

Grade 7 student, wins Canada-wide contest

A modeling career may be in the future for a Milton youth.

Grade 7 W.I. Dick School student Rachel Freer was recently announced as a winner in a Canada-wide model search.

Rachel won the age 8 to 12 category for the area with a photograph taken at the Square One Glamour Shots location.

She will attend a reception, where she will be invited to participate in interviews with Canadian modeling agencies.

The next step of the competi-

tion is entry at the national level with a potential \$10,000 prize.

Rachel enjoys performing on stage and was seen in a production at Stage West Dinner Theatre over Christmas.

More recently, she performed at Meadowvale Theatre with Justus' 'Live on Stage' show.

Her next performance will be at the John Elliot Theatre in Georgetown with Arabesque Studio of Dance and Theatre Arts.



Rachel Freer

Brooks not impressed with parts of program

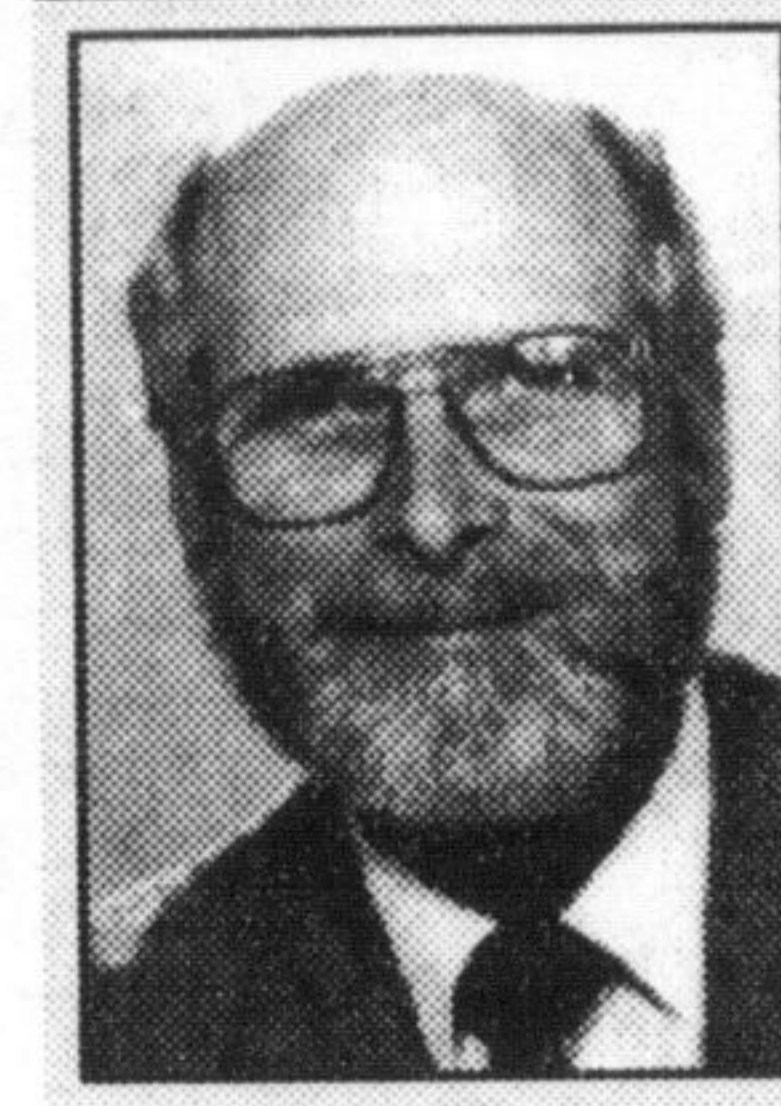
By BRAD REAUME

The Champion

All homes in rural Milton, including those in hamlets, will be getting new emergency numbers this summer.

The idea is to provide quick identification of rural homes, which usually don't have numbers on them. It has led to confusion at times in the past for emergency services.

Town council clarified its position recently, saying the program will be paid for through a special levy on rural residents only.



Wants exemption for hamlets and rural estate subdivisions.

GERRY BROOKS

It's not the first time council has pushed for the signs, citing a pressing safety issue. But it is the first time the program has been made mandatory.

Those people who have already voluntarily put up signs will be eligible for a \$20 rebate.

Campbellville Councillor Gerry Brooks' attempt to have hamlets and rural estate subdivisions exempted from posting the signs fell on deaf ears. He argued that those areas are essentially the same as more urban parts of Milton.

System exists

Mr. Brooks said perfectly adequate house numbering system already exists in areas such as Campbellville, and also noted that the new emergency signs are to be on five foot posts.

In the village proper, he believes residents will find them unsightly as well as unnecessary.

Mel Iovio, Milton's director of planning, said rural signs will be standardized while the style urban house numbers are still up to the taste of the homeowner, provided they are visible from the street in daylight.

Councillor John Challinor said any area that is outside the urban core of Milton is essentially rural in nature. He pointed to the poor rate in which homeowners erected the signs in defence of making it mandatory.

Nassagaweya Councillor Barry Lee said it is better to err on the side of caution because the numbering issue is essentially one of safety.

"I always understood that hamlets were included in the revised numbering system," said Mr. Lee. "The goal is to make the signs consistent and the community safer. Not doing the hamlets would defeat that purpose."

Mr. Iovio said that advertisements will direct people who previously erected the signs as to how to claim their refunds. Refunds will likely be available until the end of the year.

Mr. Brooks indicated that residents who complied with the initial call to obtain rural house numbers purchased them for as much as \$45.

Even with the \$20 rebate to cover the anticipated property tax increase that will finance the program, those people lose money.

Total cost \$63,000

Council heard the total cost of the program is estimated at \$63,000. While a tender call has not yet been issued, staff said they expect a cost of about \$15 for each sign and post, added to labour and administration costs.

Mr. Brooks said after the meeting that he favoured a user pay approach to funding the sign program. He said those without signs should be charged for them, rather than funding the program through an increase in the rural property tax.

The program would still be mandatory, he stressed, but there would be no tax hike and associated red tape.

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