

Special 'bike road' may be built

An experimental one-mile rural road section, complete with a bicycle lane, could be built this year in Peel, if regional council follows recommendations from its planning and public works commissioners.

The move would not, however, be a commitment on the part of the regional government to build or fund bicycle paths.

In a report, public works commissioner Bill Anderson and planning commissioner Peter Allen recommend that such responsibilities be left with local municipal governments and that bike paths be kept away from major regional roads.

Their report to the region's planning committee came in response to both Brampton and Mississauga backing of a pro-bicycle-path stand taken last year by the regional transit committee.

The committee called for bicycles to be regarded on equal terms with automobiles; for future road and sidewalk planning to include rights of bike riders and wheelchair users; and for the region to plan its roads with bicycle rights of way included.

The commissioners' report, however, argued that bicycles should not be considered as equal to autos, but rather as a "special means of transportation."

Whether attached directly to or built separately alongside a roadway, bicycle paths will prove an expensive feature with costs ranging from \$5,000 to \$100,000 a mile, depending on the area.

The commissioners reasoned that regional roads are generally major arterial routes, and for this reason bicycle rights-of-way should not be planned for these roads, but kept on local roads.

If a bicycle right-of-way is to be built along a regional road, they recommend that the cost be carried by the local municipality.

They also advised that the Ontario Ministry of Transportation and Communications be petitioned to approve, as a subsidized expense, construction of bike paths as part of the shoulder of regular roads.

Prices at a glance

This comparison of prices at Mississauga supermarkets is a regular Times feature. This week's offering:

Red Rose Tea, 60 two-cup size: Dominion, Clarkson Road Plaza, Clarkson Rd., \$1.09 (month ago, 99 cents); A & P, Centennial Plaza, Lorne Park Rd., \$1.09 (99 cents); Food City, Dundas and Highway 10, \$1.09 (99 cents); Safeway, Dundas and Highway 10, \$1.09 (99 cents); Red & White, Lorne Park Rd., \$1.17 (99 cents); Miracle Mart, Erindale Station Rd. & Dundas, \$1.09; Loblaw's, Lakeshore Rd. and Highway 10, \$1.09.

Nestle Taster's Choice instant freeze-dried coffee, 4 oz.: Dominion, \$1.57; A & P, \$1.59; Food City, \$1.57; Safeway, \$1.57; Red & White, \$1.39; Miracle Mart, \$1.57; Loblaw's, \$1.57.

Kraft Canadian Cheese Slices, 1 lb.: In all shops visited, price was \$1.25 except Dominion, \$1.15 and Red & White, \$1.39.

Green Giant Corn Niblets, 12 oz.: In all stores visited, price was 38 cents except Red & White and A & P, where it was 41 cents.



John and Myrtle Taylor, with four of their eight children, from left Russell, Cheryl, Vincent and Lorraine.

The objective: happy memories

"At Christmas time, many people donate monies to feed and bring happiness to less fortunate families, but what happens to these same people the rest of the year?" asks John Taylor, founder of the Children's Club of Toronto.

Taylor, a resident of Mississauga for six months, feels children should have good memories of their childhood, and is working toward that objective by trying to organize a Children's Club of Mississauga.

"I think there are enough people in Mississauga who could do something for less fortunate children, particularly those children of low-income families who don't have the opportunity to ski or skate or go to exhibitions at the CNE or Maple Leaf Gardens," Taylor explains. Through the Children's Club of Toronto, Taylor, who is on a disability pension, his wife Myrtle, and fellow workers took children to the Ice Follies, the Ice Capades, the circus and the CNE stock car races.

Up to 400 children enjoyed these events and Taylor feels the need is just as great in Mississauga.

"Although we do have the Children's Aid and the Big Brothers here, that's not enough to go around," he says.

"What we need is effort—not money—people who are willing to spend a few hours a month with these children, offering them friendship, fellowship and love."

One of the high points of Taylor's Toronto club came in 1972 when Mayor William Dennison declared one day as "Children's Day" in honor of the club.

"I once wrote to Prime Minister

Trudeau asking for him to declare a Children's Day in Canada, but received no response at all."

However, Taylor has found residents of Mississauga to be very friendly and with their help regarding facilities in the area, he believes such a program can be successful here.

"To start with, I'd like to get some interested people and needy children together to discuss such things as what we could do to help them, what the children would like and where we could meet on a permanent basis," Taylor says.

Once the club is formed, Taylor hopes sponsors can be found to donate equipment, such as baseballs and bats. At the Toronto club, donations of toys brightened Christmas for many children, along with Christmas parties, but Taylor stresses time and caring are really what is needed.

"The children aren't hard to contact," he says. "Mainly, they're from low-income or broken families, up to about 15 years of age."

Taylor's interest stems from his own less-than-idyllic childhood, in addition to his love of children. When he married Myrtle, he became an instant father of eight children, four of whom still live at home.

"We have a lot of fun with them and I hope we're offering them everything we can," Taylor says.

Taylor hopes the Christmas spirit of brotherly love will not be put aside for the remainder of the year and asks that anyone interested in the Children's Club of Mississauga call him at 270-0426.

SHERIDAN UNCERTAINTY Financial outlook remains foggy

Sheridan College is still in the dark about how much money it's going to get from the Ontario government next year, despite recently announced funding arrangements that promise at least an 11 percent increase over this year's operating grant.

Colleges and universities minister James Auld announced just before Christmas a plan, recommended by the Council of Regents, to distribute funds among the province's 22 community colleges.

Firemen kept busy

Mississauga firefighters responded to 19 calls over the weekend. One of them was a house fire at 2407 Woking Cres., believed caused when a pot was left too long on a hot stove.

The fire burned itself out in the kitchen, leaving some smoke damage.

In another incident, two children, aged 8 and 9 are believed to have started a fire in the lockerroom of an apartment building at 1485 Williamsport Dr. There was smoke and water damage.

Each college will receive an 11 percent increase over its 1974-75 operating grant to compensate for the impact of inflation and the remaining funds will be distributed among colleges according to their enrolment growth between 1973-74 and 1974-75.

This arrangement could give Sheridan, which serves the Peel and Halton regions, more than the average 15.4 percent increase announced by Auld in November.

Enrolment at the college was up this year by more than nine percent and it is in one of the fastest growth colleges in the province.

But Sheridan president Jack Porter refuses to speculate. "I think our growth this year was greater than many other colleges,"

he says, "but the enrolment audits have not been tabulated yet by all the colleges. Every college is a different size and we don't know whether the government is going to distribute the funds according to real growth or relative growth."

Even the amount Sheridan will get from the 11 percent flat increase is unknown, he says. "It depends on enrolment and that's still being determined."

Sheridan has a yearly opening budget of from \$9 to \$10 million, which includes money from government grants, fees and other sources.

"I just haven't the foggiest notion how much money we're going to get," says Porter. And he's not all that

enthusiastic about the amount that will come in addition to the flat 11 percent increase.

"What's left over is not a great deal so it's not going to make much difference anyway."

Gus Ryder to turn 76

Gus Ryder, of Mississauga, swimming instructor to physically and mentally handicapped children for most of his 75 years, will celebrate another birthday in January.

Ryder will spend his 76th

birthday playing handball and swimming at the West End YMCA. Following that, he and his wife, Phyllis, are travelling to Florida where they will soak up the warm sun, along with what else — swimming every day.

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