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Battling the blaze: Firefighters faced flames and thick smoke as they faught to control the fire at John's Texaco in Terrace Bay. The station's bays were completely demolished by intense heat. photo by Greg Huneault

Texaco station bays totally gutted by fire

Hampered by lack of hydrants

By Greg Huneault
 the News

Word about the fire in town last Friday spread almost as quickly as the flames, and a crowd gathered to watch firefighters battle orange flames and thick pillars of smoke at a well known local service station. And the flames did spread quickly.

By the time firefighters arrived at John's Texaco in Terrace Bay at approximately 1.30 pm on June 17, the two garage bays were completely engulfed in flames, according to Terrace Bay Fire Chief Ed Stachiw.

The chief said he was appraised of the situation by Deputy Rolly Moquin, and it was decided to call the Schreiber Fire Department for assistance as part of the mutual aid

agreement.

The 14 Terrace Bay firefighters were joined by a pumper and a six-man complement of Schreiber firefighters to contain and stop the blaze.

Firefighters managed to subdue flames within the bays for the most part, but flames began shooting out of the back of the building. Firefighters eventually extinguished the fire and left the scene four hours later.

The availability of water was a problem, and water tanker trucks provided by Kimberly-Clark and the Ministry of the Environment hauled in water to help provide the firefighters with a steady supply.

John's Texaco is zoned industrial, and there are no fire hydrants nearby. Chief Stachiw said the See "Owner" on page 7

Area battered women to get more assistance

Outreach Program expands

Family violence is a part of family life for thousands of Canadian women. It is estimated that one in every ten women who is married or living with a man is battered by her husband or partner.

Her injuries can range from bruises, cuts and sprains to broken bones and even loss of life. A battered woman is not simply the victim of a single abusive incident, but is enmeshed in a repetitive cycle of violence that can involve physical, emotional and sexual abuse.

Wife assault is found in all communities, all cultures and all income levels. Women of all ages are abused, and pregnant women are particularly vulnerable.

Under the law, a woman who is beaten by her husband or partner is as much a victim of crime as the person who is attacked by a stranger. Wife assault is a crime.

When police in Ontario have reason to believe a crime has been committed, they will lay charges. This means it is not the responsibility of the victim to lay charges; it is the duty of the police.

A woman who has been battered has physical, emotional, social, economic and legal needs. She needs protection from further

violence against herself and her children. She needs information and support in order to obtain her legal rights.

She often needs financial support, housing, child care, or help to find a job. She also needs counsel and understanding of friends, family and professionals as she attempts to break the cycle of violence in her life.

The Northshore Family Resource Centre in Marathon is now in its second year of providing temporary and safe shelter for women and their children.

In order to meet the needs of women in their immediate communities, two part-time Outreach workers have been hired to work along the Northshore. Their purpose is to provide crises response, to follow-up with ex-residents, and to increase public awareness on the issues of family violence.

The Outreach program for Terrace Bay/Schreiber, Rossport and Pays Plat has recently opened a new office in Schreiber.

If you have any questions or concerns, call 824-3380, or call toll free anytime to Marathon at 1-800-465-2207.

Police finally stop stolen dump truck

By Greg Huneault
 the News

Two Thunder Bay young offenders have been charged with numerous offenses after a wild chase along Highway 17 during the evening of June 15, which saw them evade at least two police roadblocks before being stopped near Jackfish Lake.

Police say the two, whose names cannot be published, allegedly committed a Break and Enter at a Thunder Bay gravel pit company and stole a tandem trailer dump truck.

The stolen dump truck was

spotted travelling east on Highway 17 by Nipigon OPP, and the chase began.

Corporal A. Templar, detachment commander of the Schreiber OPP, said a roadblock was set up at the junction of Highways 17 and 11 to stop the fleeing dump truck, but the driver managed to evade it and continued fleeing.

Despite making repeated attempts to pass the truck in an effort to warn oncoming traffic, pursuing cruisers were prevented from overtaking the swerving vehicle.

The stolen dump truck managed to skirt around another roadblock

by Caver's Hill west of Pays Plat and continued travelling east.

In anticipation of the fleeing tandem, Terrace Bay police stopped west-bound traffic from travelling any further as did Marathon OPP, who halted traffic by the Steele River.

The fleeing vehicle was finally stopped at approximately 2.30 am on the incline of Highway 17 by Jackfish Lake, where the driver and passenger were taken into custody.

There were no reported injuries, and Nipigon OPP are conducting the investigation.

Birchwood residents get funding

Residents of Birchwood Terrace were pleased with the New Horizons grant they were presented with last Friday and look forward to putting the money to good use.

Mr. Keith Penner, M.P. for Cochrane Superior, presented the \$1244 cheque to representatives of the senior citizens' residence.

The money will be used to purchase two outdoor garden swings, card tables and chairs, and folding chairs.



Keith Penner (second from left), M.P. for Cochrane Superior, presents the cheque to (l-r): Blanche Speck, president of New Horizons committee; Helene Ballard, president of Birchwood Terrace residents' council; and Sylvie Angus, Birchwood activ-