

Editorials

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

The 'gift of life'

HURONIA BRANCH of the Red Cross invites you to roll up your sleeves and give from the heart on Wednesday, June 19.

That's when the Red Cross will be holding its next blood donors' clinic in this area.

It will be conducted from 12 noon to 8 p.m. at the Yonge Street Civic Centre in Midland.

Next week's goal is 350 pints of blood.

Plan now to attend. Remember your "gift of life" will make someone healthier and happier for it.

Always on the job

BANDAGE ONE, Ministry of Health's helicopter ambulance has been making more and more trips to and from our two North Simcoe Hospitals.

In most cases these flights have been missions of mercy.

Bandage One and the 'copter's sister helicopter Bandage Two, stationed in Sudbury, were both used to ferry injured after six twisters on May 31 sliced their way through central Ontario.

Pilots and attendants connected with these helicopters win our admiration.

Date to remember

MIDLAND ROTARY CLUB is gearing up for its annual Civic Weekend Giant Barbecue to be staged at the town arena on Saturday, June 29 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

This annual fun-fest has been a popular Rotary Club event over the years.

There will be lots of food, live entertainment and a huge garage sale going on all at the same time.

It's one super event you'll not want to miss.

Exit rowdy fans

A RECORD number of fans took in last week's four game homestand between Toronto Blue Jays and the visiting Detroit Tigers.

Altogether, a total of 163,596 turned out to watch Jays split the four games evenly winning the first two and dropping the final pair.

However, the best news in our books, was word that a total of 209 ticket-holders had been ejected from the games for rowdy behavior.

Hats off to the management for getting tough with rowdy fans. There's nothing worse than having a group of loud-mouthed, cursing and swearing drunks, near one's seat when one is trying to enjoy a ball game.

Hot political issue

ONTARIO PREMIER Frank Miller let the cat out of the bag over the weekend when he told reporters he and his colleagues didn't think that extending separate school financing would become a political issue during the election campaign earlier this year.

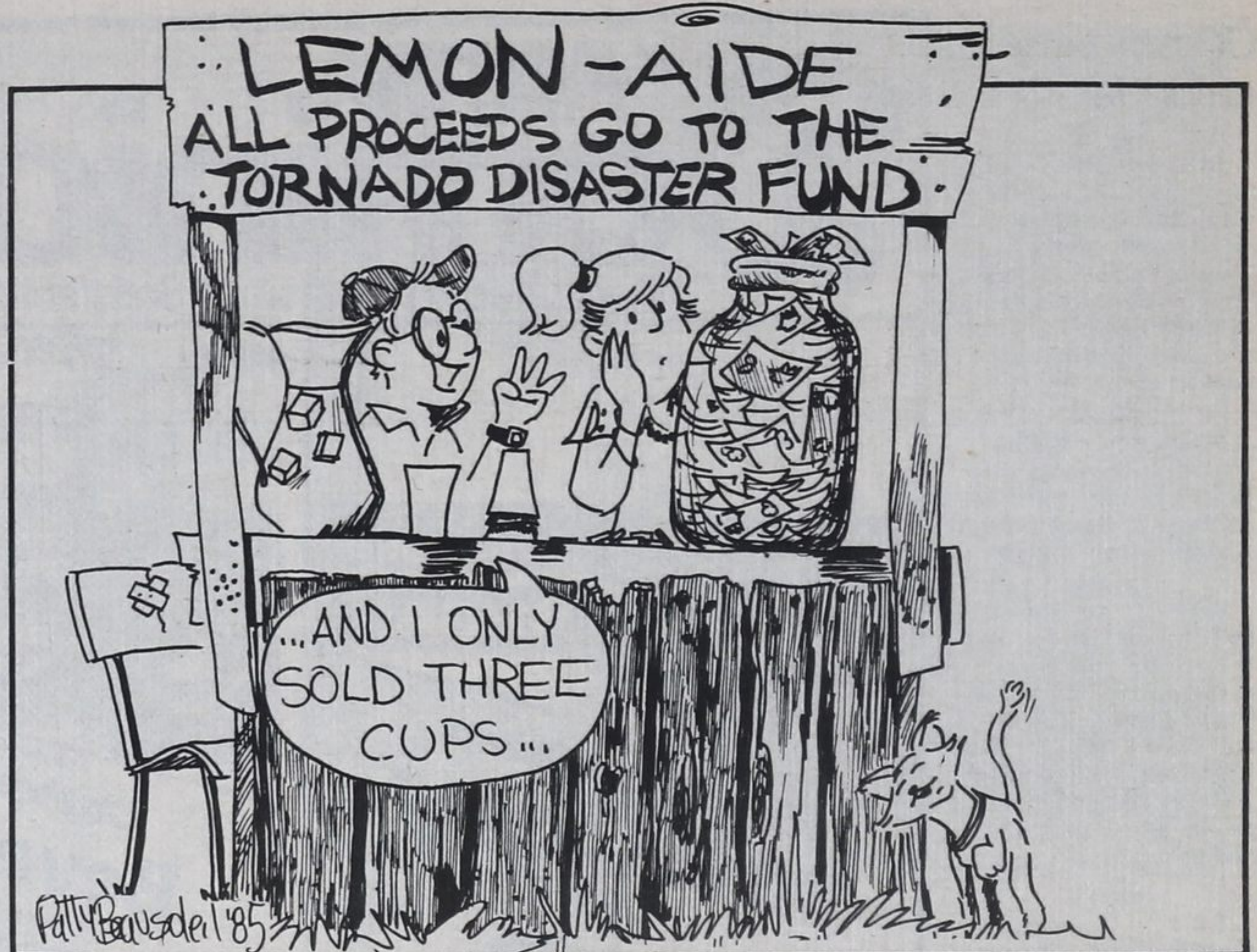
Turns out it was THE hot potato of the campaign with Ontarians removing at least 20 of the Tories Legislature seats and turning Miller's "tartan train" into a minority government. So much for having a handle on the public's pulse.

Spot(light) checks?

IT WOULD MAKE Buck Rogers do cartwheels. Police forces south of the border may soon be equipped with a new gadget for sniffing out suspected drunks.

It's a \$600 flashlight. That's correct, a flashlight featuring a built-in sensor for detecting booze on motorists' breath.

We guess that's what they mean when they refer to spot(light) checks



The metric Emperor has no clothes

Dear Editor:

As a former Canadian resident I was thrilled to learn of the relegalisation of Imperial. I hope the people of Ontario will now start buying gas by the gallon and petition the provincial legislature to follow the example of Nova Scotia by restoring miles to the signposts. Canada has now reached the point where miles must return to be congruent with acres, sections and townships, or hectares will have to be instituted to be compatible with kilometres.

Kilometres are alien and imposters on any map. One of the cardinal principles of metrology states that the value of any measurement system lies solely in its ability to divide into the maximum number of whole number submultiples possible. Navigation is a prime practical example, where it is imperative to produce the maximum number of whole number coordinates for position-finding to fly or sail by.

All ideal multiples for dividing come from duodecimal systems. Geometry renders an abundance: the 360s of circumferences, the 180s of semicircles and longitude, the 60s and 120s of equilateral angles, the 90s of right angles and latitude, and the 60s splits of degrees of arc into minutes and seconds. Time furnishes the familiar 60, 12s and 24s, while the mile has the 3, 12, and 36 ratios of the foot, inch and yard. This trio is totally compatible.

The kilometre can never be the international mile in length, granted, but even if it was it would still be functionally useless. No ten-base system can be divided by 3, 6 or 12 to render any definite resolutions, not even in fractions. In practical effect, there are no thirds, sixths or twelfths. Making circles 100 degrees and clocks 10 hours (which would cripple geometry and time as effectively as metrics) would still render divisional results too horrendous to contemplate.

Foreign pilots forget their metres to fly in feet for two sound reasons: they like to live, and it is far easier with our sexagesimal clock to convert mph to ft. per sec. than kph to metres per sec. Questions then arise: why are children forced to

Benefit day on CKVR-TV

Dear Editor:

Due to the utter devastation that occurred on May 31, and because of CKVR's commitment to those areas affected, CKVR's Vice President & General Manager, Jack Mattenley, wishes to announce the scheduling of a major fund raising event to raise money for those families in the tornado-stricken areas.

Weatherman, Bob McIntyre will host the event to be known as the "CKVR Heart of Ontario Benefit Day", will feature a noon to dusk concert at Molson Park Barrie, tied to a Phone-In Pledge Day on CKVR.

An entire day of CKVR programming will be cleared to present this Benefit day. Proceeds from the event will be allocated through a special committee comprised of members of the stricken communities.

The event will take place on June 29. Big-name entertainers, are planned for this, and when the names are released CKVR will issue them immediately. Thank you very much for your support.

-CKVR-TV

learn elevations in meaningless metres, and why do metric mapmakers presume to see no conflict with time and geometry? Why bother to learn a defective, inferior system when you have to turn to a superior one to be bailed out.

Stonehenge was built on a 1 and 6-mile pattern which is probably why we find the solar system mapped in a natural decimal mile pattern. In ballpark figures, rarely more than 5-10 percent off, the Earth is 100 million miles from the Sun, Mars is 150 (mean), Jupiter is 1/2 billion, Saturn 1 billion, and Uranus, Neptune and Pluto are further out by 1 billion mile increments. The Sun's effective gravity reaches 50 billion miles and the nearest star is 25 trillion miles away. There is a similar pattern in speeds of planetary orbits ranging from the 110,000 mph of Mercury to the 10,000 mph of Pluto.

Nearer home, the Moon is 1/4 million miles from Earth (Cislunar Space). The Earth/Moon gravity system (Translunar Space) reaches 1 million miles. The Earth's circumference is 25,000 miles, its rate of spin just over 1000 mph. The atmosphere reaches 100 miles. Magnetic North is 1000 miles from True North, and so on.

There is a correlation between miles and fahrenheit in assessing wind chill factors. For every 1 mph increase in wind strength deduct 1 degree F. On mountains, deduct 3 degrees F. for every 1000 feet elevation. Fahrenheit grouped all Earth's moderate temperatures between 1 and 100 degrees. How accurate he was is shown by today's extremes of -128 and +136 being virtually equidistant from zero. There is a similar balance in the equatorial regions of the Moon of -280 and +260F.

Isn't it logical and natural to record hot days in the 80s and 90s instead of the high 20s and low 30s? As a water scale masquerading in air (an entirely different element), Celsius sacrifices double the accuracy of fahrenheit with its too-widely-spaced gradations geared to water. Freezing point as a base is a sorry choice as can be seen by its placement a third of the way up the fahrenheit scale. It is not even down in the moderately-cold range. Fahrenheit's zero is far more important: the point at which all the oceans would freeze solid regardless of their degree of salinity. Yet fahrenheit is still a true air scale. Would you dig a garden with a trowel or a hoe instead of a spade to give proper results? Celsius could be made valid, however, if we started living in water and breathing H2O.

Canada once had a scientific measurement system till politics and Big Business interests dictated otherwise. Isn't it time the people started yelling the metric Emperor has no clothes to bring them back again?

Sincerely,
Ian B. Patten
Anchorage,
Alaska

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.

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Production Foreman:
Jim Robb
Production Staff:
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