

Local News

Committee comes up with suggestions for Keeler Centre programs and activities

COLBORNE CHRONICLE

By BOB OWEN
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OCT. 16/08

Oct. 9, the Keeler Centre Rotary Hall Planning Advisory Committee looked at possible programs to offer residents. The group identified three target groups - youth, adults and seniors - and gave some consideration to what could be offered.

While it seems there is a need for a place for kids to go and "hang", but what to offer is not clear, although numerous suggestions were made. Games, movies, sports activities, homework help were among the ideas put forward

by the six committee members who met with Cramahe Community Services Director Terry Scott and Mayor Marc Coombs.

Cramahe Horticultural Society member Shirley Ross's suggested big-screen Wifi programs which could be put in place quickly.

Some suggestions like an after-school program where kids are bused to the Keeler Centre were discarded as unfeasible.

Most of the youth programs suggested will rely on parental support and participation at the centre, something the committee plans to discuss at its Oct. 30 meeting.

A moms and tots group received the general approval of the group. It has its own set of problems, including where to store the play things.

Physical health programs were central to many of the proposals for

adults and seniors. One that may kick in soon is a regular walking group on the mezzanine of the arena - Colborne's version of mall walking.

Another that sparked wide appeal is a series of cooking sessions using the Rotary Hall kitchen. Theme nights, gourmet nights, kids cooking, bring-your-recipe nights, and nights when area chefs came in to cook were given as possibilities.

There is also a perceived need to help people cook healthy meals on limited budgets. One idea had groups of seniors coming in to cook together and taking home their cooking to freeze.

There are other health-related programs offered in other locations in the community and the group did not want to interfere with those.

With so many ideas being bandied about, the Keeler Centre Rotary Hall Planning Advisory Committee members felt a survey would help.

Trillium walker Bob Compton identified factors which may restrict any prospective programs.

It will be important not to compete with other groups offering similar programs and times. Every program will have to be costed so the township can charge the correct fee to make them revenue neutral. Mr. Compton wondered how many people will be able to afford programs if times get tougher.

Groups want their own rooms and places that are theirs alone where they can store their materials. This could be a significant problem if a children's play group was offered.

Mr. Compton's final concern was transportation. How do people get to the Keeler Centre if they have limited funds and don't live within walking distance?

United Way representative Dianne Turk thought they should

contact Port Hope where a rural transportation program has started.

Mayor Coombs wants to see the building used more during the day by the people of Cramahe.

Later in the discussion, Mr. Compton proposed a survey sent out to residents might give the committee a better idea of what is wanted, times programs are needed, the amount people are willing to pay and what the township needs to provide.

Mayor Coombs seemed to agree with the idea, commenting, "We can offer what we want, but if they don't want it, they won't come".

To speed things along, the mayor proposed various groups in the community be approached to see what they would like. The schools will be contacted with the hopes of sending surveys home with the children.

Discussion of use of the ice surface brought some philosophical projections. Mr. Scott wondered aloud whether he will see communities closing arenas due to cost factors, following the example of school boards. Organized sport is expensive and a recent survey suggested one in three families can't afford to put their kids in organized activities, it was noted.

As the discussion drew to a close, Mr. Compton said there are a lot of roadblocks to stop people from coming to the use the facility.

Mr. Scott replied it is his job to find interest and locate leadership to break the barriers down.

The Keeler Centre Rotary Hall Planning Advisory Committee plans to present its report to Cramahe Township council on Dec. 2.

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OCT. 16/08 Deaths

HOMPUS, Adrian "Addy" - Peacefully, with his family at his side, at his home in Cobourg on Saturday, October 11th, 2008, Adrian Hompus at 57 years of age. Loving husband for 35 years to Nancy Hompus (nee McBride). Cherished father of Amy Linton (Dan) and Michelle Meek (Don). Devoted grandfather "Opa" of Maria Linton and Adrian Linton. Dear brother of Marion Meheneott (the late Rick), Hans Hompus (Brenda), Josette Hill (Gary), the late Robert, and the late Inago. Son of the late Adrian and Maria Hompus. Son-in-law of Irene McBride and the late Gordon McBride. Also missed by his nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews, and all his in-laws. A Memorial Service will be held at Trinity United Church (Corner of Division and Chapel St. in Cobourg) on Saturday, October 18th, at 11 am. Visitation to be held at **MacCOUBREY FUNERAL HOME**, 30 King St. E. in Cobourg on Friday, October 17th from 2-4 and 7-9 pm. Parish prayers to be held at the funeral home on Friday afternoon at 4 pm. Those wishing may make a memorial donation by cheque to the Canadian Cancer Society or to a charity of choice. Condolences received at www.MacCoubrey.com

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Birthday

STAN, STAN
The Real Estate Man...
WIFTY, NIFTY
NOW IS 50



STAN CHAPMAN

Please join us for
this celebration on
Sat., October 18th, 2008
Colborne Legion
Best Wishes Only
Diane, Nicole, Alicia & Caleb

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