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Province holds off on greenbelt legislation

By DONNA DANIELLI

Opponents to the province's proposed greenbelt legislation breathed a sigh of relief this last week as the current moratorium on development in the Greenbelt Study Area was extended for another three months. The freeze on new development within the 720,000 hectares of environmental and agricultural land from Niagara to Peterborough began last December and was scheduled to come to an end on December 16, with the expected legislation being tabled to permanently place these lands under the province's protection. "We've heard that we need more time to get this right and we've listened," said Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing John Gerretsen. "This legislation extends the current freeze on new development in the study area while we continue working on the draft legislation and plan for permanent greenbelt protection in the Golden Horseshoe."

The province's amendment to the Greenbelt Protection Act will extend the development freeze until March 9, 2005, allowing

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Deidre opens new hospice room at Milton District Hospital

By ANN KORNUA

Staying in the hospital can be rough at the best of times and a real ordeal for those who suffer from terminal illnesses. To take some of the stress out of the long term care of these individuals, Milton District Hospital along with the Lions Club and the Deidre and Friends Foundation dedicated a new hospice room at an official opening December 8. This facility located directly inside the hospital will care for the emotional and physical needs of the terminally ill. This room provides privacy and the same basic needs that living at home would give, with the safety and medical attention one gets in hospital.

"Tonight has come true after two years of trying to raise enough funds for a hospice room for Milton District Hospital," Clem Scholtz, father of Deidre Scholtz and Director of the Deidre and Friends Foundation said. "We got together with our good friends in the Lions Club in Milton, in the early part of April of

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PHOTO BY ANN KORNUA

Captain Bill Blackman and his puppy Huxley at the Salvation Army's Toy Drive. See story on page 25.

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