



Wowee!

Children of members of Penetanguishene's branch of the Royal Canadian Legion were delighted Sunday afternoon when Santa and some of his friends

came to bestow gifts on them. One youngster on Santa's lap stares at the huge boxful of gifts while Santa takes all the excitement in.

Tay grant pays off secondary plan

The Township of Tay has been given a \$1,250 grant from the Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs.

The money is the final payment on a \$8,333.67 community planning grant that has been allotted for the preparation of the Waubausene Secondary Plan.

Grants of this nature are designed to encourage municipalities to review and update their planning programs, zoning bylaws and other planning documents. They may also be used for special studies on local issues such as lakeshore development or commercial development along highways and for

energy-conserving planning measures.

According to township Planner Doug Carroll,

township officials are presently awaiting word from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs on whether the plan, that was completed earlier this year, will be given final approval.

Homeowners' grants

Midland has received a \$40,000 Ontario Home Renewal (OHRP) grant from the provincial Ministry of Housing.

The program assists homeowners to upgrade their homes, with the emphasis on faulty structural and sanitary conditions, and on plumbing, insulation, heating and electrical systems.

Loans of up to \$7,500 are available to eligible owner-occupants. A portion of the loan might be forgiven, depending on the recipient's income. Interest rates range from zero to eight per cent, depending on income.

Physically-disabled homeowners, or homeowners with physically-disabled relatives living permanently with them, might qualify for loans of up to \$9,500.

An income of \$20,000 a year, after deductions, is the maximum income an OHRP applicant can have to be considered for a loan.



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your time of
dreams come true!

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**Royal Canadian Legion
Branch 80
Midland**

Wye Marsh activities

Already missing hot dogs and marshmallows toasted over an open fire? No need to wait for next summer to enjoy a cookout. Wye Marsh offers a special treat for families over the Christmas break: Winter Picnics on Dec. 26, 27 and 28.

This family outing includes a guided snowshoe walk and cookout. Groups leave the Centre promptly at 11 a.m. and return at 1 p.m. Bring your own lunch (hot dogs, marshmallows and hot chocolate), Wye Marsh supplies the snowshoes. At the fireside, naturalists will brew up some wild beverages such as sweet sumac tea for you to sample and will point out the sights and signs of winter wildlife.

Regular admissions app-

ly, and snowshoe rentals are included with your admission. Wye Marsh has snowshoes to fit most people aged six and up; smaller people often have trouble managing on snowshoes, but they are

welcome to join the group if their parents can carry them in a backpack or pull them along in a sled.

Hurry and pre-register for these special walks, places are limited to 15 people each day.

Winter road report

The Ministry of Transportation and Communications has announced that its Winter Road Reporting Service for the public is now in operation. The Road Information Centre at Toronto and the ministry's office throughout the province have up-to-date information on the condition of all provincial and secondary highways 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week during the winter months.

Information on winter road conditions may be obtained around-the-clock by telephoning Barrie 835-3014 (not a long distance call from any area except Penetang and Lafontaine) or toll-free 1-800-461-9523.

Remember for Free Information and Referral call Contact Information Centre 526-9333 located in the lower level of Edward's Village Mall.

*As Christmas comes
soft and still, may the
spirit of peace gently
fill your heart and
home with love and
goodwill*



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATRONAGE
AND A GOOD YEAR**



**MARY THOMPSON
549-2689**



This Night...

This Silent Night

There comes to each of us, on Christmas Eve, a brief and silent moment of hushed expectancy. The shopping rush is over... the

Great Day is not yet here.

You pause... you know not why.

Another Christmas you say, and all at once you feel older, yet somehow younger.

Then, as you look around you, at family, friends, yes even strangers, you know their minds are pausing too.

Here in this moment of humble reflection, cradled between what has been and what is to be, is the peace which passeth all understanding.

This night... this Silent Night, the true Spirit of Christmas may touch your heart. Hold it closely... the whole world needs it, so very, very much.

Nicholls Funeral Home

330 Midland Ave., Midland