

Reeve looking for attention

Dear Editor:

I was appalled at Tiny Township Reeve Anthony Lancia's grandstanding efforts at last Wednesday's council meeting in Tiny Township.

Lancia's stated opposition to Site 4 (Perkinsfield) is well known. His alliance with councillor Gary Posey, who together with Martin Dorion ran as a slate in the recent election, serves to highlight this position further.

Despite Lancia's stated opposition to having a dump in Tiny, efforts to meet

with him to discuss issues surrounding the NSWMA's proposal for Site 41 in the south end of the township have been unsuccessful.

Rumors have been flying since the election that one of the first items of business would be the firing of the lawyers acting on behalf of Tiny in its proposal of Site 4 as a suitable landfill location.

It is no secret that Tiny Township has officially proposed the development of a new landfill site adjacent to the old site in Perkinsfield and has been preparing to

have that option considered before the Environmental Assessment Board. Presumably this board will take an objective and impartial view in considering all the data presented to it.

Only a fool would dare to take a proposal to such a hearing without preparing a good argument for that position and without ensuring that one has the facts to support that perspective.

The NSWMA is preparing its own data and documentation for its proposal of Site 41. Tiny is now committed to providing the

same level of documentation and evidence to support its official position.

To pull out now would be a grave injustice to the people of North Simcoe. We deserve to see that all the facts, both pro and con, are brought to the table.

Too much time, money and effort has been spent to sell us short now!

Sincerely
Sharon Lapham
Vice Chairman

Why WYE Citizen's Group

A house of experience

Dear Editor:

"She wrapped Him in cloths and placed Him in a manger because there was no room for them in the inn."

Last week, we at Experience House (a temporary shelter for homeless males) in Midland accepted a young man into our program, who had been living in a small shack near the train station in Midland.

The morning the man arrived at Experience House, the temperature was -20 and dropping.

I thank God that the Midland Salvation Army has a place such as Experience House to house homeless males, who wander our streets.

I thank God too, that in the New Year, we may also have a place set up in town for homeless females.

In a town like Midland, overflowing with abundance, there are dozens, if not hundreds, of hurting people, broken in spirit, filled with anguish, helpless and more often than not, homeless.

Since Experience House, which is owned and operated by the Midland Corps of the Salvation Army, opened its doors Oct. 1, 1986, we have housed a total of 210 males ranging in age from 15 to 63, as well as counselled 372 others.

At this Christmas season, we remember the rude manger where the Christ child was worshipped by shepherds and magi who followed the

star to Bethlehem.

Many of those, who have entered Experience House, have at one time or another slept in cardboard box "homes," shacks, tool sheds, doorways, underground parking lots, in ditches, under park benches, in telephone booths, igloos, or wander the streets night after night with no place to call home.

Many arrive with only the clothes on their backs. Some carry their entire life's belongings in one shopping bag.

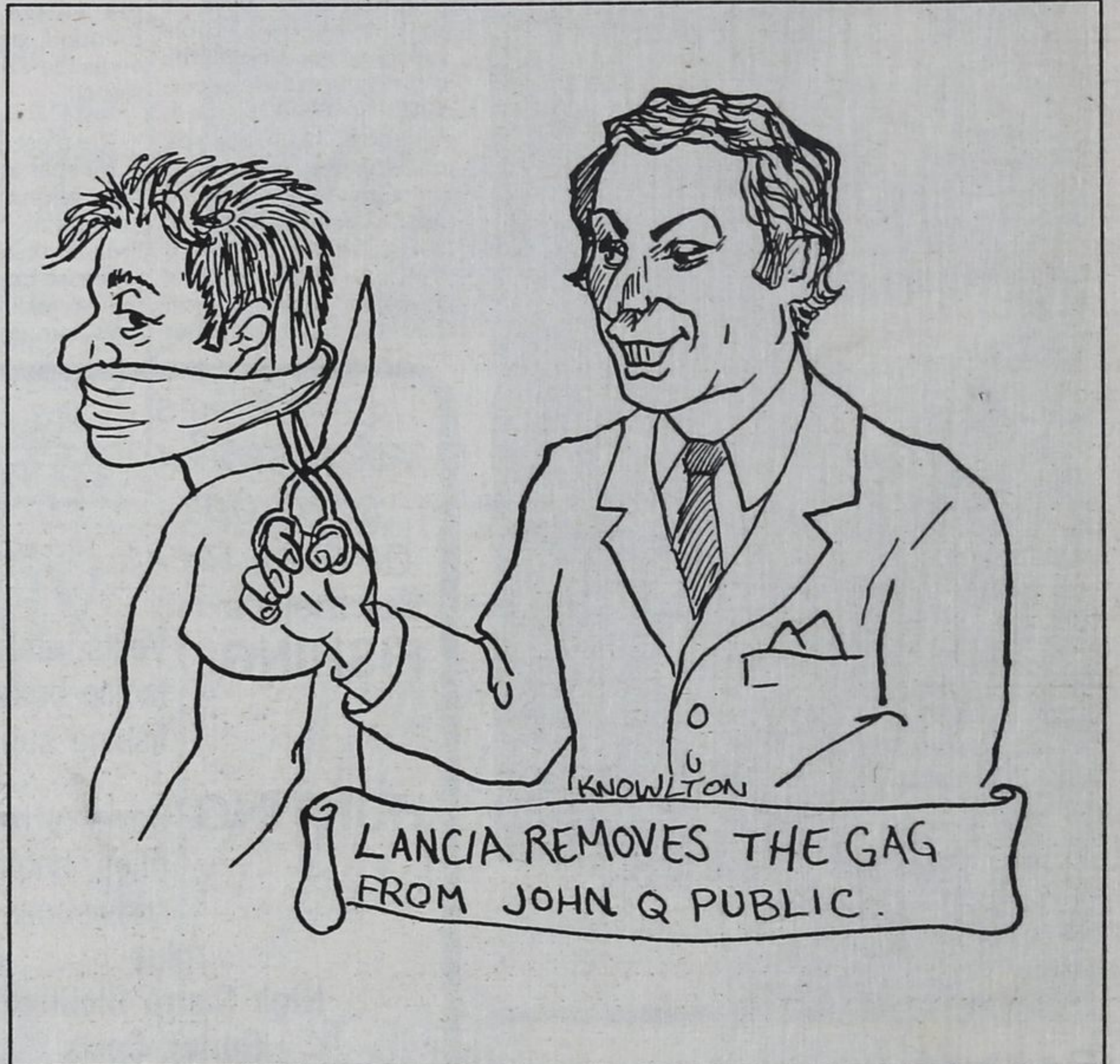
The world-wide Salvation Army movement has a long-standing tradition of being devoted to one another in brotherly love by honoring one another above one's self.

Being joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer and sharing with God's people, who are in need by practicing hospitality, is our goal at Experience House.

This Christmas, as we again prepare to celebrate the anniversary of the Christ child's birth in a cold stable and as we prepare to share gifts and glad tidings, let us not lose sight of the fact that the birth of Christ brought God to men, but it took the cross of Christ to bring men to God.

May God bless. Merry Christmas!

Doug Reed
Director
Experience House



Risky business

by Robert Risk

Enjoying the RIDE

Believe it or not, after living in Toronto for most of my life and having been a driver for 10 years, recently I was stopped by the RIDE program for the first time.

I was driving home from the Boatworks in Midland when I came across a RIDE on Vinden Ave.

I rolled up to the police officer, who was waving a flashlight at me. Even though I only had a couple drinks, I was still a little nervous as I rolled down my window.

"Good evening, sir. Welcome to the RIDE program. You haven't been drinking too much have you?" asked the police officer, who was leaning into the car, trying to catch the smell of booze on my breath.

"Uh, actually I'm just coming from the

Boatworks. I only had two drinks though," I replied hopefully.

Having responded truthfully, I expected to be waved through. Instead, I was told to pull the car over so I could take an alert test.

I only had a vague idea of what takes place at the RIDE locations, but I got a first hand demonstration.

The police officer pulled out an orange box and attached a plastic tube to it.

He ran through a spiel which basically told me to breathe into it or else, so I complied (with my fingers crossed).

To my relief I passed and was allowed to continue on my way. However, my nervousness made me wonder how many other people have had the same worries about facing a RIDE test.

To eliminate some of the mysteries for

our readers, I decided to sit in on a RIDE last Thursday.

Unfortunately, the temperature was about -15 which is hardly an ideal time to stand around watching the police do their work.

I stuck it out though, and the way the Penetang policemen kept their humor in such conditions was remarkable.

First, I'd like to point out that there were only two officers available, the minimum required to operate a RIDE station.

Traffic wasn't too heavy so they each took one side of Main Street just south of the Brule Hotel and started greeting the motorists.

Many of the cars had their windows frozen shut, but the policemen had no problems holding them open for a brief chat.

I only saw a few people get checked by

the alert box, but none were over the limit. In fact, most of the people were just asked how they were doing and then were on their way again.

I was told the policemen are trained to look for signs that will help them discover who has been drinking, such as odor, a person's complexion or their way of speaking.

If everything seems in order, then your chances of getting through quickly are very good - it's not quite the big production I assumed it always was.

So the next time you pull up to a RIDE stop remember that your cooperation will make the delay of your trip as short as possible.

Have a safe holiday season and please don't drink and drive.

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 purposes. Pen names are not allowed and anonymous letters will not be published, but names will be withheld if circumstances warrant. Letters published by this newspaper do not necessarily reflect the opinion of this newspaper, its publisher or editor.

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