



## Council accepts BIA report, 60-day objection period begins

by  
**PETER SPOHN**  
Penetanguishene Town Council has adopted a report prepared by Robert Klug, chairman of the municipality's Development and Housing Committee, which designates a business improvement area for the core area of Penetanguishene. The move by council begins a 60 day period in which businessmen included in the area centred around Main Street can oppose the BIA proposal if they wish.

Before council accepted his report, Klug said "I think we have the numbers in our favour." He was referring to an Ontario Municipal Act provision which allows for the defeat of a BIA designation for a business area in a community if fully one-third of the merchants in the designated area object to the proposal. Klug said he feels there won't be very many in the designated area who will submit written objections to the BIA proposal.

If fewer than one-third of the people

paying business taxes in the area object, a bylaw designating a BIA for the town will be passed by the municipality. The bylaw will be referred to an Ontario Municipal Board hearing where the objections will be heard and judged. With few objections, the OMB is likely to approve passage of the bylaw. If more than one-third object, the BIA proposal will be shelved.

In his report, Klug noted that a BIA proposal was turned down in Penetang in 1977 because of the amount of opposition to it. "This was largely due to a lack of information going out to the business taxpayers," Klug points out in the report. He also noted that since 1977, the Huronia Mall on Highway 93 has been constructed. A shifting market has also affected downtown Penetang merchants, he points out.

To councillors, Klug said "I think the future of the main street depends on our support here (of the proposal) and the support of Main Street merchant."



**'Airborne'**

The schooner Bee is a pretty sight under sail. Last Saturday afternoon, she was sailing the outer harbour waters between Pinery Point and Asylum Point near the Historic Naval and Military

Establishments. In the photo, the replica of a 19th century vessel is sailing beside Whiskey Island. Photo by Peter Spohn

## OPP marine unit, divers search

### Port resident falls overboard on Penetanguishene Bay

Yesterday, Midland OPP's marine unit, assisted by OPP divers, were still searching Penetanguishene Bay for Leonard Henry Quesnelle, 35, of Port McNicoll, missing and presumed drowned following an incident early Saturday

evening at Davidson Point, one-half mile off Penetang Town Dock.

According to OPP, Quesnelle was a passenger in a 26-foot vessel accompanied by two other males and females.

The vessel in question had stopped

to allow people in the Quesnelle boat to talk to occupants in a 24-footer.

The vessels were about three feet apart at the time, OPP report.

It was at that time, Quesnelle who had been seated on the port side fell into the water between the two

boats.

An occupant of the second boat attempted to reach Quesnelle but was unsuccessful.

Police have been searching the area since the incident.

## Library has run out of room: librarian

by  
**PETER SPOHN**  
The chief librarian of Penetanguishene Public Library says that the library on Simcoe Street has run out of space for new collections and that overcrowding in the building is so serious the library is no longer meeting the needs of library users.

Rosemary Marchand is seeking a commitment from Penetanguishene Town Council to allocate funds for improvements to the library. "The biggest problem is space," she says. Marchand has invited town councillors to come to the building to see for themselves the results of the overcrowding, and they have agreed to hold a municipal caucus meeting there, probably in early October. "We're hoping to bring council in and that they'll put monies aside for

renovations," Marchand said yesterday morning.

Marchand said that the first step in bringing about an improvement would be for the Penetanguishene Library Board to get the go-ahead to hire an architect to sketch out plans for renovations. She said the board would like to see money for library improvements included in the municipality's long-range spending estimates.

Marchand said that overcrowding affects students who wish to find a quiet area for study, adults using the library for recreational reading, and young children. "There are only two tables in the building for students using reference volumes to sit down at and they are located near the front foyer of the building. It is not conducive to study, she said.

Marchand says there's no room for a quiet area for adults wishing to come to the library to read newspapers and other reading material. In addition, there are no facilities for persons in wheelchairs to enter the building or to get into the library's basement meeting room.

Space is so limited, library staff is forced to use high book shelves intended for adult users in the children's section, the librarian said. They can't reach up to the top of shelves, she said. Shelves are spaced so close together that there is barely room for a person to pass another in library aisles. In addition, Marchand said, there is no more storage space for general supplies. She said many volumes were weeded out when she took over as librarian about a year ago and that the staff is always trying to find room for new collec-

tions. The addition of new adult fiction and non-fiction works is now severely constrained.

Marchand pointed out that the library stocks adult and juvenile books in both English and French.

Marchand explained that the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Culture funds a capital grant for library boards across the province and that about \$11,000 - a \$2 per head per capita grant - was made available to the Penetanguishene Library Board last year. As well, the municipality's finance and administration committee reviews the board's annual budget. The board would like to see extra monies made available for improvements. At this point, she said, only a commitment is sought. Any plans for renovations and a possible addition to the building have not been able to begin yet.