



Room with a view

In November, some of the units of the Scave Investments apartment building on Main Street, Penetanguishene will be ready for occupancy. The project, which

will see the addition of 43 new rental units in Penetanguishene, is scheduled for completion in three months but many tenants will be able to move in before the

final date. In the photo on the left, apartment dwellers on the south side of the building will have a view of the south end of Penetang Bay. In the photo on the right,

Raz Bifolchi, one of the construction workers on the project, stands in front of the building. His nephew, Vince Bifolchi, is project supervisor.

Incidence of rabies occurring in pockets

One of the surprising aspects of the incidence of rabies in Simcoe County is that it is occurring in isolated pockets around the county.

Skunks are spotted

walking around the streets of Midland and Penetanguishene in broad daylight but there are virtually no confirmed reports of the disease in places like Barrie or Collingwood.

Willard Shantz, a veterinarian working out of the Barrie office of Agriculture Canada said Tuesday that he finds it somewhat surprising that an area where rabies is common

one year is virtually free of the disease the following year. The veterinarian also said that there are few reports of rabies in the southern portion of Tiny Township and not much

in other rural areas. In the past, Tiny Township has been one of the worst areas for rabies. "Some areas where they are loaded (with rabies) one year have nothing the next," he

said.

Dr. Shantz said that to date "three to four" skunks from Penetanguishene have been confirmed to be carrying the rabies virus. He said there have been no reports of rabid cats, contrary to some reports.

Bill Straughan, director of the Simcoe County Health Unit, pointed out Tuesday that if a family pet happens to get sprayed by a skunk, it is safe to wash down the animal if gloves are worn. The pet would not be at risk after having been sprayed by a rabid skunk as long as the pet did not come into direct contact with the animal. The problem lies in determining whether the pet has made contact with the skunk. He added that rabid skunks often do not spray when faced with danger.

Historic sites had very good year

by PETER SPOHN

Ste. Marie among the Hurons closed its doors to the public on Thanksgiving Day, Monday, and attendance figures compiled by tour director Beth Desrochers show that the tourist site had a very successful season.

Between the Victoria Day holiday weekend, when Ste. Marie opened, and Monday, approximately 128,000

persons passed through the visitor orientation centre and toured the site. The figure is 10.9 per cent higher than it was for the same period last year. School tours are still being conducted at the site until Nov. 23 and, Desrochers said, as many students as can be accommodated are being taken through the site on a daily basis.

The Historic Naval and Military Establishments in

Penetanguishene also had a good year, Desrochers said. She handles the figures for the establishments and said that daily attendance was up this year over last. Special event days, like Descendants' Day, were not as well-attended, though. Desrochers said this may have been due to the fee which remained in effect on special days. Last year, fees were waived for special days. School tours continue at the Penetanguishene site until Nov. 9.

Desrochers said that attendance "really picked up" after the papal tour of Huronia. On Sunday, Sept. 16, the day after the Pope

toured Sainte Marie, 1,810 persons toured the site. Normally, 600 or 700 would be expected to visit the site at that time of year. Requests for school tours came in "in a deluge" after the papal tour, she added. Desrochers said that

attendance was not very good last Monday but the day before over 1,100 persons toured the site for the last time this year. Generally, she said, historic sites get the best crowds when weather is cool and cloudy.

Taylor's support sought

Solicitor-General George Taylor, MPP for Simcoe Centre, has been asked to support other members of the Progressive Conservative Party in the January leadership convention, but he has not yet ruled out running himself.

Natural contenders named by Taylor yesterday, before he was nominated as the Conservative candidate in the next provincial election in Simcoe Centre, are Dennis Timbrell, Larry Grossman, Gordon Walker, Alan Pope, and "probably" Roy McMurtry.

The solicitor-general also speculated that former Ontario treasurer Darcy McKeough and former treasurer Frank Miller will be pushed to run.

The retirement of Premier William Davis saddened him, Taylor said. He praised Davis, calling him a great leader. But a change at the top of the party will mean a new start, a new leader, and fresh ideas, he said.

George Taylor was elected to the Legislature in 1977. He has been in the Cabinet for 30 months.

Cottages forced open

Two cottages on Con. 4 of Georgian Bay Township, owned by Jack Simnett of Toronto and Allan Lord of Etobicoke, were forcibly entered over the weekend.

Approximately \$690 worth of tools, fishing equipment, and building materials were stolen. The investigation is continuing by Midland OPP.