

Editorials

Information-honestly, openly and freely shared-
is the hallmark of democracy

Lend a hand

TO SEE THE DEVASTATION caused by the tornado that ripped across Barrie last Friday afternoon is to bear witness to the terrible destructive power of the darker side of Mother Nature—and to the work that lies ahead for Barrie residents.

Though it is hard to believe anyone can set a figure for the total damage wreaked by the tornado, best estimates put the figure at around \$100 million.

(Millions of dollars in damage was cause elsewhere in central Ontario by more tornados Friday afternoon.)

Barrie, the largest and fastest growing centre in Simcoe County, looks now to some of the smaller centres of the county for a helping hand. The provincial government has pledged aid to the city and to the other ravaged centres, but another important form of help will come from Ontario municipalities that decide to lend a hand.

Penetanguishene Mayor Ron Bellisle said yesterday Penetang residents may be able to help out by kicking in some money if municipal officials decide the best way to help out is to have municipal officials spearheading a door to door fund raising drive, probably sometime in the next week or so.

Any monies raised here and elsewhere would likely be channelled through relief agencies like the Red Cross Society.

One of the remarkable things about Barrie last Saturday, the day after, was the willingness of residents to help one another start the job the rebuilding, once the initial shock of what happened wore off. Neighbours helping neighbours; competitors helping fellow businessmen.

Mayor Bellisle said local residents will likely be called upon to chip in what they can; as he said Monday, this particular disaster was awfully close to home.

Good luck fellas

TWO MORE long-time and dedicated Midland OPP constables have been promoted and will be leaving the local detachment in the near future.

OPP Const. Jim Wilson has been promoted to the rank of corporal and is to join the Kenora OPP on June 17.

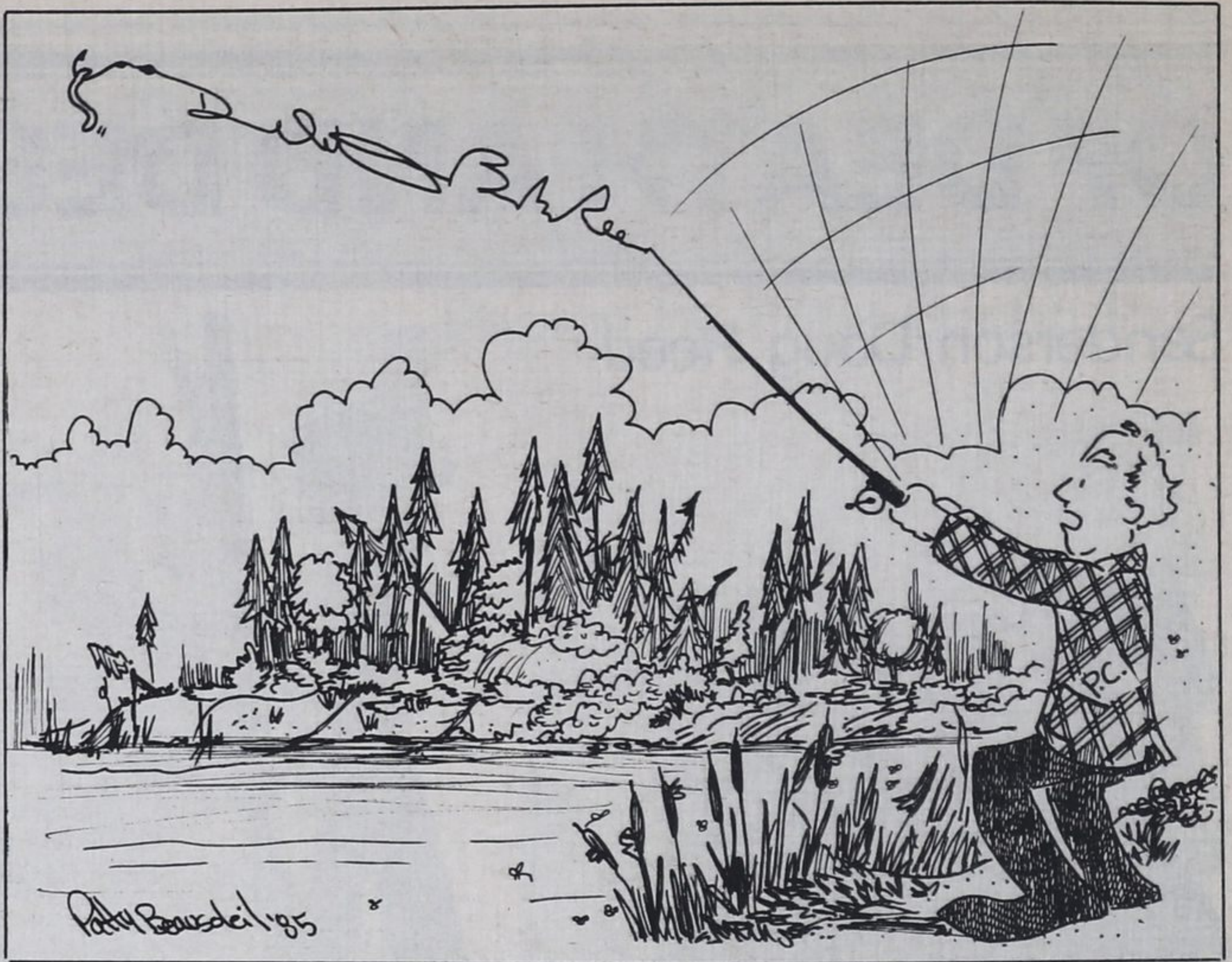
OPP Const. Dave Brophey is to join Orillia OPP on Aug. 1 in his new capacity, that of a corporal.

Wilson has been described as a keen investigator and a dedicated police officer. We wish him well in his future endeavours.

Brophey, one of the operators of the OPP motor launch General Williams, is also president of Midland District Shrine Club and as such is an active Mason as well as a dedicated member of the Eastern Star.

He has served the local detachment with distinction and he, too, will be missed once he takes up his new position.

Good luck fellas.



New gym for Regent

Dear Editor:

The Simcoe County Board of Education has a policy that states that "every student will receive an equal opportunity". That very same Board

An apology would be in order

Dear Editor:

Since I read Bill Smiley's column "So much for content—it can be crass if not cruel," about the local community TV Channel, I have been waiting to see a retraction and apology.

It is my understanding that the column was written 12 years ago when our little station was in it's infancy.

My husband, Michael, and I are volunteers for the station and enjoy our various duties as camera operators, sound persons, narrators, interviewers and some times, co-producers. We are impressed by the professional manner in which the productions and the workshops are handled.

If one is not satisfied with the productions at the station, he—she should get over there, participate in a work shop and become involved as a volunteer as that is what the station is all about.

I guess what I'm saying is "Put up or shut up" but an apology would be the order of the day.

An active participant:
Mary Florence Bartley
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encourages daily physical education.

At Regent School, the students when participating in their daily classes, in their house leagues and on their school teams must use an inadequate and potentially dangerous facility.

The area of the gym is so small that it is really only a primary playroom.

In many areas the students cannot follow the curriculum set out by the Board; for example, the low ceiling does not allow for volleyball skills other than foot work to be properly taught or practised.

The floor space and low ceiling do not allow for the proper teaching of basketball court play or set shots. Running activities for junior and intermediate students is limited. Other examples of limited curriculum development can be cited.

Even more important than the limiting factor of the facility are the unsafe features of the "gym". Radiators protrude onto the floor surface.

The tile floor over cement allows for no cushioning for landings. As well, the tile has been broken and worn. There is a small vent in the room; this vent does not change quickly enough to allow for good ventilation during physical education activities. Equipment must be carried up and down stairs.

Every long established school in the Midland-Penetang area has a proper size gymnasium. Is it not time for Regent School to be part of the "equal opportunity"?

Yours sincerely,

-Bruce and Carol Finlayson
420 Ellen St.
Midland

Good luck Warriors

Dear Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to point out to your readers something my wife and I observed taking place in our area recently.

On Monday, May 20 when travelling through

Thanks for Health Walk '85

Dear Editor:

On behalf of the Organizing Committee for Health Walk '85 we extend our sincere appreciation for your support of the project this year.

Your advance publicity added much to the momentum of the event as did your coverage on the day itself.

Enclosed is a general letter of thanks which we would ask you to publish in Letters to the Editor.

Many thanks to the walkers and bikers who participated in the Penetanguishene Richelieu Club's Marche de Sante Health Walk and the Elmvale Lions' Club Walk-a-thon and Bike-a-thon.

Your participation and enthusiasm made the day a truly community health event and will make possible the purchase of a new Electrocardiograph Machine for Stress Testing in the Penetanguishene General Hospital.

Sincerely,

-Bernard Desroches, Fred Harpell.
Health Walk '85 Organizing Committee

Wyebridge we saw some work going on at the Wyebridge Community Centre.

Sod was being cut and rolled and relaid, on returning through the village later that evening they were still hard at work (in the rain at that).

A week later on coming through Wyebridge we again observed work going on (raking, spreading topsoil, burning brush, etc.). We were about a mile past Wyebridge when we decided to turn around and go back to enquire about the activities.

I was informed by several young men that they were members of the Wyebridge Warriors ball team and that they were volunteering their time to help get the grounds in order.

This effort and spirit of being willing to get out and do something for the community certainly deserves mention and is a fine example for others to do likewise.

Good Luck Warriors.

Sincerely,

-Bruce and Pat Tinney



Police auxiliaries

The Penetanguishene Police Department's auxiliary constables are joined by Chief Bob Cummings the night they were sworn in as members of the department. They are: from the left: Mike Leroux, Nancy Moreau, Phillip Cinq-Mars, Chief Cummings, and Gary Laurin. The auxiliaries assist police during public functions like parades and other large gatherings.

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Letters

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. Pen names are not allowed and anonymous letters will not be published. Letters published by this newspaper do not necessarily reflect the opinion of this newspaper, its publisher or editor.