



### Still under investigation

Yellow warning tape around the perimeter of the Midland Kinark group home at 527 William St., remained in place Tuesday morning. Police found the corpse of a murdered

Kinark employee inside the empty house last Friday at 3:20 a.m. Two teenagers are charged with first degree murder.

# Group home operation not readily discussed

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"That sort of leaves us on the outside," he said. "There's a lot of unrest about the whole idea that

something like this (murder of a group home child care worker) can blow up in an otherwise peaceful residential area

without (town officials) having any idea of the potential."

Bates thought Kinark operates five or six group

homes. The town planner, John Faulkner, didn't know how many group homes Kinark runs, or how many group homes

are in Midland.

Neil Pollock, representative of the union member employees of Kinark, correctly guessed four homes.

The Kinark group homes aren't the only ones in town.

Rosewood, a shelter for battered women and their children, is a group home.

Community Living, Huronia operates homes for the developmentally handicapped.

Wendakay House is a group home in the community for North Simcoe residents with a mental health problem.

# Four charged for theft

Penetang police arrested a fourth man Saturday in connection with a Jan. 30 break-in at the Poyntz Street liquor store.

An 18-year-old Penetang man earlier had been charged with theft, but wasn't located by police until the weekend.

Police estimate 15 bottles of liquor valued at \$800 were stolen after a window was broken with a brick.

Chief Robert Cummings estimated \$300 worth of liquor has been recovered from different locations.

On Jan. 27 a window also was broken, but nothing was taken. Total cost of the two broken

windows is \$1,251.60.

Charged with possession of stolen property are Thomas James Forbes, 25, of Midland and Keith Christopher Lesaux, 18, of Penetang. John Mark Beaudoin, 18, of Penetang has been

charged with break and enter, theft and mischief to private property.

Martin Maurice, 18, of Penetang is charged with break and enter and theft.

Cummings said Maurice was being held until his bail hearing to-

day (Wednesday) in Barrie Provincial Court, due to the warrant for arrest that had to be issued for him before the weekend.

The other men will appear in Provincial court in Penetang later this month.

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# Neighbors shocked

A murder in a group home in a residential area beside one of Midland's popular parks has jolted the neighborhood.

Ruby Pyburn can see clearly the front of 527 William St., from the front door of the convenience store which she has managed for three years.

"Everyone who comes in," she said on Monday, "wants something done about it."

One neighbor has announced her home will be improved and put on the market. Another customer said she is going to start a petition, Pyburn said.

A woman, who identified herself as a 26-year resident of the neighborhood, passing with a young child and a dog, blamed the federal government for the death of a 21-year-old child care worker.

"It's a damn shame, a waste of a young girl's life like that."

"It boils done to the young offenders. They're getting away with too much."

Eric Wilkinson and his wife have shared a property line with the group home for seven years. He isn't worried. "You go by experience. And our experience is, we have no problem."

The Kinark management and staff were in "a state of shock," spokesperson Dr. Rick Morris said. "People are just devastated."

Morris said it is too early to say if Kinark management practices will be changed. The provincial government will have a say, he said.

# Group homes under review

Krista Sepp's murder last week in a Midland group home has prompted the review of all facilities housing young offenders in Ontario.

Provincial community and social services minister John Sweeney announced the review yesterday.

"The decision to have this particular young lady, with her lack of experience, on at that time is one we are still questioning ourselves," Sweeney said.

Premier David Peterson added his voice to calls for a review of the Young Offenders Act.

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