

opinion

Christmas Wishes from yours truly ... your Editor



Six months have come and gone since I stepped into this town to take over as Editor and Manager of the Terrace Bay Schreiber "NEWS". And during those six months I have come to learn a great deal about this area, its people, the good and the bad. What will take place during the next six months is unforeseeable.

It is always difficult coming into a small town, especially when you're the Editor of its small community newspaper. People tend to place you high on their list of the 'untouchables'. They're afraid to speak their minds in front of you, dare you put it in next week's edition. Or if they do say something worthwhile in front of you, the words "this-is-off-the-record" are constantly uttered first off.

But all in all, I have come to know bits and pieces about the three towns that I constantly have to deal with. I have come to know the workers, the organizers, the key people who always seem to be there just when they're needed the most. In fact I have some Christmas Wishes that I would like to relay to some of these special people and they are as follows:

To Mike Moore - I wish you a successful and profitable golf game next summer. It was really great that you spent your time and efforts over "The 19th Hole" but let's see your name among the top winners O.K.? And thank you for your weekly contributions ... they are very much appreciated by "yours truly."

To Reeve Dave Speer - I wish you two more years of good Reeveship. I'm sorry I wasn't here to witness your first six months but if they have been like mine, the fewer that know about it ... the better!

To Councillor Ollie Chapman - who is also my Skip (bad knees and all) - I wish for you, all the support that you so well deserve, be it in regards to Recreation matters, Council matters or one of the other 231 organizations that you are involved in!

To Larry Simons - I wish for you to remember to send out the Council's Agenda every 2nd and 4th week on a Friday, so that I will receive them the next day (as previously promised by yourself). I also wish you could purchase a good bottle of B&B so that the next time I crash your residence, you will have something decent for me to consume.

To Joe Figlomeni - I wish you all the success in selecting a candidate for the next Provincial elections. And by the way Joe - keep trying. I haven't been thoroughly convinced yet!

To Terry Bryson - I wish for you, four brand new compressors for the Terrace Bay arena so that you may enjoy your holiday AT HOME.

To Kevin Duguay - I wish for you, every success on your new embarkment of the Schreiber Economic Development Committee and I sincerely wish for more press releases on its development and progress (O.K.?)

To Mary Hubelit, Doug Roberts, Kevin Cocks, Pauline Ziegler, Rolly MoQuin, Birchwood Terrace staff, Judie Cooper, Sharon Mark, Jane Greer, Anne Todesco, Ellen Hodgkiss, student reporters, Lucille Kodila, Tim Delaney, Peter Monks, Jim Johnson, Barry Fellingner, Brian Bigelow, Father Pottie, (I hope I haven't missed anyone) and our generous advertisers, and all the other people who faithfully bring in their stories and photographs for publication in the "NEWS", I wish you all Merry Christmas and I hope that you will continue to keep up the good work of reporting your clubs' and organizations' news. Lots more like you are needed in order for this paper to hold the title of a community newspaper; but if I'm as lucky in the next six months as I have been in the first six months - this is a sure thing. Again I apologize to anyone if I have forgotten to say thank you. You all know who you are.

So, from Yours Truly ... Merry Christmas to all.

The Terrace Bay-Schreiber News is published every Wednesday by: Laurentian Publishing Co. Ltd., Box 579, Terrace Bay, Ontario. P0T 2W0. Telephone: (807) 825-3747.

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DEADLINE: Friday NOON
Subscription rates: \$10.00 per annum (local); \$14.00 per annum (out-of-town). Second Class Mail
Registration No. 0867.



anchor

Who cares for Christmas?

When the question is asked, "Who cares for Christmas?", we get various replies.

1) Manufacturers, department store owners and merchants, care for Christmas. They love the music of cash registers and computers working on charge accounts when millions buy gifts. Card manufacturers and organizations that raise money by selling Christmas cards care for Christmas. Commerce, industry and business, all care for Christmas.

2) Children and grownups with childlike hearts, care greatly for Christmas. It is a time of giving gifts that express our feelings of love and joy toward others. Christmas is a time of good-will toward others, a time of celebration with others. A time which takes us out of ourselves as we share with others in the festivities of Christmas.

3) Those who found newness of life in Christ care deeply for the Christ of Christmas. Jesus Christ of Nazareth, born in a lowly Bethlehem stable comes into the world as a new born infant. He gives to all who desire it newness of life. He broke the power of ruinous habits and opened up new possibilities in living to all who call upon his name. As John 1:14 says, "The Word became a human being and lived among us." From that time forward each and every human being has to decide where he or she stands toward God as revealed in Jesus Christ.

4) There are some who could not care less. It was always so. There are still the heedless crowds, the self-sufficient people and the exploiters of human weakness who hate Christmas. Scrooge is never alone but represents many who care only for themselves.

How much do we care? That is the most important question. Do we care enough to respond in loyalty to the Lord who came as a "tiny baby thing" and was laid on the doorstep of the world? Do we care enough to become disciples in the Kingdom which He brings among us which is for all mankind?

As the divine Word became a human being in Jesus on the first Christmas so the divine Word must take flesh in our personalities and be incarnate in our daily living, embodies in His people in the world. Then we show we really care for Christmas.

Rev. Brian Bigelow

Arthur Black

Pierre: cussin' king



These are troublesome times for The Only Prime Minister We've Got.

Pierre is plummeting at the polls. The lantern-jawed lad from Baie Comeau is walking all over the PM in terms of personal popularity. Myron Bullroney may look like an amateur in the clutch and grab, stiletto-and-boot ballet of Parliamentary debate, but every Gallup and Goldfarb Poll etches the writing a little deeper on the wall. And the writing says Pierre should be making serious plans for an extended canoe trip. Shortly.

Troublesome times for Joe Canuck too. For 15 years we've taken consolation in the knowledge that - whatever else our PM might be - he was easily the most colorful character of the international stage.

How many other countries had

a leader who slid down bannisters, danced with Arabs, married a Flower Child and could do a one-and-a-half gainer off a diving board? Yep, for the past decade and a half Canada has had, if nothing else, easily the most flamboyant leadership this side of Uganda.

But it looks like the sobriety that comes with age has finally caught-up with Pierre. And when you think about it, how else could it be? Who wants to watch a senior citizen doing pirouettes behind the Queen's back?

So where does that leave us? Canadians I mean.

The Yanks have a genuine Movie Star in the White House. Britain has the Iron Maiden. Russia has Yuri Andropov - the Darth Vader of the International Scene; and Italy's got ... well,

who knows who Italy's got this week? Point is, he's probably a lot more interesting than what we've got - which is a leader everyone wishes would just go home.

Well, if the vacuum in Ottawa is getting you down, I have good news for you. It's not as bad as you might think. Pierre may have slipped a few points in the Charisma Countdown, but this country still has one leadership claim to fame. The True North Strong and Free can still boast ... The Cussingest leader on the planet.

It's official. Pierre has had that title bestowed upon him by no less than Reinhold Aman.

Reinhold Aman? He's the editor and publisher of a magazine called *Maledicta*, which is euphemistically subtitled "The International Journal of Verbal

Aggression."

"Maledicta" is Latin for "bad words". In plain English, what Reinhold Aman does is publish a monthly compendium on the Art of Swearing. And Pierre Trudeau has now ascended to Reinhold Aman's Pantheon of All-Time Great Swearers.

He was promoted to that position on the strength of his penchant for middle-finger salutes, and his immortal performance in the House of Commons on Feb. 16, 1971. That was the day our PM mouthed a well-known epithet at an MP across the floor. Asked about it later by reporters, Pierre gave his characteristic shrug and said he may have muttered some expression of distaste ... Fuddle Duddle, perhaps ...

A conservative MP provided

the only bright spot in the whole controversy when he pronounced: "The Prime Minister wants to be obscene and not heard."

As we watch The Only Prime Minister We've Got shuffling toward the twilight of his career, it occurs to me that the crowning irony to the whole Trudeau Dynasty may be that he goes down in history not as the man who brought English and French Canada closer together (we haven't been this far apart since the Plains of Abraham); nor as the man who cured the economy (We haven't been this sick since the Great Depression).

Instead he may only be remembered as the man who gave this country its first, genuine, made-in-Canada epithet: Fuddle Duddle.