

Editorials

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

Recycling

THERE'S A silver lining in every cloud, the saying goes, and if one cares to apply it to the unfortunate saga of the contaminated Pauze landfill site near Perkinsfield, one could say some good has come of the waste disposal problem in North Simcoe: the controversy surrounding the landfill site helped provide some of the impetus for a recycling system for North Simcoe.

The North Simcoe Waste Management Association's recycling program gets its start this week with the beginning of recycling pick-up. Penetanguishene is the first community in North Simcoe in which recycling pick-ups were made.

The success of the program depends on community participation.

Handling request

A DEPUTATION before Penetanguishene town council last Monday night succeeded in articulating concerns held by parents of St. Joseph's School pupils over the lack of an adult crossing guard at the intersection of Owen Street and Robert Street West, beside the school.

In a convincing deputation, parent Carol Tynan said there are fears for children's safety because of the volume of the traffic on the street, the speed of traffic at that point on the street, and the fact that the intersection is currently patrolled during times when school breaks by older pupils in the safety patrol program. Tynan noted that, under the above-mentioned circumstances, patrolling the intersection is a pretty tall order for any youngster.

Past frustration on the part of parents who have been lobbying for posting of an adult crossing guard appears to have been directed toward the municipality's Public Safety committee. It should be noted, though, that another committee, the Pedestrian Safety committee, will be the one that deals with the latest request. Public Safety may become involved at a later date. And ultimately, it will be town council that will either accept or reject a recommendation from the committee level on whether or not a crossing guard should be hired.

There's an encouraging sign for concerned parents: municipal clerk Yvon Gagne noted yesterday that a member of the Penetanguishene Police Department is now at work setting up criteria by which all requests for crossing guards throughout the community will be handled. This involves approaching other municipalities about guidelines they have found useful in determining the need for adult crossing guards.

It should also prevent charges of one intersection receiving priority treatment at the expense of another across town.

Lynch 'em? No more

WHILE KNOCKING the mail delivery system seems to be a generally popular pastime in Canada, things have come a long way since the early days of the country's postal service.

In promotion of October as official Stamp Collecting Month, Canada Post Corporation has released a revealing list of Little known postal facts.

As if detaching and licking postage stamps wasn't bad enough, prior to 1958, each stamp had to be cut from the sheet with scissors.

Private postcards, like those with pictures of a town's main street or luxury hotel, were not permitted in Canadian mails until 1895.

And earlier in that same century, the larger Canadian post offices had separate entrances for men and women.

But most citizens will be relieved to learn that there have been no executions by hanging in Canada, for the crime of stealing a letter, since 1832. Good news indeed.

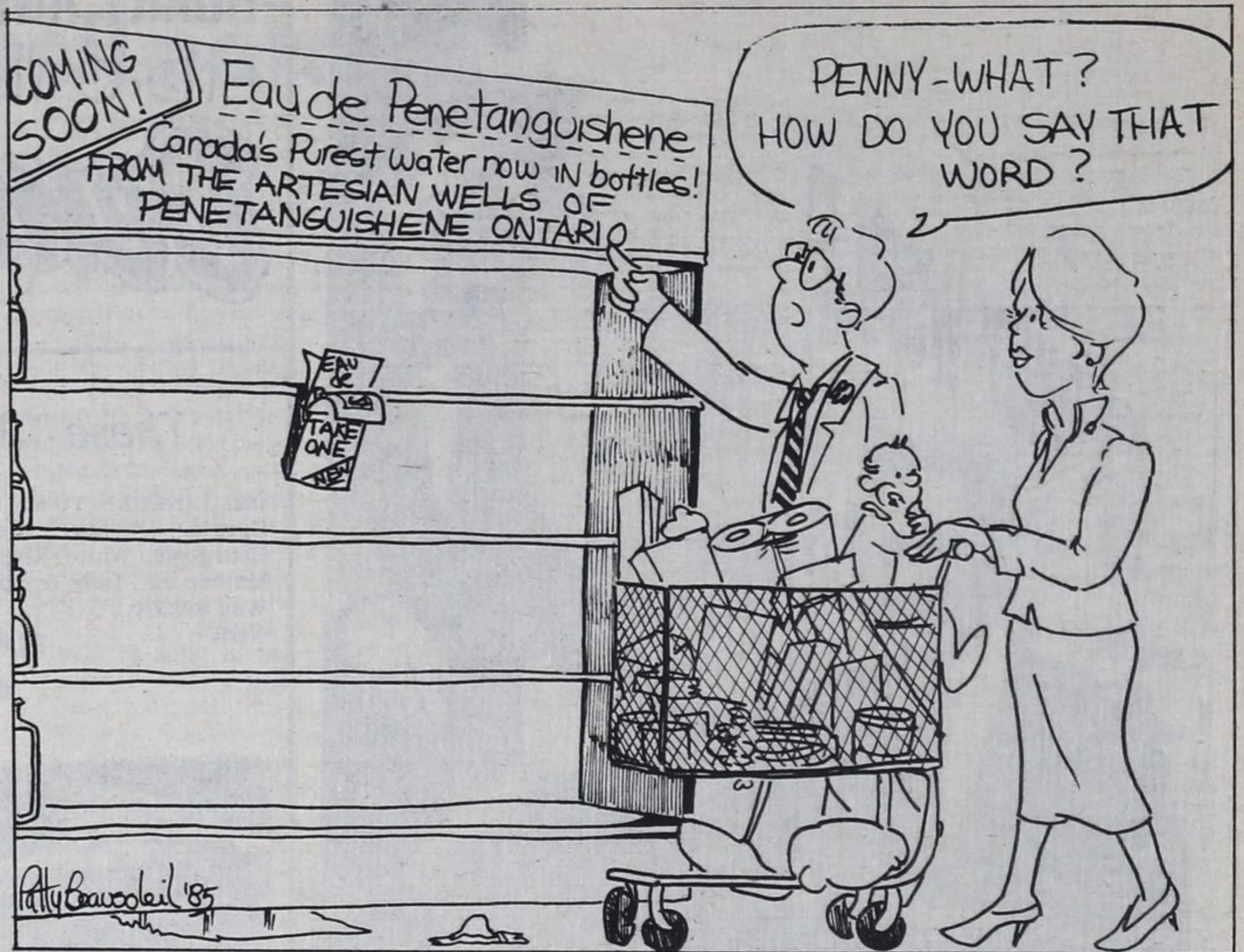
The need is there

BISHOP Robert Clune was principal celebrant last Saturday afternoon at Martyrs' Shrine during a mass marking the Feast of the Canadian Martyrs.

It was standing room only in the Shrine church where more than 850 people gathered to celebrate the observance.

The day was also set aside to draw attention to the need for more Jesuit Brothers, not only here at home, but around the world.

It was heartwarming to see most of Canada's 30 Jesuit Brothers at Saturday's mass, one of them coming from as far away as Winnipeg to take part in the Feast of the Martyrs.



Publicizing sale appreciated

Dear Editor:

On behalf of the membership of the Midland-Penetanguishene Field Naturalists' Club, I would like to thank your paper for publicizing the Garage Sale we sponsored to aid in the perpetuation of the Wye Valley Wildlife Centre and its activities.

We would also like to thank all who contributed articles for sale, baking and their services in conducting the sale.

Thanks to the purchasers also.

Very truly yours,
-Esther Addison, secretary.

Thanks for fine coverage

Dear Editor:

Thanks very much for the fine coverage of the anniversary celebrations of the visit of Pope John Paul II. The pictures and the write-ups were excellent. All brought back memories of the historic event itself Sept. 15, 1984.

We appreciated your coverage prior to the anniversary.

I rejoice with you in the prize-winning publication of the Papal Visit. Truly deserved.

Sincerely yours,
-James J. Farrell

Thoughtfulness appreciated

Dear Editor:

The staff and residents of Rosewood would like to thank you for the roll-end of paper. It will be

useful for our children. We greatly appreciate your thoughtfulness.

-The staff
Rosewood

Getting locked out, and rediscovery

by PETER SPOHN
Two minor events that occurred in recent days are on my agenda for this week's column, neither of which, on the first attempt at writing this column, seemed to lend themselves to full-length column exploration. They are: (a) locking myself out of my car Monday night, and, (b), acquiring a bottle of the newly-marked Coca Cola "Classic." As I said, they are minor...

Item number one showed me that passersby, who can't help but notice your plight as you manipulate a coathanger through the top of the car window, tend to react to your effort in three or four different ways: some stop and offer to help hook the end of the coathanger on the inside door lock; some smile, and even cackle, and move on; others commiserate with you inasmuch as they tell you they once did the same thing themselves and now carry a spare key, or keep one taped near the engine block. Just what you want to hear...

It's mighty in-

Column

convenient locking the keys in the car when you've left only the smallest crack above one window and you haven't taken the precautions mentioned above.

When I locked myself out in the parking lot of the Huronia Mall, it ultimately caused me to be 15 minutes late for the Penetanguishene town council meeting I was covering that night.

(It also caused me to leave the meeting early to hitch a pre-arranged ride back to the mall with the same Penetang resident who drove me from the mall to the council chamber, with the keys still locked in the car.)

Three people, including the Penetang resident who drove me to town and back, and myself took turns trying to hook the lock with a coathanger provided by a mall employee. The mall employee ultimately had the right touch and was able to hook the lock while I was still in the Penetang council chamber trying to concentrate on town

affairs.

The interesting thing about the experience was watching the determination with which those good enough to stop and help approached the task at hand: it became increasingly apparent that each one wanted to open the bloody car as badly as I did. To those who joined the annoying little challenge, I am grateful!

Plenty has been written already in other places about the tempest that was created when the world's largest soft drink company decided to tamper with its 99-year-old cola formula, and I, like others who have explored the new Coke old Coke business, can't help but wonder whether it wasn't all a brilliant

marketing manoeuvre to consolidate the soft drink market share.

When I picked up a bottle of Coca Cola Classic, I wondered how many others like me somehow felt almost privileged to be able to experience, all over again, the taste of a drink the world was told had been consigned to the scrapbook of history.

The old cola tastes dramatically different from the new stuff, and as far as I'm concerned, much richer and better. And yes, the new stuff tastes much like the leading competitor's product. Brilliant!

If introducing the new cola at the expense of the old formula was a blunder on the company's part, it seems it was a happy accident.

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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Publisher: Andrew Markle
Editor: Peter Spohn
Editorial Staff:
Douglas Reed
Murray Moore
Paul Sanderson

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Jim Robb
Production Staff:
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