



Against the odds

PAT WOODE

The new year has arrived and with it new hope for a better future. Since 1981, the Year of Disabled Persons, many barriers to participation in community life have been broken down. Looking back on 1986, a major step was taken when the Ontario government implemented a new building code that will ensure that all new buildings, excluding high hazard industrial areas and private dwellings, will have barrier free access. The impact of this legislation will not be felt immediately but will have far reaching effects. More accessible apartment units should be available and accessible washrooms will be a must.

Lobby groups were successful in pressuring the Ontario legislature to pass Bill 7. When it is proclaimed employers, service providers and landlords will no longer be exempt from a duty to accommodate the special needs of people with disabilities. The new provision requires accommodation unless to do so would require undue hardship with regard to cost or safety factors. To ensure that accommodations are made, the government is proposing that an "Undue Hardship Fund" be established to assist the respondent

in making the necessary modifications to his premises.

For deaf or hard of hearing telephone users, October 14 was a day to celebrate as the Canadian Radio and Television Commission ordered Bell Canada to provide a 24 hour message relay service across Ontario and Quebec. Until now someone using a telephone deaf device could only communicate with another person with a similar machine. A central office will pass messages on between the hearing impaired and others.

A new mental health clinic was established by the Canadian Hearing Society and the government introduced a program to fund 75 per cent of the cost of dentistry for children with cleft lip or palate.

The Assistive Devices Program was extended to persons of 22 years of age and to all persons who require prosthetic or respiratory equipment. An Integrated Homemaker Program was introduced and extra billing was banned.

On the local front, chronic care beds were approved for the Bennett Health Care Centre, the March of Dimes introduced an Attendant Care Program, a literacy program for North Halton was initiated and Kriska Mobility Products and Tyson Health Care Centre opened their doors to service individuals needing aids and devices.

On the personal front no one should forget the 1986 achievements of Richard Beercoft and Rick Hansen.



KIDDY-CAR - Ian Hutchinson's kiddy-car. Ian Hutchinson and his kiddy-car were at the International World of Motorcycles Show. The show was at the International Centre in Milton one week ago. (Photo by Peter Haggerty)

Making tracks

The oldest guy you've ever seen in a kiddy-car, is ready to hit the track again.

That's the self-description used by Ian Hutchinson, one of a handful of Ontario superkart drivers who race at Sloopers Park.

"It helps to blow away the cobwebs on weekends," says Hutchinson, who visited the recent International World of Motorcycles Show at Mississauga's International Centre to promote his sport.

Currently there are nine racers who participate in an annual five race series. Last year the event was sponsored by Becker's. Participants aren't sure who this year's sponsor will be but they are sure there'll be a series.

The same people who bring you the Queens Annual Calendar least now bring you their best annual.

"QUEEN OF HEARTS" DANCE
February 14th - 8 p.m.
at Holy Cross Church

For tickets please call:
Alex Trenton 877-2359
David Asher 877-5206
Ken Alger 877-2266
or contact any Queens member

County roads neglected claims former farmer

A half mile stretch of Tenth Lane between Sideroad 17 and the CNR crossing has never been graded or diked, said a former farmer of the area, last week.

James Clark of RIE Norval told councillors he and several other landowners and users of that bit of road want it brought up to municipal standards.

The request was referred to the town budget committee for consideration, with another request for an engineering department report on the cost of updating the road.

The CNR put several loads of stone fill on this road 27 years ago, Mr. Clark said. They put the stone to the railway crossing, and since then, they're the only ones maintaining the road.

"I've farmed there since the 1930s so I have a pretty good idea of what hasn't been done," Mr. Clark said.

He noted his taxes on 100 acres have gone up substantially over the years, from \$100 in 1966 to \$1,255 in 1986.

Coun. Peter Norton said this road is an example of many in town that also need ditching and culverts.

Coun. Pam Sheldon said the rural roads situation has developed over many years, and is in part due to

cutbacks in provincial subsidies and tight town budgets.

An old hand

It helps to have an old hand at politics on your side when it comes to dealing with government.

Former Acton councillor Dave Whiting cautioned Georgetown Chamber of Commerce members to submit their application for a grant right now without delay.

Mr. Whiting said if a grant request isn't sent to town council immediately, it won't be considered for the 1987 budget.

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Sports

Bantams edged 5-4

Last Wednesday Chateau Restaurant Minor Bantam "AA" team travelled to Flamboro for their first encounter of the New Year.

The locals completely outplayed Flamboro over the final 15 minutes, however, their rally was too late.

After a scoreless first period Flamboro struck for four goals in the second to take a 4-2 lead.

Dale McNiven opened the scoring for Georgetown with Rod Pasma and Rich Bond drawing assists.

Pasma scored on a low slap shot from the point with Bond assisting.

Flamboro scored early in the third period to take a 5-2 lead but the locals fought back with two goals.

Pasma scored on an end to end

rush, deking each defender and the goalie out of their you know what, and closed the gap to 5-3. Wade Serjeantson assisted.

Craig Cooper broke around the Flamboro defence but his shot was stopped however Bond who was following up the play knocked in the rebound. Cooper earned an assist.

In the final minute of play Pasma's shot hit the post and Flamboro hung on to register a 5-4 victory.

Minor Peewees smother Oakville

Thursday, Jan. 8 the Georgetown Minor Peewees smothered Oakville 9-2. Our boys passed crisply, head-manned the puck, screened the opposition and controlled the game from start to finish. Steve Wright led the attack with a hat-trick, the first two goals scored while Georgetown was shorthanded. Greg Dobbin scored two goals with singles going to Chris Barrow, Ken Kosziwka, Jake Mashinter and Jeff Wright. Assists went to Tim Presswood with two, Stean Curry two, Ryan Kurnell, Jake Mashinter two, Ryan Pells, Andrew Elliott three, Jeff Wright and Ken Kosziwka. Tommy Dardichuk played well in the Georgetown goal.

Skiing workshop

The recreation and parks department is hosting a cross country skiing workshop Jan. 17 at the Jack Smyth Field Centre, Terra Cotta from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. This workshop is designed for beginner skiers and also for skiers who would like to upgrade their present skills. It will cover topics such as correction detection and ski safety and etiquette.

A second workshop will take place on Sunday, Jan. 18 for families who would like to bring their children.

You will need to bring your own ski equipment and waxes and be sure to dress warmly and in layers. Registration is limited so register right away. Call 877-5185 ext. 269.

RENT REVIEW UPDATE FROM THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING

Important message to tenants and landlords of rental units first occupied after 1975.

The Residential Rent Regulation Act, 1986, extends the protection of rent review to cover *all* tenants in private rental units in Ontario. This includes buildings, mobile homes and mobile home sites first occupied as rental units after 1975.

In the past, tenants living in units which first came on the market after 1975 - post-75 units - were not protected by rent review. Under the new legislation, tenants living in post-75 units are now protected by rent review along with all other tenants in private rental units in Ontario.

As well, the provisions extending rent review to cover post-75 units are *retroactive* to August 1, 1985.

This means that the four per cent Guideline which was in place from August 1, 1985, to December 31, 1986, applied to post-75 units during this period.

Thus, landlords who charged tenants of post-75 units more than the four per cent Guideline during this period must now justify those rent increases or refund to tenants the difference between four per cent and the higher amount charged.

Tenants in post-75 units: do not make immediate deductions from your rent.

For the present, tenants living in post-75 units should pay the amount requested in the notice by their landlord until the matter is resolved through rent review.

Under no circumstances should tenants make immediate deductions from their rent cheques because an illegal deduction could lead to eviction by the Courts.

Tenants in post-75 units: obtaining a rent rebate.

- If the landlord of a post-75 unit has not made an application to rent review by March 2, 1987, the tenant is entitled to a rebate of rents paid above the 4 per cent Guideline between August 1, 1985, and December 31, 1986.
- If the landlord does not voluntarily pay the tenant the rebate owing, the tenant is advised to file an application with the local Rent Review Office for an order requiring the landlord to pay the rebate.
- If the tenant is *certain* of the amount of the rebate, the tenant may deduct the amount from a rent cheque.

Requirements for landlords of post-75 units.

- Landlords who have charged tenants more than the 4 per cent Guideline from August 1, 1985, to December 31, 1986, have until March 2, 1987, to apply to rent review to justify these rent increases.
- To apply, a landlord must file an application form and supporting information with the local Rent Review Office, showing that the rent increases were justified.
- Landlords who apply to justify these rent increases must give a copy of their application to all of their tenants within 10 days of applying. Tenants are entitled to examine all the materials filed and to make submissions to the local Rent Review Office.
- Landlords who do not apply to rent review on or before March 2, 1987, must rebate excess rents charged to tenants between August 1, 1985, and December 31, 1986.

Landlords of post-75 units who have already served notice of a rent increase above the 1987 Guideline:

Under the new legislation, the Rent Review Guideline for the year 1987 is 4.2 per cent.

Some landlords of post-75 units have already served tenants with notice of a rent increase effective on or after January 1, 1987, which exceeds the 5.2 per cent Guideline.

These landlords also have until March 2, 1987, to apply to rent review for approval of a 1987 rent increase above the 5.2 per cent Guideline.

If the landlord applies to rent review, tenants will receive a copy of the application and be given a full opportunity to participate in the rent review process.

If the landlord does not apply to rent review and the time period for doing so expires, the landlord must rebate the difference between 5.2 per cent and the higher amount charged during 1987.

Ministry of Housing Ontario
Hon. Alvin Curling, Minister

For more information, call toll-free 1-800-387-9060, or phone your local Rent Review Office:

Barrie (705) 737-2111	Ottawa (613) 230-5114	METROPOLITAN TORONTO
Hamilton (416) 528-8701	Owen Sound (519) 376-3202	City of Toronto (416) 964-8284
Kingston (613) 548-6770	Peterborough (705) 743-9511	East York (416) 429-0664
Kitchener (519) 579-5790	St. Catharines (416) 684-6562	Etobicoke (416) 236-2681
London (519) 673-1660	Sudbury (705) 675-4373	North York (416) 224-7643
Mississauga (416) 270-3280	Thunder Bay (807) 475-1595	Scarborough (416) 438-3452
North Bay (705) 476-4231	Timmins (705) 264-9555	
Oshawa (416) 723-8135	Windsor (519) 253-3532	

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