

PGH & HDH affected

Doctors strike hits close to home

All chiefs of staff at Huronia District Hospital (HDH) have resigned as of Monday morning and three have resigned at Penetanguishene General Hospital (PGH).

HDH administrator, Gordon Key says he has received resignations from all his chiefs of staff including Dr. Herman Jilesen who resigned last week but adds, "We're still operating as usual. Doctors are on staff operating in emergency and striking doctors are still seeing their own patients."

Key says he expects the doctors to return to the hospital when the strike is over but says he can't speak for them. "It's difficult when you're looking at all sides of the issue. I'm in constant contact with some doctors but what the doctor's union will do has yet to be seen."

Key says an average of five elective surgery operations have been cancelled per day since doctors went on a province-wide strike last Thursday.

The Ontario Medical Association (OMA) called an open-ended indefinite strike to protest the Liberal government's ban on extrajurisdiction. The OMA has requested all chiefs of staff at Ontario hospitals resign and close emergency wards to further pressure the government into dropping Bill 94, the Health Care Accessibility Act.

The bill is in its third reading in the legislature but Health Minister Murray Elston says he doesn't know exactly when the vote will take place. In the legislature last week, Elston said he had no plans to force doctors back to work but would be closely monitoring hospitals to "ensure the health care of the patient is not being compromised."

Key says the emergency ward at HDH would not be closed and elective surgery is cancelled until Thursday.

Doris Shirriff, assistant to the executive director at PGH, says the hospital received three resignations Monday morning but says, "they won't be recognized until the board

meets Wednesday morning to consider them. Until then, the doctors are on staff."

This leaves five chiefs of staff staying on at the hospital. Shirriff says most doctors at PGH are not participating in the strike so normal hospital operations are continuing as

usual.

Some elective surgery has been cancelled but doctors are seeing their own patients.

"We've had no formal complaints from patients," Shirriff says.

Doctors met for an informal strike meeting

Sunday night but OMA representative Dr. Peter Cameron could not be reached for comment.

Doctors are expected to meet again Wednesday night to decide whether to continue with the strike or go back to work.



Health Centre opened

Leonard Monague does the honours last Thursday afternoon during the opening of the Christian Island Health Centre. Assisting

him are federal Health and Welfare zone administrative officer, Marie Roy and Public

Works Canada employee, Charles Danzker, the building's designer.

Le Caron

Distinguished guest marks graduation

Graduation ceremonies for Ecole secondaire Le Caron will be held this Thursday, June 19th at 7:30 p.m. in the school auditorium.

A very distinguished educator, in the person of Dr. Stacy Churchill, will be delivering the keynote address.

Dr. Churchill, as you may recall, was prominent in local and provincial media a few months ago concerning his controversial, 2 volume report outlining concerns about French-language education at the high school and post-secondary levels.

Dr. Churchill will be addressing this very question in his speech to the expected three hundred people in attendance on Thursday night, including 39 students from this year's graduating class, with particular emphasis on the importance of a French-language education for francophone students in order to attain a real degree of proficiency in bilingualism.

Dr. Churchill holds a PHD in International History from the London School of Economics and Political Science and another doctoral degree in International Relations from l'Universite de Paris. He is fluent in nine languages and has worked with more than a hundred countries and international commissions in an advisory or consultative

capacity. He also has extensive experience in senior management with IBM Corporation, Honeywell Ltd. & the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education where he is presently employed as Director of the Department of Measurement, Evaluation and Computer Applications.

Dr. Churchill has authored over 80 books, monographs and articles in various profes-

sional capacities and has recently been appointed Vice-Chairman of Languages of Instruction Commission of Ontario.

Dr. Churchill is indeed an extremely well qualified speaker and Ecole secondaire Le Caron is very honoured by his acceptance of the invitation to speak at this year's graduation. We extend to him a cordial welcome to our area and to Ecole secondaire Le Caron.

St. James Choir marks birthday

St. James'-on-the-line Parish Junior Choir will sing out in praise of the Church's 150th Anniversary in two special performances. The choir will present "Praise is..." June

28 and 29 at 7 p.m. in St. James' Church in Penetanguishene.

Everyone is invited to attend the celebration of the parish's 150th birthday.

Simcoe Centre

P.C. picnic scheduled Sunday

The Simcoe Centre Progressive Conservative Association will host their second annual Beef Barbecue next Sunday afternoon at the farm of Simcoe Centre MPP, Earl Rowe.

The fun begins at Rowe's home on the 10th concession of West Williambury, (just south

of Barrie, off highway 27) at 1 p.m. and continues until 5 p.m. Tickets are \$5 a person. Transportation to the barbecue is also available.

For more information call 549-3330 or 549-7780.



Magician

Funny-man and magician Tom Kubinek entertained everyone from the tiny tots to the parents on hand Friday afternoon at the Penetanguishene Arena. Kubinek's travelling show was brought to the Town by the Penetang Public Library with the assistance of the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Culture.