

Boost local tourism

Part of Penetanguishene's natural beauty is its fresh water bay with the town reaching down on its southern shore and woodland on the north.

Its economic value was appreciated by early settlers and entrepreneurs. But it appears that in recent times this geographic bonus is being overlooked.

Last year the Georgian Queen took 20,000 passengers through the bay for a tour of the 30,000 Islands. Local charter boats take their hire out from the town dock.

Some of our town's fathers have argued that there is no economic spin-off for Penetanguishene noting that tourists drive to the dock without stopping. But this is quite untrue.

A group of divers preparing to leave aboard a charter said they had been coming to the area for over 10 years. And they said they enjoyed the area so much they took camping trips to Awenda Park using Penetanguishene as a base to buy groceries and the like.

The Georgian Queen's 20,000 passengers are not to be dismissed. Using \$5 as a multiplier, which Steve Robillard, captain of the Georgian Queen, says is an average, the economic benefit to the town is appreciable.

Penetanguishene has had its winter heroes.

It's time to recognize those whose enterprising spirit brings recognition to Penetanguishene during the summer and help them boost local tourism.

Colourers go to circus

Dear Editor:

Congratulations to the winners of the Circus Colouring Contest sponsored by the North Simcoe Catholic Family Life Centre!

The winners of the three age divisions were: Karin Shoenberger, age 6, of Midland; Mark Henderson, age 8, of Port McNicoll; and Joey Longlade, age 10, of Penetang.

The judges were impressed by the colouring skills of the many entrants.

Each winner will receive one child's ticket and one adult's ticket to the Kelly-Millr Bros. Circus at the Penetang Waterfront Park on August 9.

Catholic Family Life Centre

News not all in Toronto

Dear Editor:

Your readers may be aware that we started a modest national newspaper last year to give Canadians a coast-to-coast forum that is not controlled by the giant media corporations in Toronto.

We earn our living producing a weekly newspaper to serve our own community, but we feel we are contributing to a better understanding of national and world issues by also producing The Independent National Edition.

About 1,000 subscribers in every part of Canada receive our national section, which is published 24 times a year for a subscription price of \$16.

It is certainly a critical success; our readers tell us they enjoy it, and our efforts to provide a non-Toronto national newspaper have also gained notice in many other news media.

In addition to articles by community-based journalists from many parts of Canada, we also carry world news from non-conventional sources. Volunteers serving with the Mennonite Central Committee provide a realistic viewpoint on events in the countries where they are working. We also publish some of the Third World Network Features, which get to the heart of important issues and present them without the usual Toronto, New York, or London bias.

While much of the content is serious, we also offer a lighter look at the news. Ben LaFontaine will some day be ranked as one

of Canada's best cartoonists; you can see his work now in The Independent National Edition.

Many readers really enjoy our regular column on the use and misuse of language. Working With Words is humorous, educational and courageous in prodding public functionaries to use English correctly.

Anyone who is interested is welcome to ask for a sample copy. Write to us at: The Independent, 15 King Street, Elmira, Ontario, N3B 2R1.

Bob Verdun
Editor and Co-owner

Smashing crime

Dear Editor:

Crime Stoppers of Simcoe County and the District of Muskoka has now been in operation for six months. We are very pleased with the results we have had thus far and anticipate continued success with the Program.

We must also compliment you and your newspaper for your support of the "Crime Stoppers" Program.

Without your continued support in communicating our needs to the community, we definitely would not have such success.

Sincerely yours,
J.W. MacDonell, -2749
Provincial Constable
Crime Stoppers

MPP Report

by Al McLean

NDP Leader Bob Rae is the big spender

Expenditures for members of the Ontario Legislative Assembly were released recently and indicate MPPs spent approximately \$18-million for the 1986-87 fiscal year. Any increase over the previous year's figures was due mainly to the Board of Internal Economy allowing all members to hire additional staff to handle an increased workload and increasing the number of mailings from two to three to keep our constituents better informed.

It should be noted that the New Democratic Party which traditionally touts itself as the "working man's party" had all of its members spend in excess of \$150,000. And that party's leader, Bob Rae, topped the list at more than \$250,000! I have not included the Liberal government's cabinet ministers in this report because many of their expenses are included in those of the ministry they are responsible for. And it should also be noted that Liberal parliamentary assistants also have a portion of their costs covered by the ministry they work for.

My expenses for the 1986-87 fiscal year amounted to \$142,929 because of:

- the cost of having one constituency office with its full and part-time staff, office equipment rental, telephone and supplies;

- the cost of running my Queen's Park office with its full and part-time staff, supplies

and telephone and

- the cost for accommodation in Toronto and the expense of travelling throughout my riding, a large riding creates more travel.

When running my offices and staff, as well as travelling throughout the riding of Simcoe East, I have always aimed at looking out for the taxpayers' money. And I will continue to do so in the future. I believe that the Legislative Assembly expenditures report reflects my concern for the taxpayer.

The following list (excluding cabinet ministers) shows how individual members fared when it came to their expenses in the 1986-87 fiscal year:

Bob Rae (NDP), \$250,372; Larry Grossman (PC), \$216,411; Gilles Pouliot (NDP), \$204,372; Don Cousens (PC), \$201,190; Bud Wildman (NDP), \$200,194; Sam Cureatz (PC), \$197,461; Karl Morin-Strom (NDP), \$195,616; Pat Hayes (NDP) \$192,303; Dave Cooke (NDP), \$187,164; David Ramsay (LIB), \$186,247; Ed Philip (NDP), \$183,807; Jim Gordon (PC), \$182,954; Elie Martel (NDP), \$182,730; Earl Rowe (PC), \$182,539; Richard Allen (NDP), \$181,709; Evelyn Gigantes (NDP), \$181,681; Richard Treleaven (PC), \$180,405; Mike Breaugh (NDP), \$178,678; Ross McClellan (NDP), \$177,508; George McCague (PC), \$176,481; David Reville

(NDP), \$176,043; Floyd Laughren (NDP), \$170,751; Bob Callahan (LIB), \$170,519; Jean Poirier (LIB), \$169,799; Noble Villeneuve (PC), \$169,198; Herb Epp (LIB), \$167,944; John Turner (PC), \$166,912; Ruth Grier (NDP), \$166,784; Howard Sheppard (PC), \$166,392; Tony Grande (NDP), \$166,338; David Cooke (LIB), \$166,197; Yuri Shymko (PC), \$165,174; Mel Swart (NDP), \$164,517; Ernie Eves (PC), \$164,135; Claude Bennett (PC), \$164,029; Richard Johnston (NDP), \$163,941; Michael Harris (PC), \$162,272; Norman Sterling (PC), \$161,824; Leo Bernier (PC), \$160,996; Jack Johnson (PC), \$160,382; Robert Runciman (PC), \$160,038; James Foulds (NDP), \$159,980; David Warner (NDP), \$159,442; David McFadden (PC), \$159,142; Bill Davis (PC), \$159,102; Rene Fontaine (LIB), \$158,999; Ross Stevenson (PC), \$158,744; Cam Jackson (PC), \$158,601; Bob MacKenzie (NDP), \$158,555; Marion Bryden (NDP), \$157,792; Andy Brandt (PC), \$157,555; Steve Offer (LIB), \$156,737; Susan Fish (PC), \$155,961; Chris Ward (LIB), \$153,963; Jim Henderson (LIB), \$153,562; Brian Charlton (NDP), \$153,494; Claudio Polsinelli (LIB), \$152,743; Luc Guindon (PC), \$152,110; Doug Reycraft (LIB), \$151,383; Jack Pierce (PC), \$151,356; William Barlow (PC), \$150,568; Larry South (LIB), \$150,295; Robert Mitchell

(PC), \$148,009; Douglas Wiseman (PC), \$147,988; Bud Gregory (PC), \$147,810; Peter Partington (PC), \$146,657; James Taylor (PC), \$145,883; Jim Pollock (PC), \$144,921; Michael Hennessy (PC), \$143,536; Allan McLean (PC), \$142,929; Eddie Sargent (LIB), \$142,846; Phil Gillies (PC), \$142,523; Elinor Caplan (LIB), \$142,355; Margaret Marland (PC), \$141,727; Terry O'Connor (PC), \$140,449; George Ashe (PC), \$139,989; Bette Stephenson (PC), \$139,463; Gilles Morin (LIB), \$138,136; James McGuigan (LIB), \$137,485; Philip Andrewes (PC), \$137,456; Gordon Dean (PC), \$136,929; Joan Smith (LIB), \$135,092; Alan Pope (PC), \$133,796; Don Knight (LIB), \$133,607; Paul Yakabuski (PC), \$133,509; Maurice Bossy (LIB), \$132,707; Bernard Newman (LIB), \$130,524; Reuben Baetz (PC), \$129,613; Ray Haggerty (LIB), \$128,842; John Lane (PC), \$127,737; Tony Lupusella (LIB), \$127,153; Remo Mancini (LIB), \$126,131; Dennis Timbrell (PC retired), \$125,782; Frank Miller (PC), \$125,621; Ronald McNeil (PC), \$124,636; Dave Smith (LIB), \$122,242; Christine Hart (LIB), \$119,232; Bob McKessock (LIB), \$117,656; Nicholas Leluk (PC), \$116,630; Gordon Miller (LIB), \$114,464; Bruce McCaffrey (PC), \$108,137; Rick Ferraro (LIB), \$107,423; Joseph Cordiano (LIB), \$100,236.

Penetanguishene Citizen

Published by Bayweb Limited every Tuesday at
74 Main Street, Penetanguishene, Ontario 549-2012
Second Class Mail Registration Number 2327
Year subscription rate \$39.00

Publisher: Andrew Markle
Manager: Judy French
Editor: David Wright
Reporter: Murray Moore
Sports: Arnold Burgher



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