

The Grimsby Lincoln News' FOCUS ON LINCOLN



A helping lift

Beamsville's Royal Canadian Legion, Centennial Branch 612, donated a wheelchair and presented a cheque for \$200 to West Lincoln Memorial Hospital last week. From left, David Bird, CAO; Cheryl Colton, Clinical Services, John Pundyk, Branch 612 president, and Colin Harrison, 1st VP.

MPP Hudak asks for tax cuts

Tim Hudak, Conservative MPP and the province's Minister of Northern Mines and Development, sent a letter to Liberal MP John Maloney asking him to stand up and fight for his constituents and fight for income tax cuts. "It's high time Finance Minister Paul Martin to follow the Ontario example, which has proven that tax cuts create jobs," said Mr. Hudak.

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On tour

Vineland School students Jacob Patterson, right, and Colton Lawrie together with teacher Martine Robinson, listen as Canada's national librarian Roch Carrier cheers for the Montreal Canadiens as he reads his book 'The Hockey Sweater,' at the Moses F. Rittenhouse Library in Vineland Jan. 28. The visit was one of several to Canadian libraries since his appointment last October. See story Page 2.

Development proposal for must wait for permit

The owners of Kew Vineyards got a little ahead of themselves when they started to develop land in Beamsville before a permit was issued. The land, located on Reg. Rd. 81, is across from Bill Perrin Motors. Reports of land being bulldozed prompted a visit to the site by the Niagara Escarpment Commission,

said Martin Kilian, NEC planner. "There is an application for a development permit to the Niagara Escarpment Commission to put up a building but it has not been approved," said Mr. Kilian. The application is for a 27,000 sq. ft. building to be used for grape production -- grape crushing and storage of juice.

The agent for Kew Vineyards, Tom Smart of BLS Planning Associates was contacted by the commission last week and said he would advise his client. No formal reply has been received. "We see a good possibility that the permit will be granted but they have to develop a grading plan and we need to regulate what they are

doing," said Mr. Kilian. "Our concern is whether or not there will be problems with water flooding the road or the property north of the road." There has been no final word on the proposal from the Town of Lincoln. "We have heard from the Region who didn't have any objections to the permit," said Mr. Kilian.

For Our Community

Feb. 29 closure date looms for Nipponia

Unless there is intervention, Nipponia Home will have its doors closed by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care on Feb. 29. The closure of the 40-year-old home for elderly Japanese Canadians, was slated for last spring when its board of directors decided that there were too many problems associated with bringing the home into compliance with the Ministry's 1994 Long-Term Care Act. The National Association of Japanese Canadians, Toronto chapter, has formed a committee to save Nipponia Home, giving a voice to the family members of the handful

of remaining residents of the home. The board of directors has refused to rescind the decision. Appeals to Minister of Health Elizabeth Witmer have been ignored in spite of her solid endorsement of the home just two years ago as a "model", said Mia Tsugi, chair of the NAJC Save Nipponia Home Committee. Ms. Tsugi believes the home is viable but the committee is in need of financial support if it is to continue its efforts to save the home. They are looking for a lawyer who will act for them *pro bono*.

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COMMENT

Editorial Campaign "crippled"

After a year of hard fundraising for a wheelchair accessible playground, local volunteers would like to make 2000 the year it's installed. The Friends of Senator Gibson have raised over \$37,000 towards the \$70,000 cost of such a playground, which will be accessible to the entire community, but located at Senator Gibson Public School near other sports fields. The campaign has been "crippled" from the start by the fact that the playground will be located on school board property. For some reason, some groups and individuals have felt they shouldn't support the project. While Ford of Canada, who don't own property in Beamsville, to our knowledge, immediately kicked in \$10,000 towards the project, most of Beamsville's service clubs haven't even answered letters from the group seeking assistance. It's a shame to see this fundraising project "disabled" by petty politics over where the playground will be located. Let's put that behind us, and help these hardworking and persevering ladies put their fundraising campaign behind them. We'd like nothing more than to feature a picture of a person, group or business making a large donation towards this effort on our front page next week. Only you can make that happen. If you can help, Phone Shelly at 563-5994 or Laurie at 563-6521.