What's on Watt

Peace would help locally too

by Laurie Watt

provincial and local-I see issues.

on around us. It's

As I watch the news- boils down to one simple peace: no more Middle consuming insecurity. It is

one really seems to grasp unreal. and analyzing what goes friends and acquaintances. individuals.

As a reporter, I'm pretty what it means, yet we go To obtain a peace-the deals in the free trade talks close to it all, having had a on singing "Peace on kind which was meant to with the Americans. well-rounded education earth" and sending cards be-we first must be at Similarly with the proand interest in defining with the same message to peace with ourselves--as vinces, which continually

fascinating, really, but it all would be like if there were peace is fear-a basic yet international, national, thing-a lack of peace. East conflict, no more Cold this insecurity that drives "Peace" is pretty much War, no more dominion- nations to build up ara common thread, despite an overworked word, provincial bickering. It maments and to fight. It is the tremendous variance in bordering on the cliche. No sounds so elusive, so this same element which causes mistrust and broken push and shove for na-Consider what the world The greatest enemy of tional attention and funds.

> On a local level, we are not immune. Consider the battle between the Simcoe County Board of Education (SCBE), their French Language Education Council (FLEC) and the province of Ontario. Presently, the three are battling it out in the courts, under the name of the Marchand Case.

In this case, it is a struggle for basic rights and freedoms-justice, which is supposed to be guaranteed by the Charter of Rights and our legal system.

Two weeks ago, FLEC ordered the SCBE to withdraw its appeal of the Marchand ruling, which instructed the school board to provide sufficient space and resources for French industrial arts and family studies courses. However, the board could not acceed to this need, and instead, appealed the decision.

The latest development came about last week. FLEC decided to hire its own lawyers, to ensure Bill 75, which created FLEC, is interpreted justly. However, the SCBE won't allot the funds, thus tying FLEC's hands and denying them the right to discover their jurisdiction and

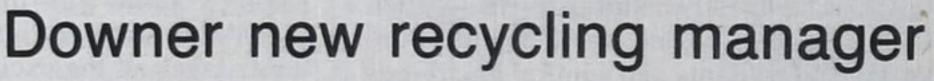
The issue, I discovered, is terribly charged with emotion. And that's sad, really. The problem lies not in funding, but in power and fear of losing any of

Misunderstanding abounds, on both sides. As we sit back this holiday season, let us consider our basic rights, our freedoms--which we treasure. Then let us give of them to others not quite so fortunate.

A Choir of angels

Sunday school re-enacted the shepherds is Rev. Al Farthing. Christmas story. After the story, the

At First Presbyterian Church in children sang a couple of favorite Penetanguishene Sunday morning, the carols. Watching the angels and



North Simcoe Waste Management Association (NSWMA) Recycling Program has a new manager.

Last week, NSWMA officials hired Midland's Liz Downer, to replace Manager Anne Desroches, who resigned last month in



Liz Downer



council sessions more accessible to the taxpayers and cutback on the length, the Village of Port McNicoll council has decided to change their meeting schedule.

Seniors aid shelter

ly one meeting a month, on by the municipality's of- Offices.

twice.

Residents of Georgian Manor in Residents' Council President Mark

Penetanguishene presented gifts to the Parent presented Ila Kellerman, the

Council meetings will be slated for the first and third Wednesday of the month.

Walker explained, in the According to the village's past if a taxpayer came to with.

Presently, the 7:30 p.m. sessions are running late into the evening because of the lengthy agendas.

The first meeting of the clerk treasurer, Ted his office a couple of days new schedule will be Walker, starting in the new after council, with a matter Wednesday, Jan. 7, at 7:30 year, instead of holding on- that needed examination p.m. in the Municipal





