



A. K. THOMAS

## Champion lily grower lives quietly in village

One of Rockwood's best known citizens who was born in 1884 will be celebrating his 88th birthday on January 14, 1972. A man who practices what he preaches, A. K. Thomas of Guelph Street, believes that to follow the golden rule, "Do unto others what you would have them do unto you", is the way to live.

Carrying on his wife's favorite pastime of raising African Violets, Mr. Thomas has a variety of plants which number into the 200's at all stages of planting. A garden enthusiast, he catches leaves to make his own

compost heap and his hand-fostered beautiful Creelman lilies have attracted many visitors in the area. Ten years ago he took first prize on one of his lilies, and first on three, to almost capture top honors for the entire North American Lily Show held annually in Toronto. He was beaten out only within a fraction by a University of Toronto horticulturist. Having come to Rockwood in 1908 this delightful gentleman is a senior citizen who enjoys people. He started the first furniture

sales and repair shop at the present S.S. Royce location at the corner of Guelph and Main Streets, gradually progressing to the milk industry and then to the chicken and egg production business. Now retired, Mr. Thomas confines his industry to home gardening, sharing his pleasure with neighbors and friends and also selling bulbs as a side venture. His lilies are still entered in annual competition and continue to take laurels for their special beauty and cultivation.

## Owners responsible for Eramosa dogs

Eramosa township council, concerned by mounting livestock damage by marauding dogs, is advising residents of the township by advertisement that owners are responsible for the actions of their pets. Several lambs in the township have been killed in the last few weeks and the township council has some evidence that dogs are doing the killing. Reeve Warren Parkinson said of having to almost pull a dog from one lamb which had "been ripped to pieces."

Correspondence from the Department of Agriculture advised council that it has been

their experience losses are reduced by letters to dog owners indicating they were responsible for their dogs. It seems to keep dogs under better control, the letter advised. **Might be wolves** Councilors discussed means of controlling the dogs, which the reeve warned could also be wolves, since some of them had been shot and seen in the township. His lambs were among victims of the attacks. Councillor Ken Fair said he had set out three wolf traps but was only successful in catching three skunks in them. He noted some people in suburban areas

of the township were not aware dogs must be kept in and he thought an advertisement in area papers would help reduce the toll. The reeve noted it was only natural that there should be more dogs in suburban areas and an advertisement might help notify people of the risk they were taking letting dogs run. The township has had to pay several claims in the past few weeks for livestock killed by animals, believed to be dogs.

# Tougher regulations for township building permit

Infringements of Eramosa township building by-laws has determined to stop the practice by making applications for building permits more descriptive. In future the building inspector and township clerk must ask for a site plan, drainage plan, location

of the septic tank, setback and what the building will be used for before they can issue a building permit. Discussing cases Monday night where builders had ignored by-laws, the reeve Warren Parkinson said it was contention they were going to have to get tougher. "Some people come and

get a permit for one thing and then use it for a building something else," he contended. "We've lost about four," admitted Councillor Ken Fair. He suggested perhaps council should set up a review board with two members of council and review each case within five days of the application.

Councilors generally agreed but could see difficulties when they discussed the suggestion with building inspector Joe Benham and clerk Lloyd Hindley. Mr. Benham said there might not have been problems if "Rockwood had kept their nose out of it."

The building inspector said an application for a building permit required plans for the structure but this was not a requisite for a garage or barn. He agreed to go along with any new suggestions but pointed out there could be difficulties when someone was in a hurry to build. Councillor Fair said the application need only contain a rough draft of what was intended, with measurements. No elaborate plans were needed. The reeve pointed out that anyone adding to a house should also have a plan. Some people are kind of slipshod and perhaps a review board could control them, he felt.

**Revoke permit** But Deputy Reeve Duncan McPhedran was unconvinced. "If they are building something not called for, we should revoke the building permit until they have changed it," he said. The township issues about 10 building permits a month, clerk Lloyd Hindley told council. After further discussion council agreed they should ask for more detailed plans for building and instructed the clerk and building inspector by motion to enforce the new regulations. There was also discussion about charging builders who contravened the by-laws by using a building for another use than is specified on the building permit.



CREATIVE ARTISTRY combined with the spirit of Halloween was seen by Rockwood villagers as carved by the hand of Case Schuller of Main Street. Every year Case portrays his ability with pumpkin carving and gradually his front door has become an October 31 focal point as children and adults pass to see what each year's sculpture looks like. This year's pumpkin was displayed on an apple crate as it stood effectively lighted by candle: an eerie spectacle on the front porch of the Schuller residence. —(Photo by Lorraine)

## Free Press Rockwood

## Ask council's approval of Hydro line route

Eramosa council will find out wishes of township people along the route of a proposed 500 KV hydro transmission line before they commit themselves to approval or objection. A letter from Ontario Hydro advised Eramosa council the major transmission has been approved by the Ontario government and they would like the township to endorse the route they have mapped out between Lots 2 and 3 in the bottom half of the township.

**Little deviation** Earlier council advised the Hydro officials they thought the line would be better situated between Lots one and two in Eramosa. Hydro replied they thought the route they had mapped out was best since it required little deviation when it came across neighboring Erin township. The Eramosa plan would mean putting transmission towers through the Acton Meadows golf course, among other things, hydro said.

The line will require a 640-foot right-of-way with large towers 800 to 1,000 feet apart. Hydro will buy the land and then lease it back to former owners, if they wish. Deputy Reeve Duncan McPhedran felt council should ask hydro officials to come and discuss it with council but he said if property owners along the route wanted to object to the site of the line it would be up to them. They were talking about a petition opposing it when the line was first broached, he noted.

**Notify owners** Council decided property owners along the route should be notified and objections could be registered with the clerk or members of council. "We have to find out the wishes of the people before we commit ourselves," said the deputy-reeve.

Several rural townships have objected to the route of the proposed line, including Nassagaweya, and the project was postponed to see if a better corridor could be found to stretch it along. However, the Treasurer of Ontario the Hon. Darcy McKeough indicated at the last meeting over the Toronto-Centred Region plan that Ontario Hydro had developed some startling new ideas for towers that would put a new image on hydro lines. Now the government has given the plan its blessing.

## Over 50 attend Sunshine meeting

"The More We Get Together the Happier We'll Be" was the musical ode which marked the beginning of Rockwood and area's newest group, the Sunshine over Sixty Club.

Fifty-one ladies and gentlemen met in the town hall to take out membership last Thursday afternoon and Reverend R. Williams, the elected president, opened the meeting and introduced Mrs. L. Early, the pianist, who accompanied the songsters as they enjoyed a sing-song of old favorite numbers. Mrs. T. Peacock of Harris Street, and secretary, gave a complete report of the October 14 meeting and a treasurer's report was also submitted by Mrs. E. Craig of Balaclava Street. During the meeting vocal thanks were extended to the Eramosa Recreation Association for their assistance in getting the club started.

**Winners** Pink card winners for the afternoon's euchre games went to Mrs. H. Gilbertson, Mrs. J. Kingshot and Mrs. C. Downes.

White card winners were Mrs. D. Bolton, Mr. M. Milne and Mrs. W. Early. Croquinoile players were Miss Milroy, Mrs. S. Trousdale, Mrs. George Perry, Mr. Bailey and Mr. Hawden. Mrs. Bailey won the lucky chair prize. Two checker participants during the afternoon were Rev. Ralph Williams and Mr. A. K. Thomas.

The successful afternoon's fun was topped off by a delicious lunch prepared by the lunch committee and all "over 60's" are cordially invited to attend the next informal gathering on November 11 at 2 p.m. in the Rockwood Town Hall.

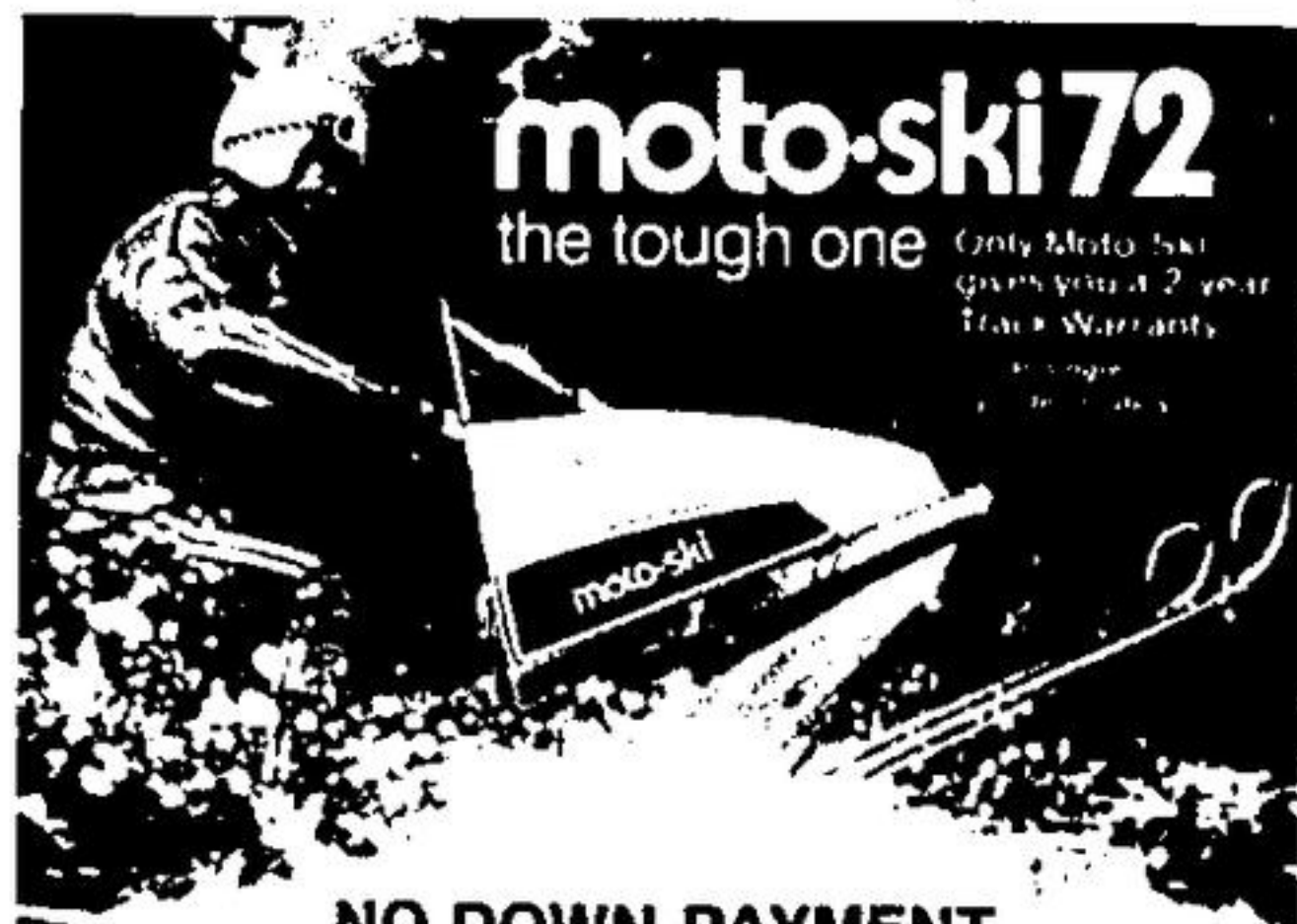
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## Gas station new endeavor

It'll be grand opening specials this Saturday and Sunday when the Hi-Way Gas Bar establishment opens its doors from 7 a.m. until 9 p.m. with the installation of free windshield washer anti freeze with each gasoline fill up. Operating a gas station is a new endeavor for the ambitious Bruce Richardson who looks forward to creating a station where servicing with courtesy and goodwill will bring in happy customers on a regular basis. "We'll be open seven days a week" said the energetic young man who is a salesman for Jos. S. Mars Eastern Limited, a tool distributing corporation in Toronto.

Bruce has Bill Davies of Guelph in the station during the daytime hours from Monday to Friday and, during the evenings

and Saturdays and Sundays he takes over the operation. Assisting as part time helpers will be the gregarious Rick Drijber and also Gary Hill. **Wife assists** This weekend's specials also include pretty damsels garbed in hot pant uniforms supplying gas and friendly smiles for every customer. Bruce Richardson is excited about his new venture. A five year resident in the community he hopes it will be a busy and successful enterprise. His wife Donna is a lifetime habitant of the Rockwood village and she will be part of the business, assisting as till operator and also company bookkeeper.

Location of the new village gas station, is that of the previous Baldwin Spur Service on Alma Street.

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