



## Study will form guideline for long-range plan

by PETER SPOHN

In the next month or so, Penetanguishene residents will probably be hearing a lot about something called the McNair Marshall report.

McNair and Marshall are a husband and wife team of planning consultants and they were hired by the Town of Penetanguishene several weeks ago to prepare a Community Improvement study whose projections will soon be presented to town residents at a public information meeting.

Every aspect of long-range planning, from providing adequate recreation facilities in the community to identifying areas in the municipality where future housing starts should be encouraged, have come under the

planning team's scrutiny. Allan McNair and Barbara Marshall have been looking at the municipality's past and present growth trends and are making projections for the future.

The study will in effect give the municipality an over-all planning strategy which will stand the municipality in good stead when it applies for grants from all levels of government for municipal projects. Planning Advisory Committee and town councillor member Ray Baker said yesterday.

Baker explained how the McNair Marshall report will likely be incorporated into the municipality's future comprehensive

planning picture.

When the report is completed, probably within the next couple of weeks, it will be sent to the town office where preparations will be made to display it publicly. A public meeting will likely be held very early in 1985, Baker said. After a public airing, the report will be sent to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing for approval. The report would form the basis of the municipality's strategy for community improvement.

To date, McNair and Marshall have targeted several areas for improvement. The authors of the report are looking at the town's entire shoreline in considering a "waterfront" policy, something which would

broaden the focus of waterfront improvement beyond the town centre.

Attention is being focused on where road and sidewalk improvement should take place. It also deals with housing densities. The report is likely to conclude that construction of affordable rental units should comprise at least one-third of new construction in Penetanguishene.

It should be a "totally comprehensive picture of Penetanguishene's strengths, weaknesses and priorities," Baker commented. He said that comments and suggestions from the public will be noted and incorporated into the report before it is sent to the ministry for approval.



### Lewis, Friends will meet again

## Fate of Wye Marsh discussed

The Friends of the Wye Marsh will meet again in January with local MP Douglas Lewis to present to him a proposal to keep open the Wye Marsh Interpretation Centre.

Lewis, who is also the parliamentary assistant to the president of the federal Treasury Board, the office which is coordinating the cutting of the federal budget, met with five members of the Friends of Wye Marsh executive in the Interpretation Centre last Saturday.

Yesterday Lewis said the Treasury Board has asked for proposals from all five ridings in which federally operated wildlife interpretation centres are established, and slated to close.

The Friends of Wye Marsh will be coordinating proposals for operation of the local Centre by a non-government body, Lewis said.

Michael Hines, president of the non-

profit Friends of Sainte-Marie group, says that Lewis is "well aware" that his group is "looking for continuing bridge funding from the federal government." His group feels that because the benefit of the Centre spreads throughout southern Ontario, some of the expense of running the Centre should be shared.

In turn, the federal government would be relieved of some of the managerial responsibility for the Centre, Hines said. Five to six thousand cards have been sent to Ottawa, protesting the closing of the local Centre on April 1, and letters in the thousands, Hines said.

Simcoe East MPP Allan McLean also attended Saturday's meeting. Lewis promised to bring a ranking member of the Ministry of the Environment to the Jan. 19 meeting, Hines said.

Lewis described the Centre as an

educational and economic asset to the area. He expressed optimism that the Centre will continue to operate.

There are "quite a few alternatives" to the

Centre closing on April 1, Hines said. Hines has been "encouraged" by the strength of the public response to the campaign to pressure the government to keep open the Centre.

### Henry's opening in Midland

Henry Lepage and his family are expanding their restaurant business again.

Henry's Fish Restaurant is setting up facilities at G Wilcers in Midland for preparing lunch dishes at the Hugel Avenue tavern. Edith Lepage, wife of owner Henry Lepage, said on Monday that Henry's should be serving meals at the tavern next Monday.

Since 1978, Henry's Fish Restaurant at Sans Souci, south of Parry Sound on Georgian Bay, has been a popular destination for boaters cruising along the eastern Georgian Bay shore. Last September, Henry's Fish Restaurant opened on the second floor of the Commodore Hotel on Main Street, Penetanguishene after the Sans Souci restaurant was closed for the season. The restaurant's specialty is pickerel but other fish and non-fish dishes are also served.

Edith Lepage said that she and her husband will move back up to Sans Souci next summer to run the restaurant there while their son Danny manages the Penetang restaurant. Daughter Jacqueline and her husband Larry Dubeau will work in the Midland restaurant.

### Dawn Light

The Dawn Light sits peacefully at the Penetanguishene town dock while ice on Penetang Bay surrounds it. The photo was taken on Monday. The warm weather in the early part of the week is in stark contrast to last week's cold spell that resulted in ice forming on the bay.

## Merchants extend store hours Dec. 17-22

Several Penetanguishene merchants met December 4 to establish common hours of business during the week before Christmas.

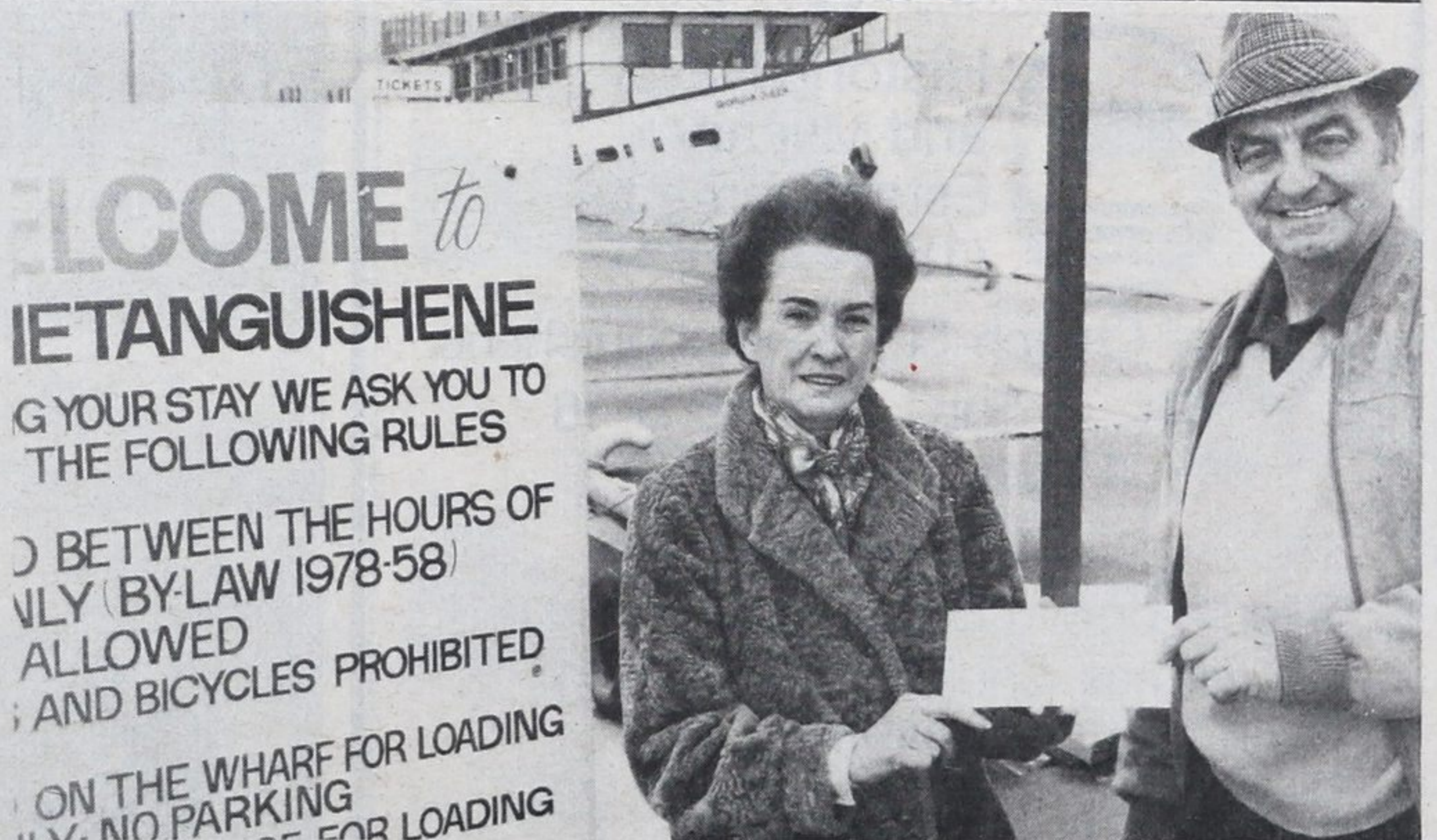
Nine merchants attended the meeting at the Penetang Curling Club and most agreed to keep their stores open until 8 p.m. from Monday, Dec. 17 to Saturday, Dec. 22.

Sidelights Souvenirs & Gift Shop owner Helen Dubeau, the meeting's organizer, said that the stores are likely to stay open until about 5 p.m. on Christmas Eve.

Dubeau also said that the informal session of town merchants may eventually lead to regular strategy sessions for Penetang merchants. She said

they are to meet Tuesday, Jan. 8, 1985, with the Penetanguishene Chamber of Commerce at the town office on Robert Street West. Helen Dubeau is a Chamber of Commerce director.

All town merchants are encouraged to attend future meetings.



Thank-you,  
Vic  
Valentine

Vic Valentine is presented with a 1985 honorary membership in the Penetanguishene Chamber of Commerce by Chamber secretary Joyce Sauve on Monday. The honour is in recognition of Vic's many years of support for the Chamber and, by extension, Penetanguishene. Over the last 38 years, the Penetanguishene sign painter has painted many signs

for posting around the community. His first sign for the town was for the first Winterama, 38 years ago. One of his more recent signs is beside the waterfront and is seen in the photo. Joyce Sauve told Vic Valentine: "This is in appreciation for your community spiritedness, which is very much in evidence through your donation of signs and your time."