

Lancia lashes out

The president of the Tiny Township Ratepayers Association has called his local council "gutless and without any backbone."

Anthony Lancia, also publisher of the monthly Tiny newspaper, The Quill, was expanding upon a letter he wrote to Tiny council. In it, he chastised members for supporting a new landfill site in Perkinsfield.

Lancia called the decision "truly unfortunate."

The losing candidate for Tiny reeve last municipal election, Lancia says his association (TRAP) has reviewed the township's proposals and has several reasons why he must oppose a dump in Perkinsfield.

"Obviously, the first reason I have to give is the potential for contamination. We've already experienced the hazards of the Pauze landfill site; why do we want to do it again?" he asks.

Lancia says he's suspicious of the site selection process. He suspects the process was destined to choose Perkinsfield as the dump site no matter what the findings.

"The methods used just weren't right. Most sites were north of the Ninth Concession. Almost every site was pre-ordained to be turned down. It appears Perkinsfield was always the choice and the selec-

tion process just gave a veneer of legitimacy to the operation," he said.

Lancia also has problems with the guarantees Perkinsfield residents have received about the dump being "safe."

"I mean, why are dumps always 'safe' for Tiny? If they are so safe why don't other municipalities want them in their back yards?"

TRAP has also concluded the soil in the Perkinsfield site is inappropriate for a landfill site.

"It is composed of sand and gravel. This is not a good base on which to put two feet of undercoating protection," he says.

Lancia admits that what he says might sound like the "Not in my backyard" syndrome. Peripherally, that's what he is saying. But the association president says to be fair you have to go back to the problems surrounding the Pauze landfill site to appreciate the frustration of Tiny residents like he.

"The Midland industries were the biggest polluters of that site. Now everyone's paying for their mistakes."

"I blame the Conservative provincial government of those days. I blame the industries who profited from polluting the soil," Lancia says.

He says Tiny is being literally dumped on because council won't "put

up a good fight."

Lancia adds, "We're vulnerable because our council simply has no backbone. It's unfortunate to say, but I'm sorry - it's true."

But Dr. Peter Brasher, the deputy reeve of Tiny Council, insists the dump site choice was no mistake.

"Basically, the Perkinsfield area is a site which won't be environmentally impacted by the landfill site" he says.

He asks why a new area should suffer when Tiny has already had a dump in its vicinity.

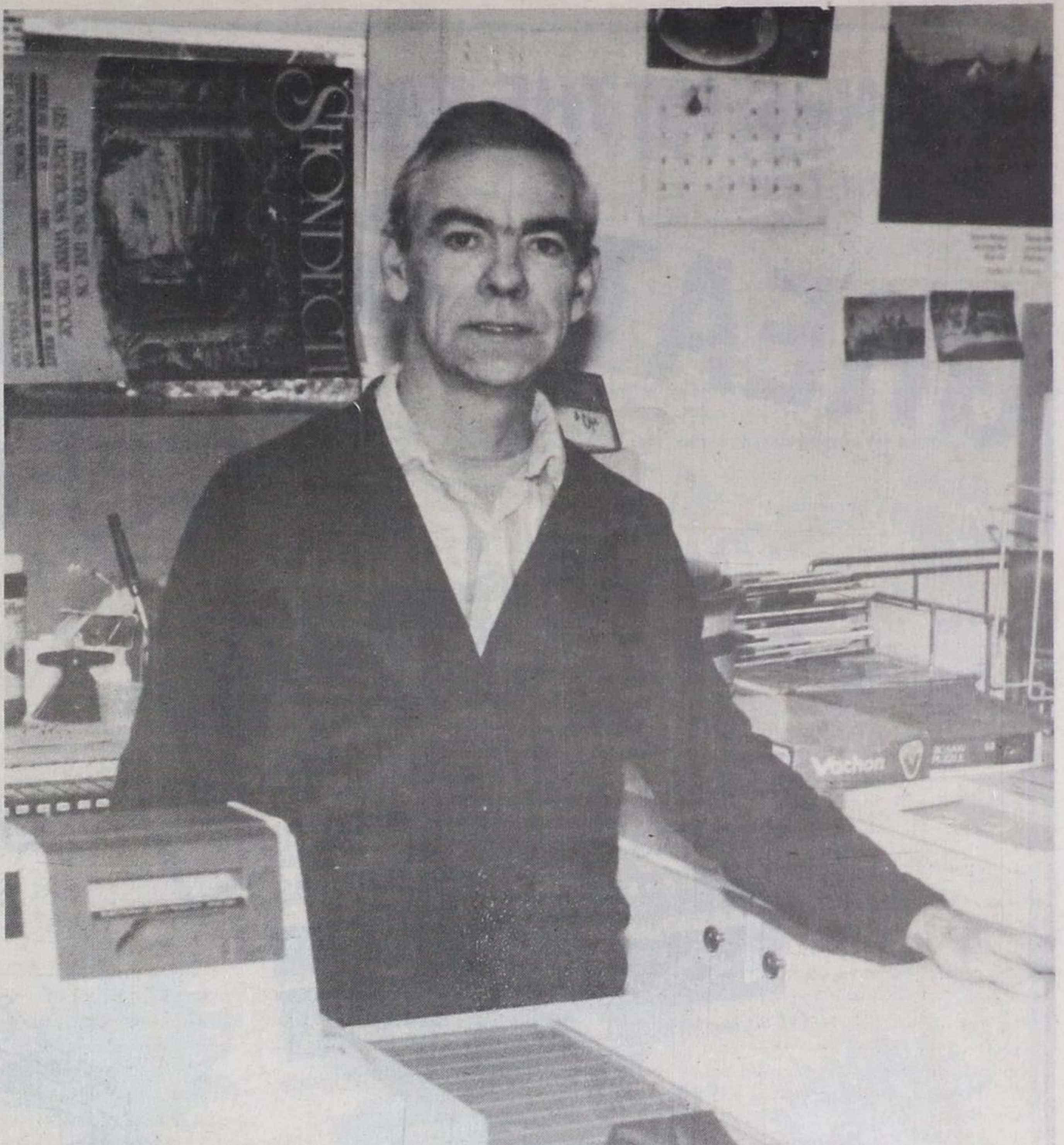
In his letter to Tiny Council, Lancia wrote the "positive goal of no dump in Tiny" should have been the "rallying point" for Tiny's citizens.

"This is not a positive goal. This is a negative goal," Brasher points out.

Brasher says an attitude like Lancia's is essentially one which suggests that the town should evade its responsibilities.

"A municipality has the responsibility for its own garbage. We can't keep expecting everyone else to do our dirty work, it's a completely selfish attitude."

Brasher expects the dump to be ready for use in about three years, at which time it may be used by all six municipalities in the North Simcoe region.



A local hero

J.C. Caron might not have saved any lives recently, but he does a large service to society nonetheless. Caron's store in Balm Bay, Marion's, is the only store

in the area to give senior citizens a ten per cent discount every day of the week, 365 days a year.

Insuring the past against present

A Huronia man wants to insure the past against the abuses of the present.

If the director of the Huronia Museum has his way, Tiny Township will be able to learn a lot more about its past and appreciate a heritage that extends for hundreds of years.

Director Jamie Hunter wants to designate specific areas of Tiny and other municipalities as archeological zones. He says he wants to create an "ar-

cheological master plan" for the entire Huronia area eventually.

Hunter's plan is simple. He will inform a municipality about the existence of "heritage sites." These sites can be specifically labelled in a town's planning schedule.

That way, when development occurs, the museum will be able to determine if it will ruin the heritage site.

In other words, you don't want a bulldozer to dig up the ruins of an Indian

village from the 1400s.

"There are at least 50 historical sites in Tiny alone," Hunter says "and many more that haven't been found yet."

One example is the cemetery on the Seventh Concession, an area Hunter claims is "rich in native culture."

The museum director says there is no actual difference between an "archeological site" and a "heritage site" although the two terms suggest dif-

ferent definitions.

Hunter calls his program "a mechanism to insure the past."

He cites an incident last May to show how important that insurance can be. Then, the museum learned of a road was going straight through an archeological site in Medonte Township.

"We saved that site from destruction," says Hunter.

He was able to alert developers to what was under the soil being dug

up. Indeed, a lot was under that soil.

"We found a 1624 token minted in Nuremberg, a pendant of a bear, various clay pipes and beads. The list could go on and on," he says.

Hunter's plan wouldn't cost Tiny or any other municipality any money. It is reliant entirely upon public interest, the resources of the Huronia Museum and the co-operation of developers.

"Obviously, we have no

legal right to tell any developer that they can't use a certain parcel of land because there might be old coins buried underneath," he admits. But he adds "most developers are sympathetic to a communities heritage; they don't want to destroy the past."

Hunter describes his idea as "an early warning system which will enable us to get financing from the relevant government agencies in time to prevent the loss of archeological

sites." At least one municipal clerk has jumped enthusiastically on the idea.

Guy Maurice, the clerk of Tiny Township has already passed the information on to Tiny's planning director, Roger Robitaille. He says the plan "interests him very much."

Although Maurice is not aware of any archeological sites, he says he is anxious to find out where they are.

Police impasse

Neither the Town of Penetanguishene or the Police Association are going to budge right now in the contract negotiations between the two parties. An impasse has been reached.

But a strike or work slowdown does not appear to be a possibility.

The clerk of Penetanguishene says the next step is conciliation and if that fails, arbitration.

Clerk Yvon Gagne would like to see the dispute solved before 1988. He says in that case, the town would have to settle contracts for both 1987 and 1988 and that, he says, "would be rather silly."

Councillor Don McNee, who is also chairman of the administration and finance committee, says the two sides "have to get down to business."

"There were a lot of absences on the negotiating teams during the summer," McNee explained. "I guess that's to be expected. But we really haven't done that much about it since the Fall ses-

sion began."

McNee says the issues in this dispute are simple: money and pensions. But he says he can't reveal specifics because negotiations continue.

Constable Don Penrose agrees with McNee's appraisal of the salient issues. But he says the Police Association should reach an agreement in the conciliation stage of the bargaining process and not wait for binding arbitration to settle matters.

"The arbitration process is firm. We have to accept whatever comes out of it. Usually the conciliator says, 'Look, you might as well get the best deal here because you won't get it in arbitration,'" he said.

Penrose cautions the public against expecting any disruption in police service.

"There will be no work-to-rule and certainly no limited strike action. We have never considered these as options. In fact, I would consider either approaches as very unprofessional conduct."



Mixing work with play

At Dion's Flowers and Gifts, Halloween is taken very seriously. In fact the staff came to work prepared for a howling good

time. If you don't recognize these ghastly creations, the clown is Anne Robbins, the

ghoul is Sharon Dion, the devil is Gail Akerman and Morticia is Jackie Dyer.