

Editorials

Letters

A few words of thanks

Dear Editor:

On behalf of the residents of Georgian Manor Home for the Aged I would like to take the opportunity during volunteer week (April 13 - 19) to express a few words of thanks.

"To all Georgian Manor volunteers, auxiliary, musical entertainers and community church groups."

We would like to express our sincere thanks and gratitude for the time and dedication you have donated in the past. Your generous efforts

have been a benefit for our residents and enhanced the quality of many of our programs.

As program director I am truly grateful to have your much needed assistance in our home programs and hopefully look forward in working with you in the future.

**Yours appreciately,
Linda Bellisle
Program Director
Georgian Manor, Penetanguishene**

Credit where due given by Contact

Dear Editor:

On behalf of the Contact Information Centre board of directors and staff I would like to thank those who attended our 1986 annual general meeting and made it such a success.

Our thanks and best wishes to Albert Leering and Joe Blake who will no longer be on our board.

To all of our wonderful bingo volunteers, Margaret Milligan, Myra Miller, Ann Strapko, Sheila Weatherell, Marg Hughes, Lin Sullivan, Denise Ashby, Joan Lavin, Mary Skinner, Linda Woods, Shirley Charlebois, Ray Heaney, Lorraine Waters and Ruth, David Penna, Dale Forget, and to all of the others who have volunteered their time to help Contact, a heartfelt thank you.

The Highland Inn provided us with a lovely

meal and exceptional service from friendly staff which made our annual meeting special.

Thanks to Derek Christopher and CKMP for their continuing interest in the Contact Information Centre and to Peter Spohn of the Free Press for covering our meeting. Contact is as always most grateful for the support of the local media.

Thank you to our guest speaker Bryan Peter for an enlightening presentation on the importance of local recreation.

The Contact Information Centre's board of directors for 1986/87 is as follows: Chairman Margaret Milligan, Vice Chairman Jim Hughes, Vice Chairman Helgi Kronis, Midland Council Representative Carolyn White, David Boyce, Michael Collins, Denise Ashby, Bryan Peter.

Dear Editor:

On behalf of the Red Shield Committee of the Salvation Army in Midland I would like to thank Member of Parliament Doug Lewis, Honorary Chairman John Moreau (Reeve of Port McNicoll), Deputy-Reeve of Tay Township Tom O'Hara and Mayor Al Roach for their participation in attendance at our Red Shield Kick-off Parade on May 3.

I would like to also express a special thank you to the Legion Pipes & Drums and Colour Party for their assistance in the march.

Dear Editor:

The members of Huronia Performing Arts for Children would like to express our sincere appreciation to the Midland-Penetang community for wholeheartedly supporting our 1985-86 series of performances for children.

This season our productions included storytelling, theatre, puppetry, music and mime. The children have played washtub and spoons with Eric Nagler and told stories with Robert Munsch. They had fun with the antics of Erehwon Theatre performers and met, courtesy of Mermaid Theatre, an innocent Peter and his motorcycle hood style villainous wolf. They have been en-

Dear Editor:

As professionals most immediately involved in looking after the health care of the people of Ontario on a daily basis, the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario (RNAO) wishes to make crystal clear its opposition to extra-billing by physicians.

The RNAO, with 50,000 members, about 800 of whom live and work in Simcoe County, has been opposed to extra-billing since 1974. We oppose extra-billing because we believe the practice violates the principles of universality and accessibility which are the cornerstone of Canada's

I would also like to thank the Midland Town Police for their assistance in the march and the Midland Public Library Board for agreeing to fly our flag at the Library for Red Shield Month.

I would also take this opportunity to thank the local media for their excellent coverage of this event.

**Sincerely,
Norman Garcia
Lieutenant**

P.S. Our first night Blitz was a tremendous success in raising \$7,000 which is well on our way to our goal of \$25,000 this year.

thrilled by Lampoon Puppet Theatre's special shadow magic puppetry and have roared in laughter at Theatre Beyond Words' Potato People.

We are proud to have brought to this area such talented professional groups, renowned as among Canada's finest. We hope that your children have been entertained and enriched as have our own.

For your contribution to a successful year we thank you. It is only with such community support that we can achieve our goal of making the performing arts accessible to everyone.

**Sincerely,
Joan Gallagher-Main
for**

Huronia Performing Arts for Children

Medicare system.

The Registered Nurses Association of Ontario sees the need to ban extra-billing and user fees as unfair taxes levied against citizens when they are sick. Studies consistently show that these fees deter the poor and the elderly, many of whom are women, from accessing health care.

**Tim Tynan
Lafontaine
Vice-President
Huronia Chapter
Registered Nurses Assn. of Ontario**

This crazy world of ours: Part 6

Ray Baker

From the USA, Georgia, a mountain bear near Blue Ridge is found by police, or the remains of one, surrounded by 40 packages of white, sweet smelling powder, formerly contained in a duffel bag which had been ripped open.

The illegal drop into the mountain has apparently been discovered by the bear, who may have looked on it as a gift from heaven.

In short order the bag is opened, the care package is sampled and several million dollars consumed. It is not known whether the smugglers involved confronted the bear, arguing possession rights. What is known however is that no matter what the elevation of Blue Ridge, Georgia, above sea level is, the highest thing around there was the bear. I've just given you the bear facts.

From Tibet, land of mystery, home of the legendary Shangri-La, the yeti, levitation, and assorted stories no one can explain, comes yet another: one voice chording. Sounds simple, right? Anyone can sing, right? Anyone can chant, or hum mantras, right? Would you believe five notes at once from the same vocal chords!

Glenn Mullin, author of a dozen books on Tibet and Buddhism, explains as best he can that G and B, then an octave higher on both notes, and an even higher overtone of a third, are sung simultaneously.

Still confused? Well the method is slightly different from your regular singing lessons in the morning. If you are not careful you may find yourself singing in the shower, or in extreme cases like the old movie with Gene Kelly, Singing in The Rain.

So we've established a connection between water and singing. Well what the monks from the Gyume Tantric Lamastery of Lhasa have done in preparation for singing five notes at once, is take this water business one step further. They sit at the base of a waterfall and chant incessantly into the cascading torrent. This technique is developed over several years of uninterrupted concentration.

This lets out your average Canadian on two counts. Firstly, the waterfall is frozen six months out of the year. Secondly, our several years of

uninterrupted concentration is down to seven and one half minutes between television commercial breaks, or in the case of children, seven and one half minutes of tuning out the show so they can watch commercials.

The Buddhist belief is that The voice has power. And that chants, properly applied, can cause insects and pests to leave an area, are strongly echoed in the West, where wine glasses are broken with a violin note and entire neighbourhoods are vacated if I sing in the bath.

In Canada, Master punster John S. Crosbie lives in a box called Box 5040, Station A, Toronto M5W 1N4. He is not only a master of puns but author of such unknown books as Crosbie's Book Of Punned Haiky, and Crosbie Dictionary Of Original Limericks.

A monthly newsletter called the Pundit hopefully will help save the pun foundation. He started punning at an early age. On being given a pet lizard he taught it to walk on it's hind legs. It then became the world's first stand-up chameleon. I am going to join the Save The Pun Foundation. My

credentials will be as follows: Send him one of my punday columns. If that fails, threaten to send two columns and so on., Nobody can stand that kind of pressure.

First prize one pun, second prize two puns. What appeals to me about Save the Pun Foundation is that any number can play-through some may be number than others.

John S. Crosbie from Bennet Cer, then from me, follows.

A girl by the name of Carmen Cohem, her mother called her Carmen, her father, who always wanted a son, called her Cohen.

By the time she became a teenager she didn't know whether she was Carmen or Cohen.

This Weeks Quote. A day without puns is like a day without sunshine. There is always gloom for improvement, John S. Crosbie.

Ray Baker is a freelance writer and punster. He and his family live in Penetanguishene. In order to prevent mass evacuation they do not sing in the shower.

In defence of all that is bland

Carey Nieuwhof

As we speak, a man is walking around this great province, likely doing nothing exciting or at all bold. He is, in all probability, not rousing people from afternoon naps. He is likely not trying anything too unorthodox, or running about being radical.

In fact, he may be eating vanilla ice cream. Maybe he is cutting his grass. Or perhaps he is engaged in the drama of a backyard barbecue. If things get dull, he may jump into the car and take his family for a ride around the neighbourhood. He may get down to painting a fence if his life really needs some spark. Who is this man?

He is quite famous. Whether you like it or not, he has had an effect on your life. No, he likely has not made you a vanilla lover (all sane people think vanilla ice cream is tops anyway). He does not have his own tv show on barbecuing. No, this man was your premier for 13½ years. His name is Bill Davis.

Premier Bill, like Bill Davis the man, has, if I

may stretch the analogy, an all-is-vanilla outlook on life. As premier, he never saw issues in black and white hues. Rather, his eyes tainted all with a pale grey mist. To him, Ontario was his backyard. There was no need to go smashing into your own backyard with the attitude that you wanted to conquer the world. You didn't have to conquer it. The world was your backyard.

Brampton Bill handled Ontario like a craftsman handles fine oak. He didn't jab and scrape it. He didn't jam it through a dull toothed blade. Our former premier managed and shaped it. He gently carved and sanded, breaking down the rough edges—not creating more.

Because our premier with the button face treated us in this way, Ontario grew into happy complacency. We loved ourselves, because he told us we should. We realized we lived in a vanilla-like part of the country, but we liked that. Things were good because Premier Bill said they were. It was a rather superficial system of

reasoning, but it worked.

We saw ourselves as Canada's most prosperous corner. Like our fearless leader, we saw our province as one big backyard. Before the warmth and gushiness oozes out of this paper, let us move onto other considerations.

The sense of bland happiness that leaked from the Premier's office in Bill's days did wonders for the Tory party. Time to draw parallels here folks.

Bill was Ontario. If you knocked him down, you knocked us down. It was not fair. Whenever the then-faceless opposition leaders would poke at Bill Davis, he would rebound, just like Ontario always did. To hit Bill was like smashing a floating cork with a sledgehammer. It just kept floating back up.

Living in a blah atmosphere was fun. We didn't have to think about government if we didn't want to. It was just always there. Now we have to think about extra-billings and pharmaceutical pro-

ducts. We have to think about deficits and rent controls. It's almost as though, for the first time in 43 years, that we've had a government that is going to do something radical.

Bill always governed quietly and effectively. Oh sure, let's talk Spadina Expressway and Catholic school funding. But those are two biggies in 13 years. Not bad.

Blahness, mediocrity and all that is bland helped this province gain an unusual understanding of ourselves. We liked ourselves. We liked our province draped in vanilla. We knew we were a great province, but we also liked the fact that we didn't have to think about how we got good, or got to be where we were. It was all just there. And that was nice. It was all there, before our eyes. Ontario was, in fact, very much like our premier. That's because our premier was very much like Ontario.

Penetanguishene Citizen

Published by Bayweb Limited every Tuesday at
74 Main Street, Penetanguishene, Ontario 549-2012
Second Class Mail Registration Number 2327

Publisher: Andrew Markle
Manager: Judy French
Editor: Michele Gouett



Member



CNA Member

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.