval Dubeau

Penetanguishene Fire Department is making plans to honour Deputy Fire Chief Laval Dubeau's 40 years as a firefighter on May 28.

Arts exhibition and sale

Second annual Elmvale and District Arts Exhibition will be held on Friday, May 13 from 7:30 to 9 p.m. and Saturday, May 14, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., in the Elmvale Presbyterian Church. Admission only 50 cents to this exhibit of oil paintings, water colours, stained glass, wood carvings, photography, ceramics and crafts. Some exhibits will be for sale.

Bike-a-thon for very good cause

Don't forget Midland Contact Centre's Big Wheelie Bike-a-thon on May 29.

For more information call Contact at 526-9333. Volunteers would be appreciated.

A special mass of thanksgiving

Sunday, May 29, will mark a special occasion in the life and times for Fr. John E. Sullivan, formerly of St. Margaret's Parish,

Midland.

The beloved priest will celebrate his 25th anniversary to the priesthood during a special mass of thanksgiving at the Church of St. Lawrence, Martyr, 2210 St. Lawrence East, Scarborough.

Stolen motors prompt OPP probe

Midland OPP are currently investigating the theft of a 4 hp motor stolen from Mitchell's Beach and a 7.5 hp one stolen from the Port Severn area.

Security cables had been cut in both thefts, this paper has learned.

Junior boys singles tournament set

Simcoe County Junior Boys Tennis Singles Tournament for boys 18 years and under will be held at Elmvale Tennis Courts on Sunday, June 12. To register, call Katy Austin at 322-2508.