

Mall meeting called for Thursday

Merchants waiting to learn of mall rental rates

Only a small number of people are expected to be at the old TKM Credit office in the Poyntz Plaza on Thursday at 7:30 p.m. to attend a meeting, one which could have a profound affect on Penetanguishene's business community.

According to the builders work on the mall is scheduled to begin in March with the opening date set for November 1975, but from the point of view of many people in Penetanguishene's business community the whole proposal is up in the air.

claims that IGA is definitely in the mall but a spokesman for the foodstore said negotiations with the mall developers' are still continuing.

A host of questions ranging from the feasibility of building a 28 store mall in a relatively small population area to what stores will fill the mall remain unanswered. One of the most serious questions is whether or not existing leases negotiated while Gil Robillard was still the owner of the Plaza are still valid. If they are the holders of the leases would be able to stay in the new mall at existing rental rates for the remaining time on the lease.

The rental rates will determine which of the existing Plaza stores if any stay in the mall. Everyone knows rental fees will be higher but the question is by how much.

Rental fees for businesses in the Poyntz Plaza were in the neighbourhood of two dollars per square foot per year but if the mall development goes through they could be boosted to three times the existing rate.

They may not, however, go that high. The builders claim that rental fees will be reasonable, and in all cases are open to negotiation.

Rents will vary according to the type of store and the nature of the store's advertising. National chain stores like Radio Shack or Coles Books will get cheaper rates according to the builders because parent stores would be advertising their products, and thereby helping to draw customers to their Penetanguishene outlet. However, similar stores owned by independent merchants would pay a higher rental rate because they would not have the amount of advertising and consequently drawing power of the national chain stores.

Within the past two months TKM Credit Corporation and Ted Light's TV have moved out of the Poyntz Plaza and relocated on Penetanguishene's Main Street. Both moves were made in part because of expected high rental fees in the High Point Mall according to negotiations of the respective businesses.

Ted Light also had to move out because the builders' plans call for his former store to be torn down, so even if he does decide to relocate in the mall, a place to operate his business was needed while the mall is being built.

Both TKM and Light's TV will probably be able to relocate in the proposed mall at a later date if another move appeared attractive to the two businesses.

During the past week the Citizen polled most of the remaining businessmen in the Poyntz Plaza to get their reaction to it.

All of them preferred to limit their comments because on the whole there appears to have been little communication between the mall developers and the existing businesses in the Poyntz Plaza.

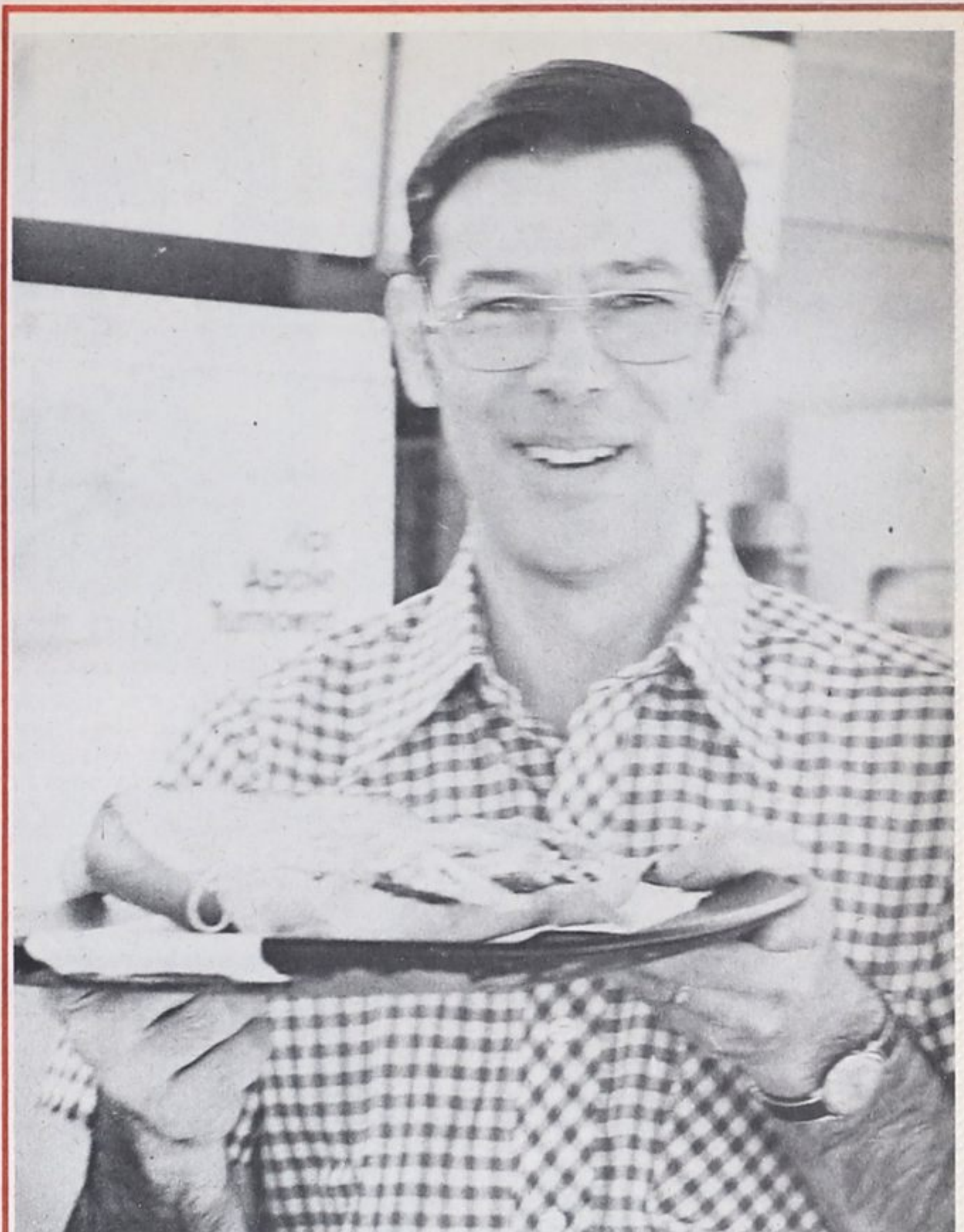
Bob's Hoagie House
The owner and operator of Bob's Hoagie House, Bob Robitaille, said "to much is up in the air. I'm not going to commit myself to anything until I hear more." If forced to move, Robitaille said he definitely would relocate his business in Penetanguishene, although he has not selected an alternative location yet.

The Colour Wheel
The mall developers have not approached Brian Lussier, the owner of the Colour Wheel, so he's undecided about the future and "playing it by ear."

Gil's Taxi
Co-owner Jean King says "I'm not sure what I'm going to do. I should know in a month."

Arm's Variety
Irene Larmand reserved comment until after Thursday saying "then we'll know exactly where we're at."

Businessmen in the existing Poyntz Plaza and those considering relocating in the proposed mall will be hoping Irene Larmand is right. They want to know exactly where they stand and to know that they need specific answers on what if any other businesses have definitely decided on locating in the Mall, and most importantly what the rental fees will be.



Have a hoagie

Here's what a hoagie looks like. Bob Robitaille holds one of his wife's creations. Although "Bob's Hoagie House" may have to move to make way for the proposed mall the business will stay in Penetanguishene. Staff photo

Hoagies and the mall

Bob's Hoagie House always had character but now there's an aura of mystery surrounding the unique restaurant at the Poyntz Plaza.

That's where it's located now, but the question is, "where's it going to go?"

You see it looks like Bob's Hoagie House will have to move. Yes, the home of Rita Robitaille's unique hoagie may have to find another place from which to feed hungry hoagie eaters.

Plans call for the Poyntz Plaza to be replaced by the proposed High Point Mall and Bob Robitaille's hoagie house doesn't fit into the scheme of things.

Robitaille of course, can relocate in the mall but until he knows more about the rental fees Robitaille says "I'm not going to commit myself."

One thing is certain though, Bob's hoagie house will remain in Penetanguishene. Bob says he likes the area and has no intention of moving.

That spells good news for Penetanguishene's devoted hoagie lovers. The restaurant may be the only one of its kind in Ontario.

Three years ago Bob and his wife Rita (formerly Rita Robillard, a native of this area) moved from Pittsburgh up to Penetanguishene.

Bob was the district manager of the Standard Brands Incorporated grocery

stores in the Pittsburgh area where hoagies are very popular.

Hoagies, for the uncultured who have not tasted of the unique treat, are made of two different types of cheeses and two different meats slapped together with tomatoes between a bakers bun. It all looks like a submarine sandwich but when it's heated until the cheese melts "subs can't hold a candle to it" according to Bob.

There are many different types of hoagies especially down in Pennsylvania but Bob's is an original developed by his wife Rita.

Over a period of two months Rita worked to develop her hoagie trying different combinations of cheeses, meats, and other ingredients. Finally she found one that tasted just right, and that's the hoagie which Bob sells today.

The basic ingredients, two types of meat and two cheeses, are simple enough to heat between a bun, but a few other secrets to cooking Bob's hoagie exist. Bob says that people come into the restaurant saying "we worked on your hoagie last night and almost got it but something was missing."

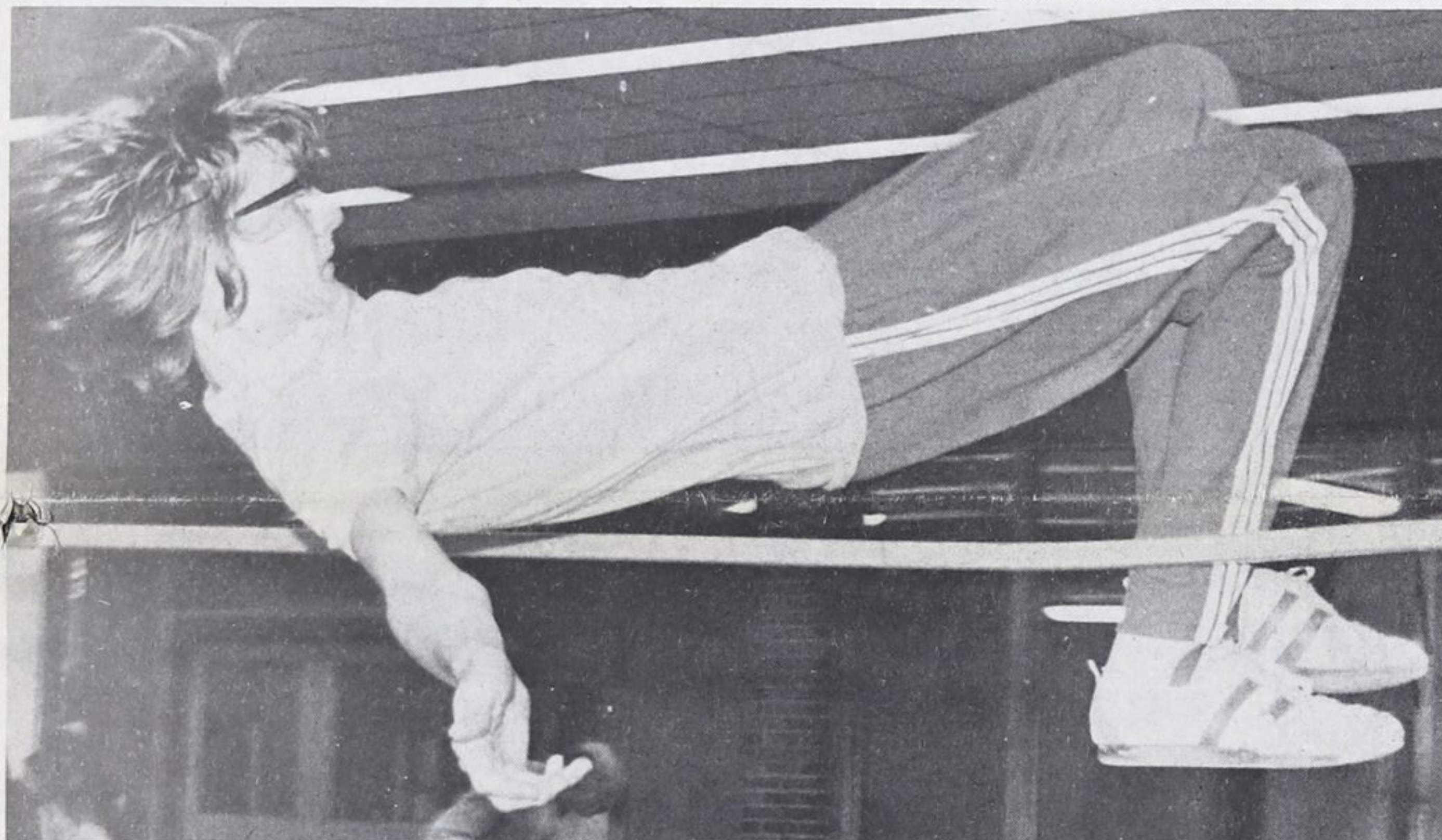
They stand at the counter (waiting for some advice on how to copy the hoagie but Bob just smiles. He wants to keep the recipe unknown. He's got a monopoly on the hoagie market in Penetanguishene and whatever the mall does to his existing store, he plans to stay in the area.

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Jumping in school

Track and field inside school! That's right, and considering the weather it's a good idea. Penetanguishene Secondary School students are practising indoors, running, jumping,

and whatever else, as they prepare for a Simcoe County indoor meet in Toronto later this month. The top two students in each event will qualify to enter the meet. Here,

Tony Vander Zwa attempts to clear the high jump pole in the PSS cafeteria.

Staff photo

Son charged with attempted axe murder of mother

Michele Hackstetter, 49, was listed in satisfactory condition at St. Andrews Hospital yesterday after she was attacked Monday by an axe-wielding man at her 2nd Street home.

Her 18-year-old son Karl has been charged with attempted murder, and is in custody at the County Jail in Barrie.

A police spokesman said Monday night that Mrs. Hackstetter, who works for Keith Real Estate in Midland, was leaving her home shortly before 1 p.m., when she was struck from behind with a heavy, full-sized axe.

She suffered injuries to her face, hands and arms, and escaped more serious injuries according to the spokesman, because she was wearing a fur hat and coat.

Dr. Karl Hackstetter, a Midland Secondary School mathematics teacher recuperating at home from a heart attack suffered last Thursday, apparently saw the assault from an upstairs window and ran down to tackle the assailant while his wife telephoned for help.

Police arrested the man as Mrs. Hackstetter was rushed to hospital.

Michele Hackstetter is a well-known Midland resident who sought the New Democratic Party's nomination for the riding of Simcoe North in last summer's federal election. She was defeated by Orillia high school teacher Payne Bullen.

At the time of his arrest, Karl Hackstetter Jr. was on a weekend leave of absence from the Penetanguishene Mental Health Centre. A hospital spokesman said Monday the former MSS student, who left school late last year, had been admitted as an involuntary patient January 17, 1975. The leave of absence started Friday at the family's request, according to the spokesman. He had been a patient in Ward 2 of the Toanche Building at MHC.

He also faces a charge of possession of a narcotic for the purpose of trafficking laid in mid-January of this year.

College may offer six courses here

The number of university courses taught in Penetanguishene-Midland area will jump from one to six this summer, if enough students are interested, as York University's Glendon College expands its offerings to area students.

The college is prepared to mount four courses taught in English and two in French in subjects ranging from Psychology to French and social science.

Glendon is a liberal arts faculty of York, and places a special emphasis on developing a bilingual and bicultural environment at its Toronto campus.

Last summer, it operated non-credit programs in Penetanguishene that included a French immersion course for adults, and theatre and poetry workshops for elementary school children.

In September, professor Pierre Fortier

began teaching a credit course in French-Canadian literature at Ecole St. Joseph on Monday nights, with most of the students elementary school teachers working towards a bachelor of arts degree.

The college last year was prodded by the Commission on Post-Secondary Education to begin establishing ties with Franco-Ontario communities, and the liaison developed from a request for university courses in the area from teachers and others in Penetanguishene.

The courses this summer will be taught Monday to Friday mornings from 9 a.m. to noon at Ecole St. Joseph, and will run from June 30 to August 1. The tuition fee is \$133 per course.

The following are the offerings for the summer of 1975: Cours de francais, premier degree (first year course); The Rise of

Capitalism and the Socialist Response (social science 179); Theatre du XXe Siecle (Francais 225); Introduction to Psychology (psychology 251E); Introduction to Political Studies (political science 240E); and Learning and Memory (psychology 328.3 and 329.3).

In order to be financially viable, the college must have an average of 15 students per course, and the deadline for registrations is, March 7. Application forms may be obtained at Ecole St. Joseph in Penetanguishene, or from the offices of either The Penetanguishene Citizen or the Midland Times.

College officials are currently examining possible sources of funding for non-credit programs for the summer to supplement the formal course offerings. Last year, the cost for the programs was minimal.

People live here for the environment: planner

The public questionnaire circulated last fall by the Tiny-Tay Peninsula Planning Board proves "that the people are living in the area at the expense of employment opportunities and in favour of the environment

in which they are living," according to the board's director John Faulkner.

The board received back 427 of more than 3,500 questionnaires circulated in the six North Simcoe municipalities, for a return

rate of 12 per cent, as it tried to probe the feeling of residents about what type of development the area should have, how fast it should grow and what must be preserved.

The questionnaires were circulated in schools, offices and factories in Midland, Penetanguishene, Tiny and Tay Townships, Port McNicoll and Victoria Harbour. Respondents were asked to answer 25 questions concerning housing, employment, agriculture, natural environment, way of life — and to list their priorities.

At last Thursday's board meeting, members noted the "excellent" cross section of representation according to age, education and place of residence of those who filled out the questionnaire.

And the strongest sentiments were expressed about the need to preserve agricultural land and the natural environment.

Of those who answered, 98 per cent were in favour of preserving farmland, and of those 81 per cent said they were "strongly concerned" that it is a priority for them.

Talking dogs but cat's in the bag

Dogs are still a hot topic for the Penetanguishene town council but nobody's letting the cat out of the bag, so to speak.

Penetanguishene's town council went into a closed caucus meeting on Monday night to discuss dog control measures with representatives of the Ontario Humane Society. Mayor Vince Moreau said that no announcements would be coming as a result of the meeting, but councillor Mary Rogers did say that consideration was being given to the feasibility of establishing an alternative method of dog control such as the one proposed by Celestin Bidan.

Bidan presented the alternative proposal to provide an independent animal care and control service for Midland, Penetanguishene and Tiny Township at a recent meeting with Humane Society officials from Orillia.

The Orillia branch of the Humane Society presently operates in this area but has been severely criticized for the quality of its service by members of Penetanguishene's council.

The Orillia branch is also asking for an increase in fees from Penetanguishene in order to maintain its animal control service.

Bidan has claimed that his proposal would have several advantages: improved local service, faster action on emergency calls, reduced cost to animal owners, no increase in rates for a two year period, and no new diseases coming into the area.

Don't want to be TO's bedroom

The Tiny-Tay Peninsula Planning Board will have to wait until February 18 to learn if its 8.5 per cent fee increase from Penetanguishene is approved by the town's finance committee. If the opinion of Councillor Mary Rogers carries enough weight the TTPPB can be sure of getting its desired raise.

"This type of planning is what is needed" Rogers declared, adding that "I don't want to see this area become a bedroom to Toronto."

Reeve Lionel Dion promised that

Penetanguishene's finance committee would consider a request by the Tiny-Tay Peninsula Planning Board to have the town's share of the board's expenses increased by 8.5 per cent.

Last year, Penetanguishene's share of the TTPPB's operational costs amounted to 8.7 per cent or \$6,559.31. If the planning board is granted its requested increase, Penetanguishene's contribution would be raised to \$7,123.90, an increase of roughly \$600.



The great organizer

Call him the organizer. Grade 12 student Gerard Lalonde was the moving force behind last weekend's PSS danceathon which was held to help raise funds for the PSS band to take a trip to Florida. Here, the organizer stamps the forms of the dancers during a ten minute break in the 24 hour rock and roll

marathon. Officials were hopeful of raising \$3,000 towards the \$20,000 plus needed to make the PSS band trip to Florida a reality. The PSS Band, Music Unlimited, the Centurians, Six Pack and records provided the music for the event.

Staff photo

BARRY by JOHN BRAUNIER

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