

Do not forget to visit this unique gift shop

By Ken Lusk

his store.

Sundland then moved to the North May area. Eventually the Inter-city Shopping mall went up and this was the "knock-out punch" Sundland said.

Keep in mind that Sundland had property in Rosspport since 1972. This was an excuse to get away from Thunder Bay he said.

While the old shop was still in operation in Thunder Bay, Olav set up the new one in Rosspport which was open during the summer months.

The store in Rosspport has now been operating for three seasons officially as the Forget-me-not Gift Shop.

Olav commented that a story had been done by a Thunder Bay newspaper about the Thunder Bay store. The writer noted in the story that the closing of the store in Thunder Bay and the opening of the one in Rosspport was Thunder Bay's loss and Rosspport's gain.

It is a fact

The store is truly Rosspport's gain.

Judi Sundland said the store, which is open from May 1 to

(regular orange pekoe blend, spearmint, peppermint and black currant).

There is also a pile of "deca-dent desserts", said Judi. Lynn McGrath from Rosspport bakes fresh every day two or more succulent desserts.

Other items

The Forget-me-not Gift Shop has a very nice selection of cards for all occasions. "We hand-select all our cards," said Judi. If the shop receives a card or several cards that weren't hand-picked by the Sundlands, it will be sent back.

The shop also has wedding gifts, country-folk art, many types of soaps, candles, Christmas ornaments, door harps, hand-painted glass, brass etchings, pottery, linen, novelty foods, mulling spices, jams, novelty brass ornaments, toys, a bath section, chimes and mobiles, just to name a few.

All of these are beautiful items. There are also silk scarves, water fowl ornaments hand-cast in bronze, vases, wine decantors, and incense.

ple; talking to them, getting to know them."

Other interests

Judi Sundland has since last

November been in charge of the local paper, *The Rosspport Harbour Express*.

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Where can you go and enjoy a cup of very-fresh tea or coffee in the Tea Nook? Where can you go to marvel at the surrounding scenic beauty?

And where can you go where the service is second-to-none?

I know- the Forget-me-not Gift Shop in Rosspport provides all of these things plus many more.

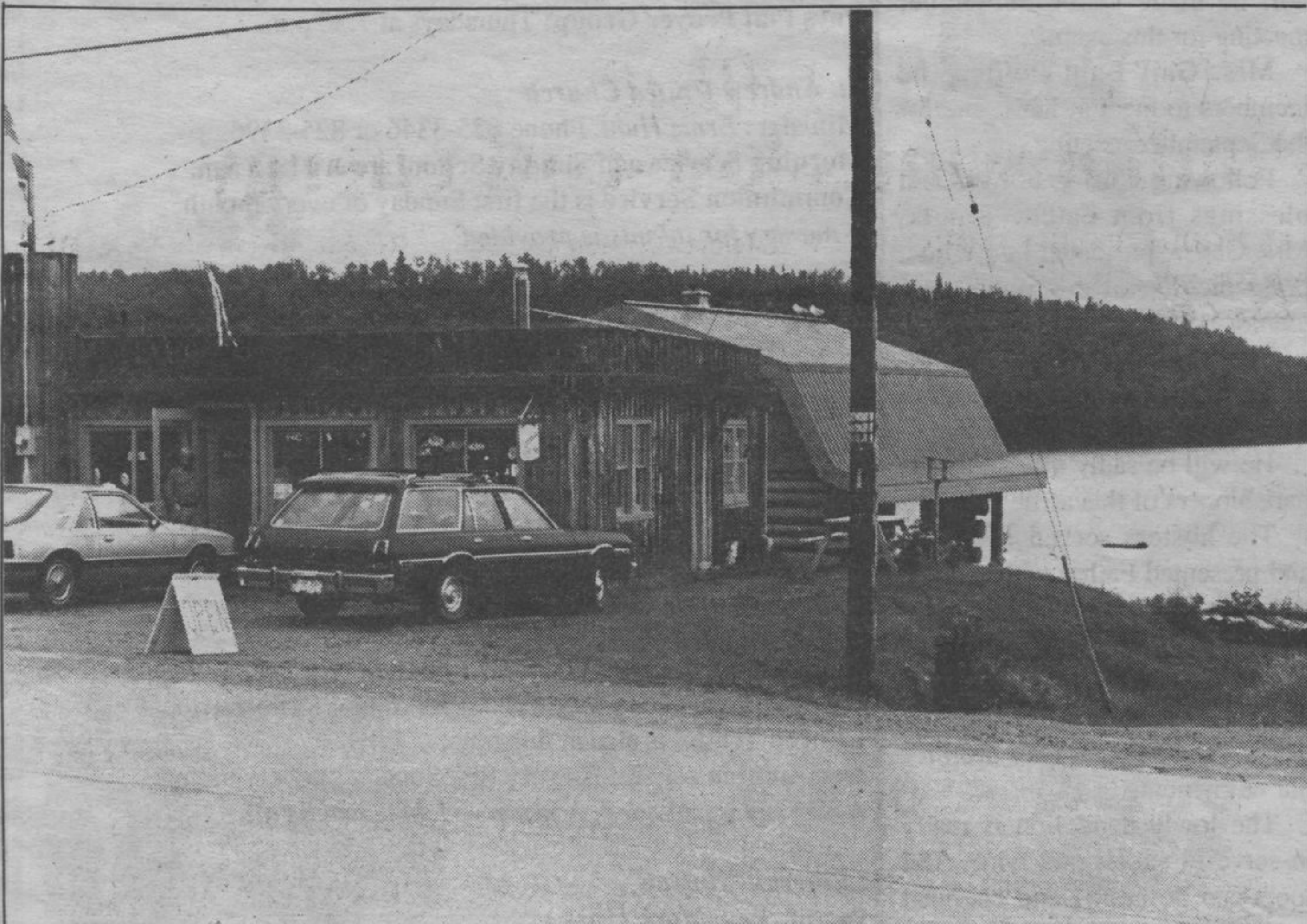
Olav and Judi Sundland, who own and run the Forget-me-not Gift Shop, believe that customer service is the top priority in a business like theirs.

They also believe the area is a good place to have such a business. They believe in the area so much they expanded the shop to provide more services.

Wait in the car

Their belief is so strong the expansion took place when a lot of people were worried about the Kimberly-Clark mill in Terrace Bay.

Judi told the *News* the expansion became necessary because people used to have to wait in the car for an opportunity to go into the store.



A spot not to be forgotten

Shown above is the Rosspport Forget-me-not Gift Shop nestled in scenic Rosspport. Olav and Judi Sundland run the store from May to December. Seen behind the store is the log cabin the Sundlands had

built. The cabin does not yet have all the comforts of home. It does have a bat box though. Yes, Olav believes bats should have a place to rest too. (Photo by Ken Lusk).

So the Sundlands took down the back wall making more room for more people.

Beginnings

Olav Sundland told the *News* the shop had its humble beginnings in Thunder Bay 23 years ago (the original name was *Windjammer*).

The major reason why Olav moved shop was because of the expansion of the shopping centres in Thunder Bay.

Windjammer was originally located in Fort William on South Syndicate Street. When the Victoriaville Mall was constructed, said Sundland, this took business away from his shop.

Before the mall went up, the shop used to be easily-accessible. The new mall directed traffic or people more or less away from

December 23, is really a store of the people of Rosspport, Schreiber and Terrace Bay. The mainstay of the business, she said, is local people.

The Sundlands did note that they still get customers from places like Thunder Bay (who frequented the old store) and Marathon.

The shop's fresh tea and coffee could be one reason everybody comes back.

Each cup of coffee, for instance, is made freshly and individually.

The Sundlands use the *melita* system. A small funnel and filter are placed in the cup and freshly-boiled water is drained through.

The Forget-me-not Gift Shop offers two types of coffees (Forget-me-not blend and Irish Cream) and four types of teas

Loves people

Judi told the *News* that during the winter months, a woodstove is installed and hot cider is given to the customers.

Judi loves catering to people. She said that when certain people come in, she notices what they look at and what they like.

In this way, if someone comes in to buy a birthday gift for a friend, Judi has a good idea of what that person would like.

Judi also keeps track of weddings. When a gift leaves the shop for that reason, Judi already knows what the couple have received. In this way they won't get to many of the same items.

Judi said the expansion took place in order to serve the local people. "We feel very personal with them- they're why we expanded," she said. "I like peo-

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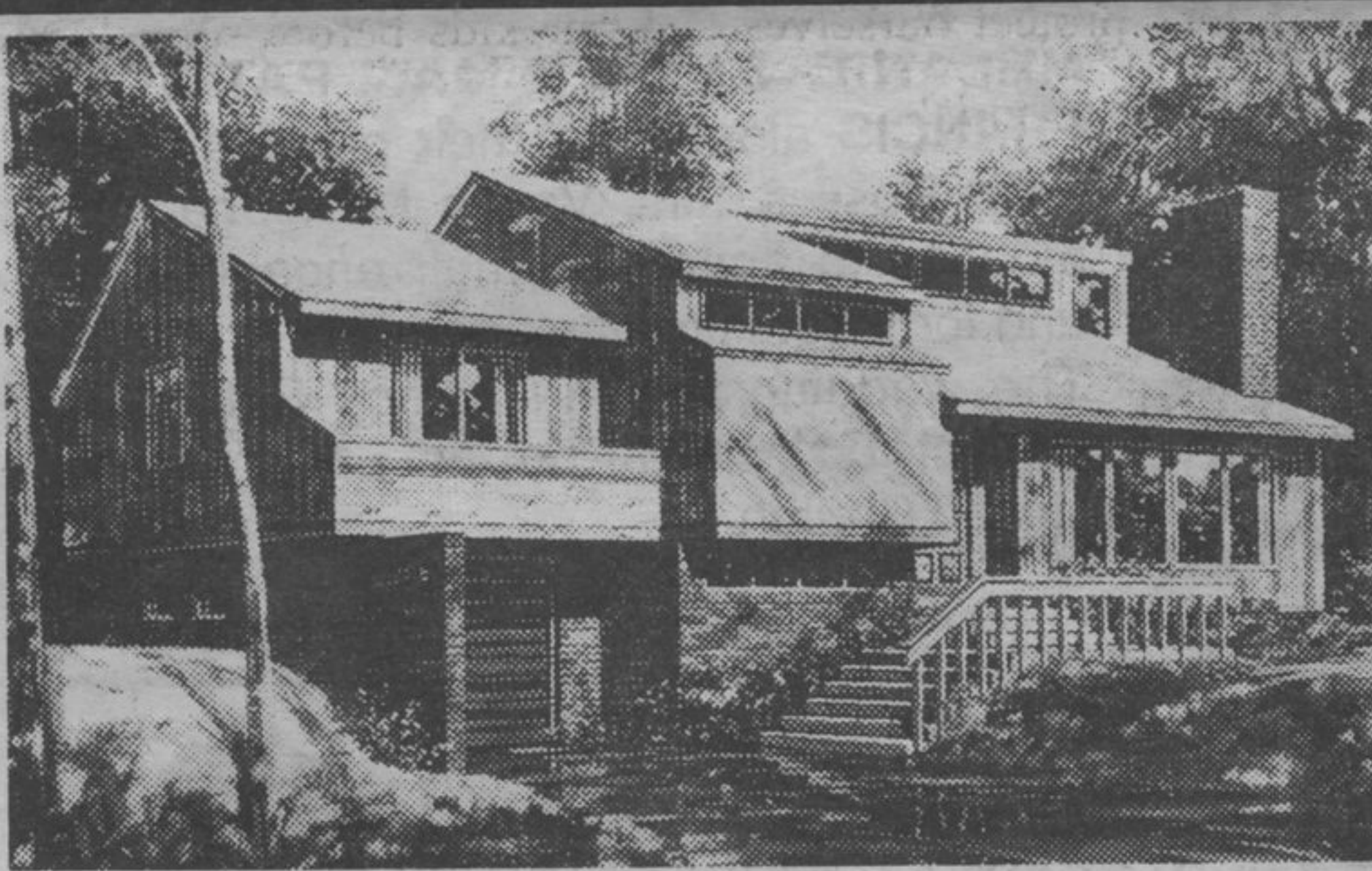
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