



LEARNING FROM THE MASTER

Shawn Samis and former school principal Warren Brown are locked in a chess game at Castleton Public School. Mr. Brown was teaching the students of Mrs. Fluke's primary class the rudiments of the game last Wednesday.

PHOTO BY BOB OWEN

COLBORNE CHRONICLE JAN 29/04

Tip helps solve 21 area break-ins

After receiving an anonymous tip, members of the Northumberland OPP's break and enter team arrested and charged five people with about 120 counts of break, enter and theft, possession of stolen property, breach of probation, and mischief relating to local crimes.

The five include four young persons and one adult male, police report.

The investigation encompassed 21 separate incidents from the Colborne and Cramahe Township area, including break-ins at 15 cottages, Colborne Public School, the Colborne library, a gas station, a church, and a Colborne residence.

New plan for Keeler lands

Housing units, recreation opportunities

By Bob Owen
cchronicle@linkd.net

Cramahe resident John Rutherford offered council one more option for development of the Keeler lands in a brief presentation last week.

Mr. Rutherford took a few moments to sketch out a concept that would yield 55-60 housing units and a variety of recreational opportunities. In an interview last Thursday he outlined his plan in more detail.

It has housing on the lands to the north of a line of trees that transects the 45 acre property. He suggests that the township sell 15 lots along Division and Ontario first, as these lots would easily be serviced. In his sketches there are six lots along Division and another eight facing Ontario Street. One further lot abuts Ontario.

By selling these lots at \$25,000 each the township would collect close to \$400,000. To encourage developers, he suggests the township require a small down payment on the lots with the balance due when the houses are sold. He sees no reason to sell them in blocks if developers want to purchase them individually.

He does want some controls put on the houses built. He proposes that houses costing \$125,000 (plus the lot price) would form the base.

A main road would run east to west at about where the trees are now standing. Three crescents would run north off the main

road. Each of the crescents would have an island in it much like Thornlea Crescent. Mr. Rutherford has done some of the measurements, enough to know that his plan will fit on the land.

A model home on the northwest corner of Division Street and the east-west artery would be a motivator for people to purchase, he said. Running along the south side of the cross road he'd establish a mini golf setup, tennis courts, shuffleboard and a t-ball diamond. There would be about five acres left to place soccer pitches.

Immediately south of the Keeler Centre, joined by a breezeway, he would locate an indoor pool, with the water heated by excess capacity from the geothermal energy system at the arena. By keeping it separate he thinks it would be eligible for Trillium grants.

North of the housing he would have an arched bridge built to join the Keeler lands and housing, through parkland to the old arena land.

He sees his plan as being more advantageous to the township than a golf course. It would produce revenue more quickly. A golf course would require extensive excavation and costs. If Colborne doesn't grow there would be an empty golf course.

He has been asked by Doug Scott, Chair of the Economic Development Committee to present his development ideas at one of their meetings.