



Terry McQuilly

The Circus Came to Town! The Peterborough Academy of Circus Arts paid a visit to the Warsaw Arena last Wednesday to teach some children the secrets of the trade. Pictured above Shar put on a little hula hoop demonstration. More pictures on page 6.

Trent Lakes Library looking for more provincial funds

BY **MARK A. HELSING**

The Trent Lakes Public Library Committee requested council consider a motion that requests more money to put their budget in line with the Ontario Library Association and Ontario Public Libraries. This motion reflects many Ontario Municipal governments' concerns about the decrease in money for public libraries across the province. Ontario students are losing access to libraries and library based resources.

The above mentioned organizations highlighted that libraries are necessary to sustain education, lower poverty and foster community economic development. They also stressed the necessity of allowing First Nations to promote libraries in their local communities where education opportunities are limited and

scarce. They noted that Government money is far below what is necessary to maintain an innovative library system across Ontario. Municipal governments are responsible for roughly 97 per cent of library budgets. Four per cent of government money for libraries comes by way of grant. There has been no increase in percentage of funding from upper tier governments in 20 years. Libraries have, as a result relied only through local taxes that continue to rise in response to library costs.

The Trent Lakes Public Library Committee stated that it is a valuable "community asset and the 20 year freeze from the province must end. We provide the people of Trent Lakes with more than books. We have a successful story time program that helps devel-

op a love of books at a young age as well as provides families with a safe space to get together. We help train seniors to become computer literate enough to manage in today's society. We also provide internet access to all in the community."

Trent Lakes Municipal Council noted the importance of lobbying to get more money from the government for the local Public Library.

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