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Special

\$3.59

Lowney Multi Pack Eggies

4's or 8's
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Special

\$1.89

Baronie or Jacquot Easter Eggs

175 g
Reg. \$2.29
Special

\$1.79

Smiles 'N Chuckles Solid Chocolate Rabbit

100 g
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Special

\$1.59

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Delay expected in libel appeal

by Eric Skelton
Special Report

It may be months before a former Midland politician and the Midland Free Press will know whether their 1986 libel conviction will stand or whether a new trial will be ordered.

Bill Ogilvie and the Free Press are appealing a \$40,000 lawsuit brought by Midland lawyers Gord Teskey (now a tax court judge), Ross Heacock and Rod Ferguson.

However, Appeal Court justices Blair, Morden and Carthy reserved judgment Friday while they consider four days of arguments from three lawyers at last week's appeal.

They will also examine 11 volumes of transcripts, the statements of 40 witnesses and 150 exhibits from the 1986 trial.

"This is a very interesting and a complex case," Justice Morden said as Teskey sat silently in the courtroom.

A decision is not expected until July. The justices can order a new trial, but cannot overturn the 1986 decision.

The lawyers sued Ogilvie and the Free Press in 1983 over an advertisement Ogilvie

placed in the paper titled: "The betrayal of Tiny Township." The ad accused Heacock of a conflict of interest. Teskey, Heacock and Ferguson were municipal lawyers for the Township of Tiny and Tay, the Villages of Victoria Harbour and Elmvale and County of Simcoe.

C. Clifford Lax, who represented the lawyers at last week's appeal, argued that Ogilvie's accusations in that ad threatened to end the law firm's contract with Tiny Township.

He said Ogilvie has a long history of hounding acts against the lawyers, including:

- Hanging around the lawyers' offices and spying on them with binoculars.
- Running a check of the lawyers' license-plate numbers.
- Publicly predicting Teskey could be disbarred.
- Writing a letter to the Midland Free Press accusing the lawyers of "feather-bedding" at ratepayers' expense and comparing the lawyers to "pan-handlers."
- Confronting Teskey on the street and telling him: "We've got a dossier on you."

Lax attacked the Free Press for printing Ogilvie's accusations, calling the paper a "willing parrot" to the former deputy reeve and accused

the Free Press of "gross negligence" for not thoroughly reading Ogilvie's ad before printing it.

"Somebody on the newspaper has the responsibility of reading the paper before it is printed," he said.

But Ogilvie said Friday he's still optimistic he

will win a new trial, and he won't avoid controversy.

"I'll just continue in my activities and optimistically await the decision of the appeal court," he said.

Ogilvie heaped praise on his lawyer, Peter Mudry. "My counsel, Mr.

Mudry, did an outstanding job on my behalf in presenting to the appeal court a well-rounded submission," he said.

However, he said the long court battle has cost him his house in Tiny Township, which he sold four years ago, and a part of his retirement savings. "I have to get by on a

lot less financial resources than before," he conceded.

Ogilvie, who was deputy reeve of Midland in the late 1970s, lives in Tiny Township. The semi-retired printer worked for the Toronto Star for 14 years.

Wyebridge to close

Schools prepare for change

by Robert Risk
Staff Writer

Two schools in the area will be seeing radical changes during the next two years.

Wyevale Public School will have Grade 7 added to it next year and will have Grade 8 in 1990.

At the same time, the Wyebridge Annex (grades 1-4) will be closing after this August.

The principal of both schools, Bill Pestill, said costs were the reason for the changes.

"It's a lot of work keeping up supplies for both schools. It's not economically feasible to have a school for only 40

students (at the Annex)."

The students at the Annex will be moved to Wyevale P.S., which hasn't been a big problem, according to Pestill.

"We had public meetings in January with the parents and most have accepted it. Some are upset that they're losing the community's school, but they understand the situation."

Also, since the Annex doesn't have a gymnasium or a library, the students have to be bused to Wyevale twice a week, which also drives up expenses.

Pestill said both the closing of the Annex and the addition of Grade 7 will bring attendance up

to 170 students.

"Because of the changes, we'll be getting two portables this summer. We might need another one when Grade 8 is added."

As a result, the north regional office, which administers the area three

schools (11 elementary and two high schools) and uses part of the Annex will be able to expand.

"We're continually looking for meeting rooms at various schools, so this will be much easier for us," said Pestill.

Questions asked

Tay's Planning Advisory Committee supports the spirit but questions the wisdom of recommendations in the proposed Housing Policy Statement from the provincial ministries of Housing and Municipal Affairs.

The policy is intended

to increase the supply of housing and affordable housing across the province.

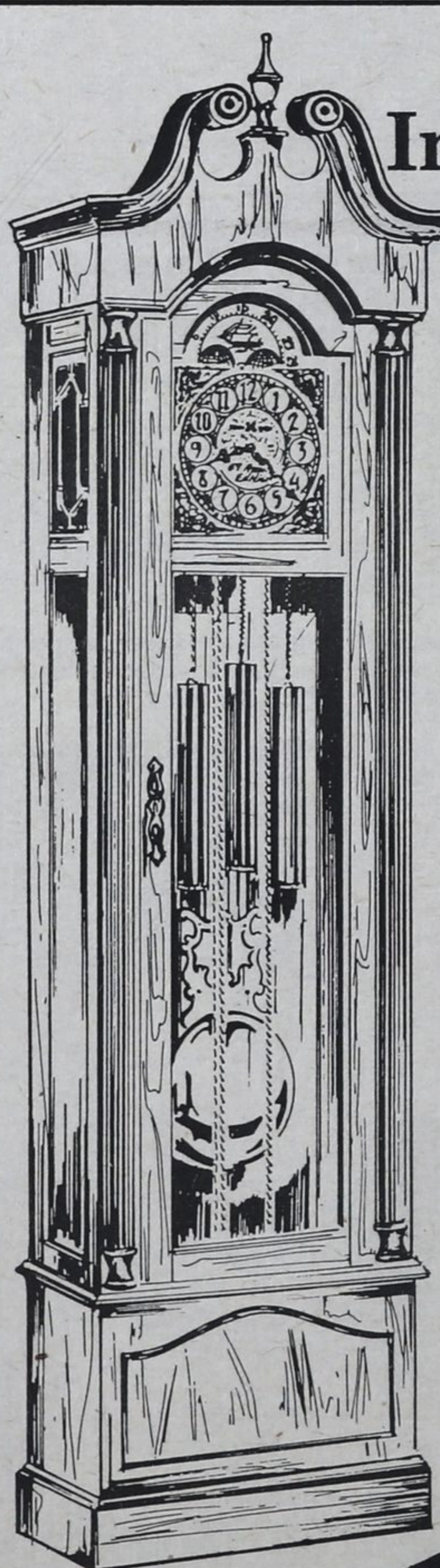
But the PAC notes it addresses urban, specifically "a southern Ontario urban reality."

The policy statement recommends a 10-year plan projecting population growth and housing needs.

Rural municipalities lack the resources to carry out the recommended studies, and then to provide extended services, Tay's PAC points out.

They ask whether rural municipalities are going to have to provide for adjacent urban areas spilling into their territory.

A specific recommendation the PAC considers inappropriate for rural areas is the elimination of minimum lot sizes. Many rural houses have septic systems.



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Obituary

Longtime member

A funeral service for the late Stanley Page of RR 1, Victoria Harbour, was held March 6 in Nicholls Funeral Home.

Page died of a heart attack in the village on March 2, at age 73.

The auto body repairman at Bourgeois Motors in Midland had been retired for 15 years.

Page was a member of Royal Canadian Legion Branch 523, Victoria Harbour, and of the Grey Simcoe Foresters.

He was born in North Orillia, Medonte Township, the son of Lorne Page and Margaret May Page.

His wife, Vera Mary Page (nee Slaven), son Gary, and three grandchildren survive him.

His first wife, Pearl Mary Page (nee Arthurs) predeceased him.

Rev. Charles Carter officiated at the funeral. Interment in Victoria Harbour Union Cemetery.

A Legion service was held March 5.

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THE WINNERS ARE...

Pick 3 (March 2): 659
Pick 3 (March 3): 345
Pick 3 (March 4): 055
Pick 3 (March 6): 397

Pick 3 (March 7): 864
Pick 3 (March 8): 287
Pick 3 (March 9): 338
Pick 3 (March 10): 670
Pick 3 (March 11): 951
Pick 3 (March 13): 209

Lottario (March 11): 10, 12, 18, 21, 33, 35; Bonus 07
Early Bird: 17, 24, 28, 39

Wintario (March 9): \$200,000 - circle 703507;
\$100,000 - 703507; \$1,000 - 14086;
\$100 - 9031; \$10 - 355; Winfall - 26

Lotto 6/49 (March 11): 1, 8, 14, 19, 27, 31

Bonus 30 (applies to 2nd prize only)

Provincial (March 10): \$1,000,000 - 6198011;

\$10,000 - 198011; \$1,000 - 98011;

\$100 - 8011; \$25 - 011; \$10 - 11

(The Winners Are... is a new feature in this newspaper. If your club or organization has results of a draw, contest or some sort of lottery, send them to:

The Winners Are
Telemedia Community Newspapers
Box 339, Elmvale, Ontario L0L 1P0.

Entries must arrive 7 days before publication date.)



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