

# Mrs. Hanna, turned 88, has wealth of local knowledge

With quiet dignity, Rockwood's eighty-eight year birthday lady, Mrs. Margaret Hanna, of Main Street, discussed some of the early 1900 highlights of the sleepy village as it was then. Born in Guelph Township's Paisley Block, Mrs. Hanna came to her present home with her widowed mother when she was nine years old.

Her knowledge of Rockwood's history is still fresh and delightful.

She recalls skating on the river for winter fun, with indoor

skating facilities provided at what was called the Rockwood Skating Rink, in part of the building which is now the Schneider's Candy Factory. "We used to do our own snow shovelling on the river then," she said, "and, on the ice by the Ferris's Mill, which is now torn down, there were sometimes as many as 50 girls and boys skating together on a frozen clearing which they had worked on themselves with their own snow shovels and brooms.

"We could skate right up the

river to Rockwood Village proper," she recalled, referring to the earlier days prior to moving to Rockwood with her mother. At that time she had lived in a big double house by the Henderson's Chopping Mill which was one of four homes in that particular vicinity at that time. "Before my parents lived there" said the delightful Mrs. Hanna, the mill was called the William Ferris's Mill and there was then, a big hotel and three houses. Later, the Hotel was divided into a double house and it's of interesting note that one half of this double house was occupied by the Gerows, the grandfather and mother of Mrs. Ben Hosking who now resides on the Eden Mills Road and back from this was the John Ferris Home.

With the exception of the four years of her early married life when she and her husband purchased the farm on the far extension of Gzowski Street which, until a few years ago belonged to Paul Frank, Mrs. Hanna has resided in her mother's home on Main Street.

Her only daughter, Gladys Hanna, resides with her in a home filled with lovely antique rockers and early Rockwood charm. She can tell you about village changes and is particularly aware of its growth remembering when there was only one house above the railroad track on the same side of the street where her present home is located.

"With the growth of the village, a great deal of the warmth and neighborliness has gone," said Mrs. Hanna, recalling the days when she knew everyone in Rockwood and could drop in on them anytime, "but" she said, "Now I am lucky if I know one in ten."

Mrs. Hanna was considered by those who knew her then, along with the late Mrs. William Harris, mother of the late Edgar Harris, to be one of the backbone of the Rockwood Women's Institute; with Mrs. Harris as president, Mrs. Hanna was the secretary-treasurer for a number of years. An ardent church worker, she was the treasurer of the Presbyterian Sunday School before she came to the United Church and even today, her signature is still required on all cheques dealing with Sunday School finances.

"Mother was also secretary-treasurer of the Red Cross for the Rockwood area during World War One," said her daughter proudly and Mrs. Hanna remembers when she and her own mother knitted over 500 pairs of socks at that time, to send overseas, along with shirts and bandages.

With amazing retention of local knowledge, Mrs. Hanna's friendly warmth, and the wisdom she imparts, makes her a delight to visit, and it was these qualities which attracted numerous birthday visitors over last weekend to celebrate her birthday on Saturday, November 29 and the flowers, bouquets, and cards she received were sent from friends and neighbors because of great affection and regard.

# Rockwood News



COLORFUL CERAMICS were shown at the Swing-a-Ding Friday by Cathy Meek. Six hundred thronged into the school for the happy evening. (Photo by Lorraine)

# Endeavorists are well launched with \$100 for river-clean up raised at Swing-a-Ding

Beautifully made with hand cut paper artists, festive choir boys, created by Mrs. Mary Love, enhanced the doorway to the Centennial School last Friday night, for the Rockwood Swing-a-Ding. It was fun, it was exciting, it was upswing, and above all, it was good.

Fellowship and community spirit reigned supreme as the huzzared efforts of the Rockwood Anti Pollution Endeavorists came to life under the efficient organizational abilities of Mrs. Betty Lou Clark who correlated displays and allotted room and hall space to 22 exhibits of everything from Oriental Art displayed and applied by Dr. Anthony A. Kingswote, to rug making on the spot by Mrs. Myrtle DeVries and Mrs. Arthur Lewis.

Elizabeth Gray added culture and charm to the entrance of the School when she combed and spun wool on her own spinning wheel Grace Myhill, and Elizabeth Aiden, cosmetician from the new Huth's Pharmacy in Guelph, was topical as she created "eye appeal" with tubes of make up, plastic cases, and brushes, as her only utensils.

Ray Death was on hand to show continual movies of various Rockwood parades. Slot car racing was an exciting attraction with Richard Andrew, Steve Shultz, Bill McKee, and John Clark Jr., participating.

Emily Alton gave a quilting demonstration and the Rockwood Trail Riders had Babe Ellis and Jean Pettitt representing and telling about their trophy display.

Don Hills' ideas of Rockwood scenery created interest and Walter Hunt had his own special table of hand crafted miniature steam locomotives, bric-a-brac, and log cabin lamps. Cathy Meek's ceramics showing was delightful and attractive along with Arlene Kingswell's ceramic achievements. Furniture refinishing by John Clark, school children's art exhibited by Miss Wilhelm, and the old manuscripts owned by Albert Schweitzer were all of tremendous interest to spectators.

Mr. and Mrs. Tony Newman, the new proprietors of the Blue Springs Nursery, were there with their greenhouse exhibits of colorful and beautifully arranged floral settings from the new Eramosa Flower Mart, and during the latter part of the evening presented gifts of bouquets to various stage performers and project conveners, as their contribution to the even greater success of the Swing-A-Ding.

Harvey Tuffin of the Rockwood Rockery had his special representative in the person of Mrs. Pat Laws of Guelph who brought elegant pieces of antique glass and chinaware including, as one special attraction, a precious "Come with the Wind" table lamp.

Betty Lou Clark set up her potter's wheel and, with clay to her elbows, showed how a novice "does her own thing". Don Stewart displayed the Treens and Tule, Mrs. Bolton and Rick Seim showed their stamp collection, and Paul Keele, one of the area's finest young painters, made his Rockwood debut with his display of sketching, oils, and acrylics. Jim Muir and Paul Waddell were also on hand representing the O.W.R.C. distributing pamphlets and brochures on pollution.

The scheduled 8 p.m. opening time of the Friday, November 28 event was started at an hour closer to 7.30 p.m. as curious and interested spectators arrived ahead of schedule and the 9.15 time limit set for the Stage Show made the hour and one-half time allotment too brief to absorb and enjoy the entire catalogue of projects on exhibit.

A coffee house, organized by Mary Love with some of the Grade Eight girls was delightful as cabaret tables were set up in the school gymnasium and, as approximately 600 spectators and participators congregated to watch the platform performances, many of them drank coffee as they waited for them to begin.

The stage show was great!

Adept Burt Baum, a young Toronto celebrity who has recently taken up his abode in Rockwood, was the co-ordinator and Master of Ceremonies of such top line talent as Penny Jackson, a local dancing instructor; Henry Leachman and his wife, who combined the piano and harmonica to raise a terrific audience ovation, and T.D. McCutcheon, a singer of Scottish songs providing his inimitable take-offs of Sir Harry Lauder improvisations.

Nancy Meek played the accordion after Mrs. Mac Milne had provided her audience with two recitations. Brenda and Trudy Smith, two young fifteen and ten year old school girls sang folk songs to the accompaniment of their own guitar and banjo, and June Thompson and Rob Sinclair, were also folk singers for the evening.

"One of the biggest hits of the entire show was a quartet of young boys who called themselves the Rockwood Philharmonic. They thrilled the audience with renditions of jazz and Dixie land including in their group Blair Sinclair, Jim Gordon, Peter Border, and Dave Brown.

Rockwood's talented young pianist Peter Laude delighted everyone with Chopin's Military Polonaise. Joyce Carpenter of the Acton School of Dance, accompanied by her star teaching assistant Marianne Coles, and Bonnie Brewster, were heartily applauded and received and to complete the show, Village resident Pat Mitchell added her special charm when, accompanied by Burt Baum, she sang "Summer-time" and her audience melted.

Moneywise the Swing-A-Ding endeavor wasn't a financial whizz but with give-aways, take-aways, and warm Christian fellowship, it was, according to many spectators, "One of the most terrific things that has happened in this village for a long time."

Deducting expenses, approximately \$100 will be applied to the kitty towards the R.A.P.E. sum of cleaning up the local river swimming area for the Rockwood children next summer.

The behind scene co-ordinators included Darryl Nichol, Ray Death, Wayne Anderson, the St. John's Anglican Church Jr. Auxiliary girls who provided free baby sitting services, and the young boys who participated in the gymnast display under the direction of Bob Lowe whose general co-operation and know-how went a long way towards making the first goal of the enterprising group a reality and a tremendous success.

Rockwood's Anti Pollution Endeavorists have been launched!

# News and views

By LORRAINE

## TRUTHS AND NONSENSE

"Sorry, my dear, can't go to your party, I haven't a wig to wear!"

What's with this wig bit anyway? Used to be that dresses were the big requirement for special occasions, but not now-a-days. If you don't have at least one wig or hair piece stashed away, you are dead, girl, and you're simply not with it.

Even scrubbing the floor is not too lowly a job at which to look positively pooh. Somehow though, there's just something about sloshing around in running shoes and dungarees with a high fashion coiffure, that seems a bit birdy to me, but there is a transformation aspect however.

Now, instead of lazy matrons patronizing the laundromats, come an early Monday morning, sporting the latest in pompadour hair nets, with protruding pink plastic hair curlers, she can look quite ravishing from the neck up, as an exotic blond, brunette, or redhead. Of course, there is always the danger of getting her hair caught in the wanger and what could be worse than seeing a \$50.00 wig piece after it had been wrung out in an automatic extractor.

Me, I've always disliked the appearance of hair curlers anyway, although they were a definite improvement on the old pin curler days when early morning housewives, out to unfurl their masculine swan, went around looking not unlike Ubangi natives only, minus the safety pins in their extended lips.

Variety store department heads tell us that old wigs are great for keeping children occupied for hours and in fact, the cheaper \$5.00 ones make wonderful Christmas gifts for children between the ages of 4 to 6, who are just learning about cowboys and scalping and all that. Very creative and artistic too, they do wonders for stair newel posts or, suspended on brooms and stuck up fast from behind chesterfields they could scare away unwanted visitors or relatives. Maybe even a dash of wig on the floor, my dear, could inspire new trends in small animal floor rugs thus bringing down the exorbitant cost of those gorgeous white bear varieties. Old, discarded wigs could even be used as foot warmers, if sewn up properly, or for wal-ing backwards downstairs. Even.


But seriously they are fun, really. I was in the laundromat the other day and watched a cute little chick slaving over a washing machine pulling out the clothes which were very heavy. She had three loads to disengage of the burdensome things and, after each machine, she became slightly less beguiling than before. She had on a heavy winter jacket and the laundromat manager had been considerate enough to leave the heat turned up to 73 degrees, and so, by number three machine load, I was astounded to see this glamorous little morsel of femininity get quite furious and just push her whole scalp right back on the top of her head. It dropped on the floor with great gusto and she grabbed at her cranium and, looking at her amazed audience screamed, "Well, what are you looking at, it was getting so doggoned itchy." And with that she began scratching furiously.

At this point everyone was trying to pretend they weren't there feeling somewhat as if they had walked into the high school pool room only to find that it was the boys' turn to be there. Nobody likes to see anyone caught barefoot, but this very cute girl suddenly giggled and laughed at the utter calamity of the situation. Then we could all laugh and everyone tried to pick up the sad looking wig which didn't look so glamorous anymore. Someone placed it on top of a machine, and once again, were all just a gang of Monday morning females doing the weekly wash bit, all looking like everyday housewives and honestly, Mr. Wig solicitor, it's better that way, because there is a place for everything.



ROCKWOOD DEBUT was made by local painter Paul Keele at the Swing-a-Ding, pictured in front of one of his unusual paintings with his attractive wife. Money raised goes to cleaning up the stream bed for next summer. (Photo by Lorraine)

## Rockwood Bowling



Scores are mounting and standings are shifting as the season rolls along for the Rockwood Bowling Leaguers. Team charts show Stratton's with a two point lead in Number One position with 48 points; Norton's are in full control of second position with 46 points; Carney's have fallen back to third position with 44 points; Elmer's Alley Cats have stayed about the same in 4th spot with 41 points; Queen of Hearts leaped ahead and are sporting 40 points in 5th position; The Neighbours in 6th place slipped down holding only 39 points; 7th place Four Corners have 37 points; No. 8th is the Begoodorbegones with 33 points; the Untouchables have 29 points for 9th position; and the bottom rung of the ladder is the low no. 10th place for the Whitewashers with 28 points.

The Untouchables grabbed off 5 points in last Tuesday night's games against the Four Corners team with only 2 points. George Lindblad ran up a 647 and Marg McKerris 630 points. The Norton's Mary Stuhlbans had a high score of 737 points and Fred Nightingale of the same team, 720; Doug Battenham for the Neighbours made 623 points but the Neighbours were beaten by the Norton's team with a 5 to 2 score.

The Queen of Hearts took 7 points leaving Carney's with a 0 score. Doug Chandler of the Q. of H's had 650 points, and Bob Lilley of Carney's 674.

Stratton's made a 7 against the Begoodorbegones O. Dunc Kingsbury had 685, Shirley Salmon 641, and Vic Wilms of the Big's 641.

Elmer's Alley Cats took 5 pts from the Whitewashers with 2 pts. and Helen Elliott of the E.D.'s had 550 points.

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**L.O.L. winners**  
Winners of prizes at the euchre at Crewsons Corners were:  
Ladies' high, B. Anderson; ladies' low, M. Osborne; men's high, W. Britton; men's low, L. Carnochan.  
Door prize, C. Britton; lone hands, W. Britton; ladies' travelling, M. Fernell; men's travelling, J. Jesseman.

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POURING TEA at the U.C.W. beazar in W. Guild. The group reported the event was Rockwood were Mrs. George Lawrence and Mrs. W. Guild. The group reported the event was another financial success. (Staff Photo)