

For this couple owning hardware store has been a dream come true

Many Penetanguishene and area residents have been surprised over the past month when they walk in the door of Koch's Dominion Hardware on Main Street.

The surprise comes in not finding long-time businessman Bill Koch, but Nancy and Bill Diesveld behind the counter.

Koch sold his hardware business in early September to the Midland couple. Although many

shoppers may recognize Bill from his previous job as manager of the Midland Dominion Store, Nancy's face can be easily remembered since she is originally from Penetang.

Although the couple was looking for a grocery business, because of Bill's background at Dominion, the two were unable to find something in the area so they turned attention to other businesses in the district.

According to Bill

Diesveld, the grocery business isn't much different than the hardware business, meet the demands of the community, keep up the stock, and work on the books.

"I've worked in chain stores most of my life," says Bill, "and if I'm going to put between 60 and 70 hours a week into something, I'd rather it was my own."

Sixty hours is a far cry from the amount of time Nancy, Bill and their 12-year-old son Chris who works after school and on weekends,

put into the business a week.

Any Sunday afternoon or late in the evening, when the store is closed, you can find the two going through stock or checking over the books.

Nancy, the daughter of the late Bob and Rosemary Stewart of Penetang's Stewart's Gulf Service, is happy and surprised to be home again adding the response of the community "is great."

"The people are very understanding and patient with us, when we are looking for something it takes us a little longer to find it," says Nancy. "If this was the city they'd just go somewhere else, but that's Penetang people for you, down to earth and don't mind waiting."

At the present the couple is content with the business they have making no plans to expand or change anything.

"He (Koch) had a good business going here," says Nancy. "We just want to maintain the customers he had and make some new ones."



Happy couple at work

Meet Bill and Nancy Diesveld the proud new owners/operators of Koch's Dominion Hardware Store.

The couple can be found together in the store located on the main street of Penetang during business day.



An early Thanksgiving dinner

Penetanguishene's Corpus Christi School held a Thanksgiving dinner for Grades 4 to 6, last Thursday at noon. The children were treated to a full

Thanksgiving dinner courtesy of the school's Parent Volunteers. Seen here is Parent Volunteer Susan Delorme serving gravy to the students.

Blindness:

It all depends on how you look at it

Independence is the ambition of most visually impaired and blind people, and the Canadian National Institute for the Blind workers who help them achieve it.

Every donation received locally during October's annual fundraising campaign, will be used to further the independence of visually handicapped

persons in this area.

The 1985 campaign goal of \$19,000 is intended to match the sum spent annually in this district by the CNIB.

Donations can be returned to in pre-addressed CNIB envelopes, to be mailed this month to residences between Coldwater and Penetanguishene, or dropped of at a Toronto-Dominion Bank.

Pies cool as truck dives

A quiet afternoon of home baking turned into an adventure for Mrs. Jack Loving, in Coldwater last Friday.

With her just baked blueberry pies cooling on the counter, Mrs. Loving glanced out the kitchen window, while loading the oven with a tray of brownies.

Hoping to see her husband returning from a morning's duck hunting, she was astonished by the sight of a big fuel tank truck slowly settling into the Coldwater River, as the old wooden railroad bridge, on a private road off County road 17 in the village's north end, folded up underneath.

"There was no sound at all," she says, "I wouldn't even have

noticed it, if I hadn't been looking out for Jack."

The white and red Petro Canada truck wound up on its side in the river, partially

supported by bridge's collapsed south side.

While a little dazed by the incident, driver Al Wrigley, of Orillia's Wrigley Fuels, a well known face to many

Coldwater homeowners, escaped uninjured.

He later accepted a cup of tea from Mrs. Loving, who exclaims, "He didn't even get wet!"



For services rendered

At a dinner and dance Friday night at Penetanguishene Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 68, about 60 guests paid tribute to many of the their Comrades for services rendered over

the years. Above, Hortense Gignac (left) receives a Diamond Jubilee Award from Ella Parker (right) for her service in the Ladies Auxiliary.

It's an annual ritual

by MICHELLE DESROCHES

A visitor to ESPSS last Friday might have wondered what was going on.

There were students, dressed in diapers and baby bonnets, singing their favourite nursery rhymes to their "grandparents", playing lead frog in the halls and playing patty-cake in the cafeteria.

Had everyone in the school gone mad? Of course not! This was Orientation Day; the day where members of this year's graduating classes, officially welcome the grade nine students to ESPSS.

Theme of this year's Orientation Day was "The Old Welcomes the New." Graduating seniors dressed as "grandparents" while the grade nine students donned their diapers and sleepers to act as "infants".

At the end of the day, another traditional event was held; Family Court. Here, "grandparents" and "infants" who had misbehaved were dealt with by our very own Family Court Judge, played by math teacher John Dubeau. The day ended with the Orientation Day Dance, sponsored by the ESPSS Student's Council.

ESPSS Student's Council president Michelle DesRoches, who coordinated Orientation Day, was particularly pleased with the days activities.

"At least 99 percent of the students abided by the guidelines which we set down.

"We had hoped that Orientation Day would be well received by the students, teachers and parents. Hopefully, a similar day will be held next year."

Judging by the results of this year's activities, it will be.