

# Town ready for

by Dianne Greenfield

The oldest town in Ontario has officially begun celebrating its centennial.

Monday, Mayor Ron Bellisle read the official proclamation designating Jan. 4 to July 4 as centennial celebration days.

The assembled crowd met first at the main street corners to participate and later in the Council Chambers centennial cake was shared by all.

Cent Ans Pour Penetanguishene the official centennial song was sung by Allan Tucker the composer and a general chorus was heard as students and adults sang along.

The IGA Centennial Beard Growing Competition had its official start with the check in ceremony Jan. 5. Remember late entrants are acceptable but all must be clean shaven except for mustaches. Join us: grow a centennial image. To register or for further information call Fern Moreau, Sheridan Street, Penetanguishene.

Tickets for the Centennial Ball are now available from the town office. This very special event features entertainment, a meal and even an opportunity to have a centennial

photograph taken. Centennial costumes are encouraged. These may be rented inexpensively by calling Carol Russel Costumes in Collingwood (445-5100) though locally it seems dressmakers and home seamstresses have been busily sewing. Drop into the town office and see the town's centennial workers.

This year there will be many opportunities for local residents to learn more about the community and its participants. A major centennial publication - a centennial yearbook - is presently being compiled under the direction of John Bayfield and Carole Gerow.

The book will trace development from early exploration and land purchases through the naval establishments to include the French Canadian influx including lists of original migrants. Chapters with excellent archival material will describe the establishment of the early town through the Golden Days to those years within the memories of many local residents.

A whole section will describe life in the town around 1910 with an exploration of stores trades and early industries. As the tourism and recreational wealth of the area was

developed the resort hotels and the lake steamer days appeared and this trend along with industrial growth is documented in the book.

It is a fascinating book, apply composed by two enthusiastic historians and other volunteers. This book will be a family keepsake and a fitting memory of our town's special nature. Be sure to subscribe early and have a book reserved for you.

During the year Festival Ontario a resource unit of the provincial government, has assisted in securing major exhibitions from the Royal Ontario Museum, the Botanical Gardens and the Science Centre. These large and attractive displays will be featured in the community for periods from three days to two months.

As part of the Centennial Exposition Feb. 21 and 22nd the Royal Ontario Museum will be sending two exhibits, Canadian Quilts is a major slide show of famous heritage quilts made in Canada over the past 193 years.

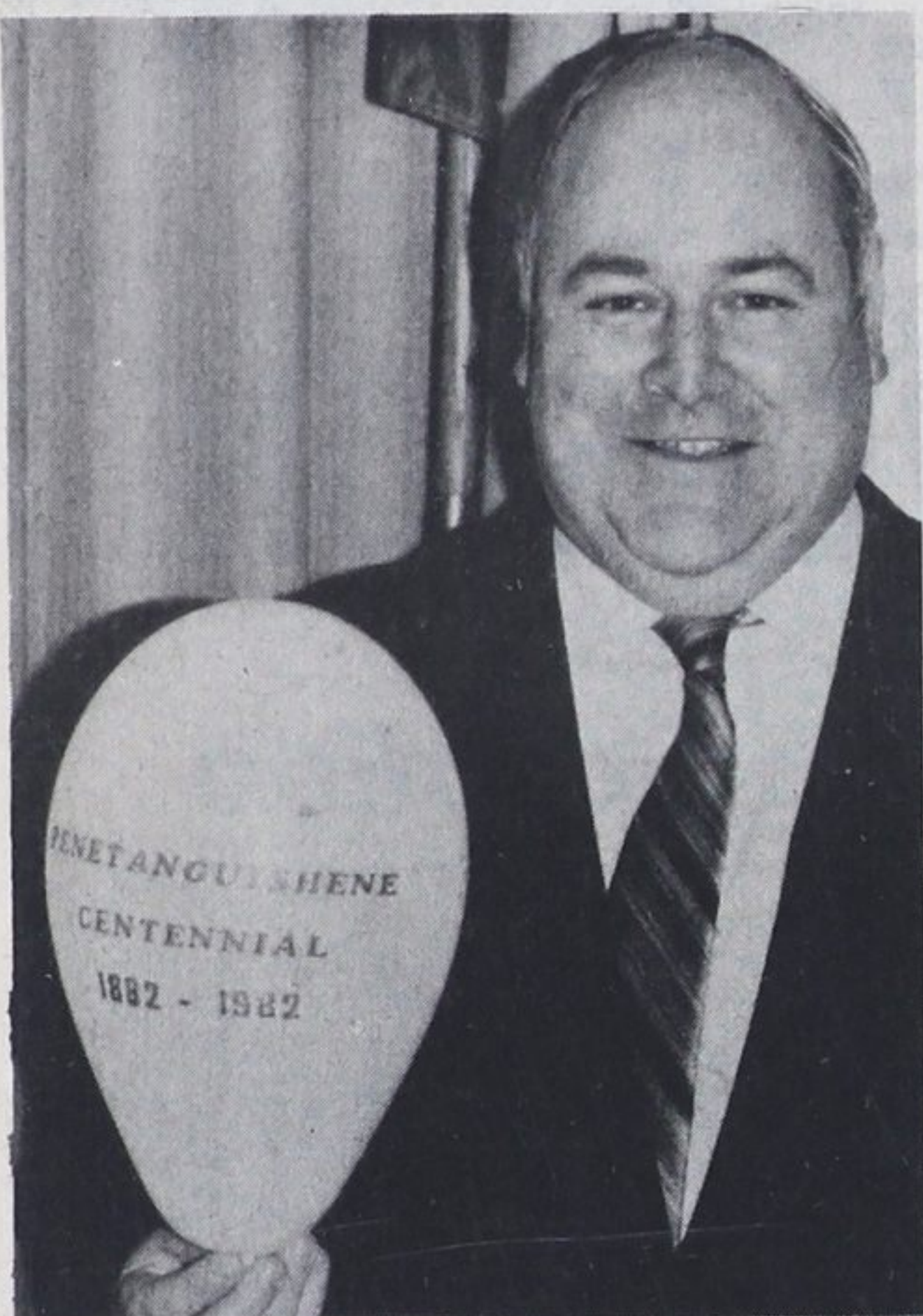
It is particularly appropriate and inspiring since the Town of Penetanguishene will also be having its own quilt competition and sale.

Quilts may be of any design and technique but the quilt must be a minimum double size of 80 x 92. The entry should be accompanied by a written submission explaining why it might be an appropriate centennial choice. All quilts must be signed and dated by quilters and designer where applicable.

The quilts will be judged on design, colour, and workmanship. Though the quilt does not have to be submitted until June 1 a statement of intent to submit should be forwarded to Something Different, 72 Main Street, Penetanguishene, Ontario. L0K 1P0 before February 14, 1982. This competition is open to any quilters in the area or province so pass the information along. "Something Different" has mailing sheets with contest rules which may be picked up and passed along.

Another Royal Ontario Museum display is of interest to weavers. Early Canadian Handweaving Samples will be available for display or group examination. The Centre d'Activitees Francaises will host the art exhibition Rural Ontario: Artists Impressions.

If you've wondered what it was like to live



### Getting involved

That's Penetanguishene's Mayor Ron Bellisle, before and after he started growing a beard for the town's Centennial. Balloons similar to the one the mayor is holding in lower photo were launched Monday afternoon as part of the town's official kick-off to Centennial-1982 in Penetanguishene.

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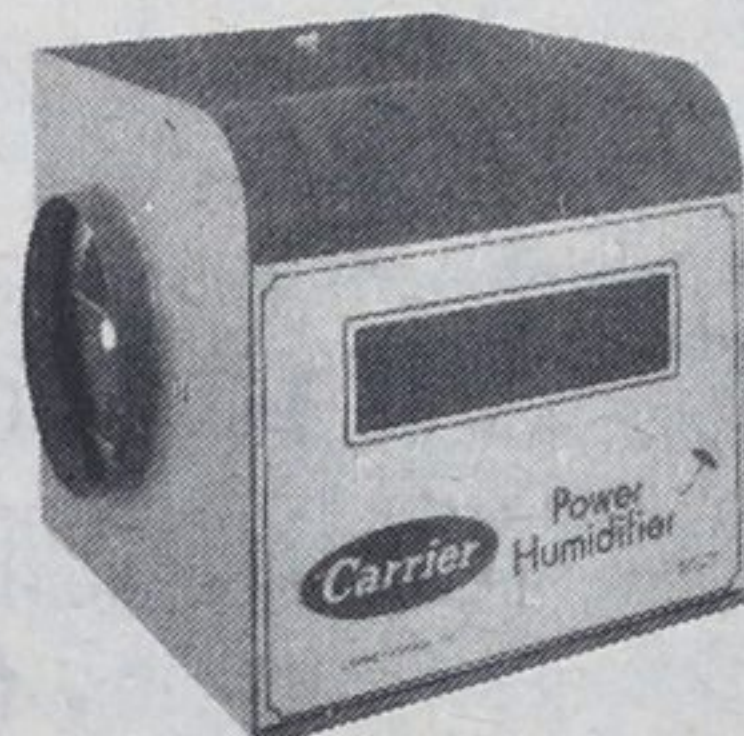
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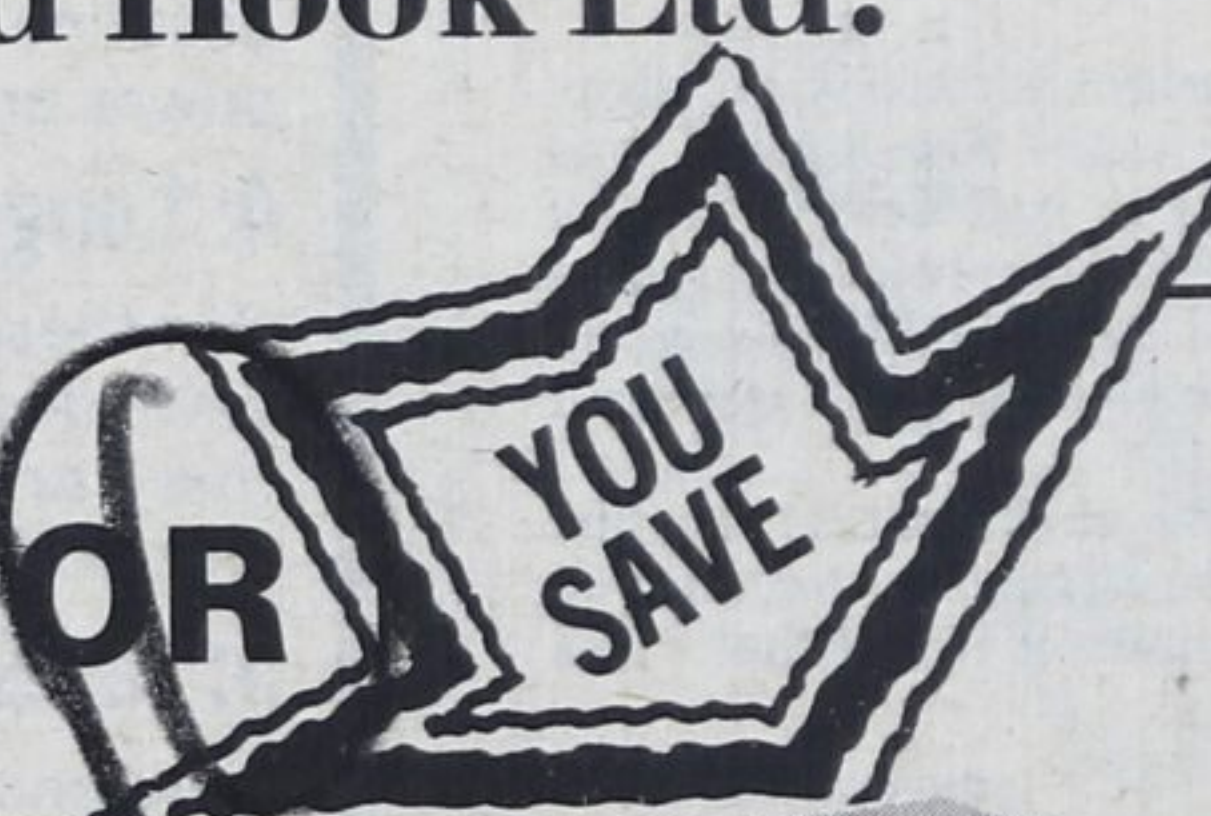


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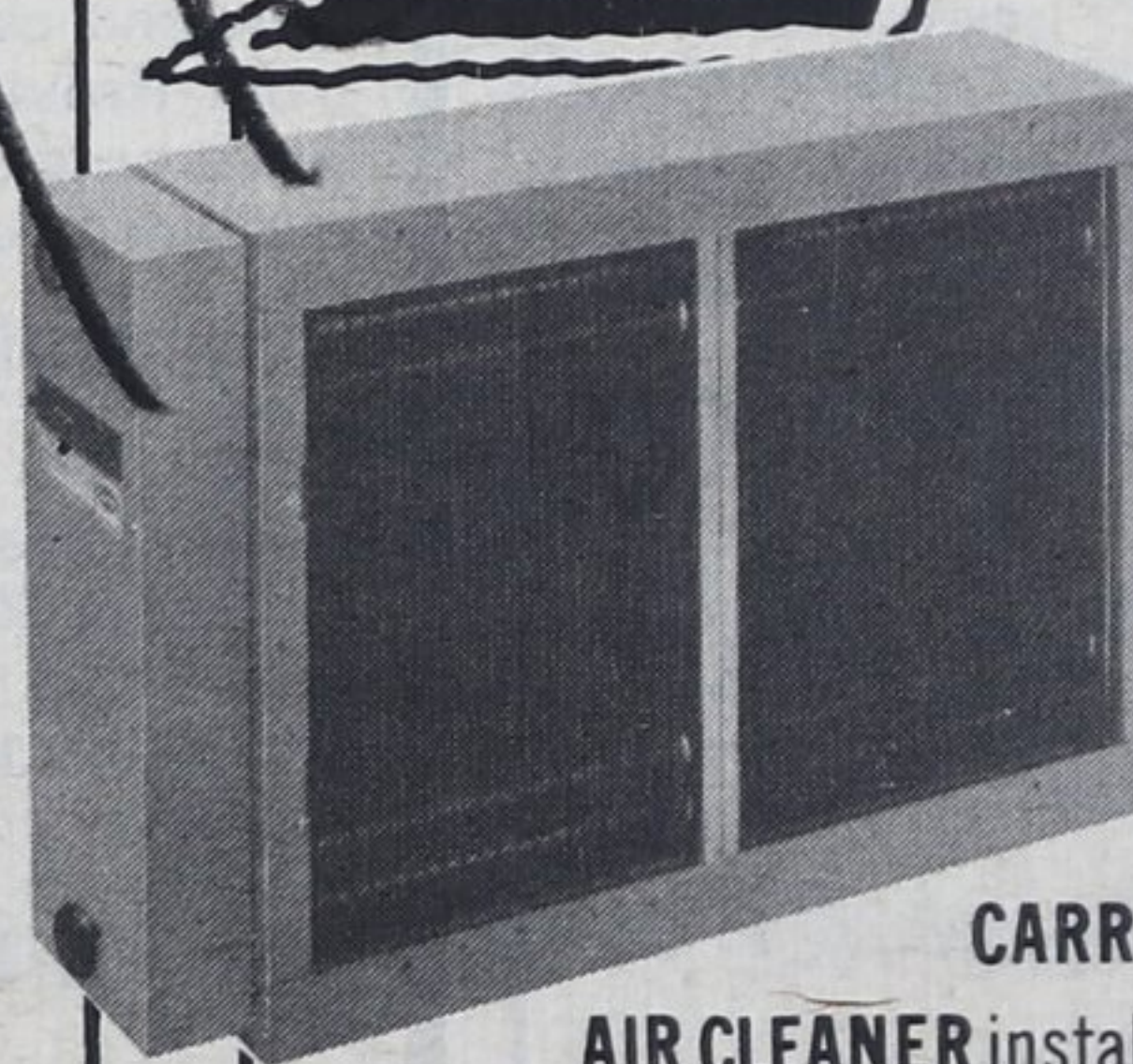
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